



Agenda

Ōreti Community Board

Monday, 16 February 2026, 5.30pm
Winton Memorial Hall Supper Room, Meldrum Street, Winton



Chairperson
Deputy chairperson
Members

Margie Ruddenklau
Blair Irwin
Sue Allison
Alexis Halder
Ross Thomson
Steve Turton
Jamie Winsloe
Councillor Brian Somerville

What is important to us?

Our strategic framework is a big picture of what Council is planning to achieve for our communities in the next three years.

Council vision

Together, with our people, for our future. It's our Southland!

Council mission

Working together for a better Southland.

Our focus is

Strategic priorities



Connected and resilient communities - we collaboratively engage with our partners and communities, along with investing in agile and sustainable practices, to support a vibrant and thriving Southland.



Ease of doing business - we transform the customer experience through partnership, technology and continuous improvement.



Providing equity - we enable all residents to be able to access the same services and tools as part of a fair society.



Robust infrastructure - we deliver innovative and sustainable community focused infrastructure and facilities for the future



Thinking strategically and innovatively - we look for solutions outside of the norm and are not afraid to do something that we have not done before, and we think long-term about the solutions we are providing, while having the flexibility and agility to change direction as necessary.

Our goals for the LTP 2024-2034 are

Outcomes



Social - communities that are connected and have an affordable and attractive lifestyle.



Environmental - communities committed to the protection of our land and water.



Cultural - communities with a sense of belonging for all.



Economic - communities with the infrastructure to grow.



Community board terms of reference

TYPE OF COMMITTEE	Community board (board)
RESPONSIBLE TO	Boards are responsible to Council Each board will also have relationships with Council committees (these committees are outlined in the delegations manual).
SUBCOMMITTEES	Some subcommittees will report to community boards – these are outlined in section 8.5 of the delegations manual.
MEMBERSHIP	Ōreti and Waihōpai Toetoe boards have seven members elected by the local authority triennial elections plus a member appointed by Council. All other boards have six members plus a member appointed by Council. The chairperson is elected by the board. Councillors who are not appointed to boards can only remain for the public section of the board meeting. They cannot stay for the public excluded section unless the board agrees.
FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS	Every second month, but up to 12 ordinary meetings a year with the approval of the chief executive.
QUORUM	Not less than four members
THE ROLE OF COMMUNITY BOARDS	Governance Elected members are responsible for providing leadership, setting direction and for overseeing performance (at a high level). The chief executive and staff are responsible for management activities including the allocation of resources, overseeing the day to day operations of the community board, providing policy advice and implementing governance decisions. Roles outlined in the Local Government Act 2002 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appoint a chairperson and deputy chairperson • represent, and act as an advocate for, the interests of its community • consider and report on all matters referred to it by the territorial authority, or any matter of interest or concern to the board • maintain an overview of services provided by the territorial authority within the community • prepare an annual submission to the territorial authority for expenditure within the community • communicate with community organisations and special interest groups within the community • undertake any other responsibilities that are delegated to it by the territorial authority.

Additional roles of boards

Community wellbeing

- a) promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of local communities
- b) monitor the overall well-being of local communities.

Community leadership

- a) to provide leadership to local communities on the strategic issues and opportunities that they face
- b) identify key issues and opportunities that will affect the future of the board's community and work with Council staff and other local representatives to facilitate multi-agency collaborative opportunities
- c) promote a shared vision for the board's community and develop and promote ways to work with others to achieve positive outcomes
- d) provide a local community perspective on Council's long term plan key performance indicators and levels of service as detailed in the long term plan, and on local expenditure, rating impacts and priorities
- e) develop and manage community board plans including keeping these up to date and relevant to community needs and aspirations.

Engagement and relationships

- a) to develop relationships and communicate with key community organisations, special interest groups, residents and businesses within the community.

Advocacy

- a) as part of the long term plan or annual plan process, prepare a submission to Council on the proposed levels of service, income and expenditure within the community of interest
- b) as part of the long term plan or annual plan process, outline the relative priorities for the delivery of District services and levels of service within the board area (Council sets the levels of service for District Activities if a board seeks a higher level of service, they need to recommend that to Council, and the higher level of service will need to be funded in an appropriate way (locally).
- c) Providing comment (through the chairperson) to assist the chief executive on making a decision on any objections received on temporary road closures or temporary prohibition of traffic.

Local activities

For local activities

- a) recommend to Council levels of service and budgets for local activities, having regard to Council budgets in the long term plan or annual plan process
- b) recommend to Council rates, user charges and fees to fund local activities
- c) recommend to Council or a relevant committee the approval of project definitions or business cases and procurement plans for capital expenditure over \$300,000
- d) recommend to Council or a relevant committee unbudgeted capital expenditure
- e) monitor the services Council delivers its communities and assess the extent these services meet community needs or the expected level of service
- f) support the development of local management plans (for subsequent recommendation to Council) where required by statute or in support of the district plan, or other plans for reserves, harbours, or other community facilities, except where these powers:
 - a) have been delegated to Council staff
 - b) would have significance beyond the board's area or otherwise involves a matter of national importance (Section 6 Resource Management Act 1991)
 - c) involve the alienation of any part of a proposed or existing esplanade reserve by way of width reduction, easement, lease or otherwise.
- g) for the Fiordland Community Board in relation to Te Anau Airport and for the Stewart Island/Rakiura Community board in relation to Stewart Island Electricity Supply Authority (SIESA) these board's role is to:
 - recommend levels of service and annual budget to Council or relevant committee
 - monitor the performance and delivery of the service.

Environmental management and spatial planning

- a) provide comment on resource consent applications referred to the community board for comment
- b) to make recommendations to Council about bylaws and about enforcing bylaws within the community, having regard to the need to maintain consistency across the District
- c) provide advice to Council and its committees on any matter of interest or concern to the community board in relation to the sale of alcohol, where statutory ability exists to seek such feedback
- d) provide input into regulatory activities not otherwise specified above, where process allows

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e) recommend to Council initiating an appeal to the environment court on decisions relating to resource consent applications that the board has made submissions on f) provide support to the development of community plans for a civil defence emergency and the recovery afterwards.
DELEGATIONS	<p>In exercising the delegations the boards will operate within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) policies, plans, standards or guidelines that have been established and approved by Council b) the needs of the local communities c) the approved budgets for the activity. <p>Boards shall have the following delegated powers and be accountable to Council for the exercising of these powers (Local Government Act 2002 section 53).</p> <p>Community wellbeing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) develop local strategies to improve areas of wellbeing (where a need has been identified) b) to develop local community outcomes that reflect the desired goals for their community or place. <p>Community board plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Regularly review and update the community board plan to keep the plan relevant. <p>Decisions on locally funded assets and services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) accept donations of a local asset (e.g. a gas barbeque, park bench, etc) with a value of less than \$30,000 b) approve project definitions or business cases for approved budgeted capital expenditure up to \$300,000. <p>Unbudgeted expenditure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) approve unbudgeted operating expenditure for local activities of up to \$20,000 b) approve up to a \$20,000 increase in the projected cost of a budgeted capital works project/item that is included in the annual plan or long term plan c) authority to delegate to the chief executive, when approving a project definition or business case, over-expenditure of up to \$10,000 for capital expenditure against the budget detailed in the annual plan or long term plan. <p>Leases and licenses</p> <p>In relation to all leases and licences of land and buildings for local activities within their own area, and subject to any relevant legislation and/or policy requirement, on behalf of Council;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) accept the highest tenders for rentals more than \$10,000 b) approve the preferential allocation of leases and licenses where the rental is \$10,000 or more per annum.

	<p>Community spaces and roads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) authority to decide upon requests from the community, regarding names of open local spaces and the placement of structures and commemorative plaques. b) authority to decide on the name of public roads, private roads and rights of way <p>Community assistance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) establish a system for prioritising allocations, based on criteria provided by Council b) grant funds from the Community Partnership Fund c) allocate bequests or grants generated locally, consistent with the terms of the bequest or grant fund. <p>Northern Southland development fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the Northern board can make decisions regarding funding applications to the Northern Southland development fund.
LIMITS TO DELEGATIONS	<p>Boards have no financial or decision-making delegations other than those specifically delegated by Council.</p> <p>Boards shall only expend funding on purposes for which that funding was originally raised and in accordance with the budgets approved by Council through its long term plan or annual plan.</p> <p>In accordance with the provisions of section 39(2) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2022 the board may not incur expenditure in excess of the approved budget.</p> <p>Matters that are not delegated</p> <p>Council has not delegated to boards the power to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) make a rate or bylaw b) acquire, hold or dispose of property c) direct, appoint, suspend or remove staff d) engage or enter into contracts and agreements and financial commitments e) institute an action for recovery of any amount f) issue and police building consents, notices, authorisations and requirements under acts, statutes, regulations, bylaws and the like; g) institute legal proceedings other than the delegation to recommend to Council the initiating of an appeal to the environment court on decisions in respect to resource consent applications on which the board has made submissions.
CONTACT WITH MEDIA	<p>The board chairperson is the authorised spokesperson for the board in all matters where the board has authority or a particular interest.</p> <p>Board members, including the chairperson, do not have delegated authority to speak to the media or outside agencies</p>

	<p>on behalf of Council on matters outside of the board's delegations.</p> <p>The executive leadership team member will manage the formal communications between the board and its constituents and for the board in the exercise of its business. Correspondence with central government, other local government agencies or official agencies will only take place through Council staff and will be undertaken under the name of Council.</p>
REPORTING	<p>Boards are unincorporated statutory bodies which are elected to represent the communities they serve.</p> <p>Copies of board meeting minutes are retained by Council.</p>
DEFINITIONS	<p>District activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) community leadership at a district level (including district community grants) b) wastewater c) waste services d) water supply e) stormwater f) district funded open spaces (parks and reserves) g) roading h) district community services (library services, cemeteries, community housing and heritage/culture) i) district community facilities (public toilets, library buildings, offices and amenity buildings) j) environmental services (building services, resource management, environmental health, animal services, emergency management) k) corporate support services <p>Local activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) community leadership at a local board level (including local community grants) b) local community facilities (halls, community centres and other amenity buildings) within Council's activity management plans for community facilities c) water facilities (boat ramps, wharves, jetties and harbour facilities) d) locally funded open spaces (parks and reserves, playgrounds and streetscapes) e) parking limits, footpaths and streetlights f) Te Anau/Manapouri Airport (for the Fiordland Community Board) g) Stewart Island Electricity Supply Authority (SIESA) (for the Stewart Island/Rakiura Community Board) <p>Levels of service is a term in asset management referring to the quality of a given service. Defining and measuring levels of service is a key activity in developing infrastructure asset</p>

management plans. Levels of service may be tied to physical performance of assets or be defined by customer expectation and satisfaction.

Preferential allocation is when there is a preference that a lease or license is given to a particular person or group, rather than having an open process. For example, a neighbouring land owner or a community group that use a building may be asked if they want to lease the land/building, rather than giving the wider public the opportunity to tender or apply.

Approved budget for the financial year comprises the base budget approved by Council through the Long Term Plan or Annual Plan, along with any adjustments formally approved during the year for unbudgeted expenditure, forecasting changes and carry forwards by those with delegated authority.

1 Opening

The chair will open the meeting.

2 Apologies

At the close of the agenda no apologies had been received.

3 Leave of absence

At the close of the agenda no requests for leave of absence had been received.

4 Conflict of interest

Councillors are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision-making when a conflict arises between their role as a councillor and any private or other external interest they might have.

5 Additional agenda items

Any additions to the agenda must be approved by resolution with an explanation as to why they cannot be delayed until a future meeting.

6 Confirmation of minutes

[Minutes](#) of the Ōreti Community Board Meeting held on 15 December 2025.

Confidential Minutes of the Ōreti Community Board Meeting held on 15 December 2025.

7 Public participation

Requests to speak should be made by midday of the day before the meeting. Further information is available on www.southlanddc.govt.nz or phoning 0800 732 732 .

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8.4	Chairperson's Report	55

9 Public excluded reports

Exclusion of the public 59

9.1 Community service award nomination - September 2025 - confidential 59

10 Closure

The chair will close the meeting.

Summary of reports

	Report name	Purpose	Report type	Page
8.1	Winton RSA memorandum of understanding	For the Ōreti Community Board to consider the draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) and provide feedback to guide staff, prior to Council entering into a MOU with the Winton RSA regarding the use and occupation of three rooms within the Winton RSA Hall located at 186 Great North Road, Winton.	Information	31
8.2	Community board reporting	The purpose of this report is to inform the board of the community leadership, operational and Council activities in the board area and across the district.	Information	37
8.3	Councillor update	This report is to provide the community board an overview of the matters that have been considered at Council and Finance and Assurance Committee meetings from 13 November 2025 to 28 January 2026.	Information	51
8.4	Chairperson's Report	The purpose of this report is for the chair to update the board on activities they have been involved with since the previous meeting. Board members are also able to provide an update on any recent events and issues of relevance and interest to the community board.	Information	55



Minutes

Ōreti Community Board

Monday, 15 December 2025, 5.30pm
Winton Memorial Hall, Meldrum Street, Winton

PRESENT

Chairperson	Margie Ruddenklau
Deputy chairperson	Blair Irwin
Members	Sue Allison
	Alexis Halder
	Ross Thomson
	Steve Turton
	Jamie Winsloe
	Councillor Brian Somerville

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Phil Dobson
Councillor Christine Menzies (via video link)
Committee advisor – Fiona Dunlop
Community partnership leader – Karen Purdue

1 Opening

The Chairperson opened the meeting.

2 Apologies

There were no apologies.

3 Leave of absence

There were no requests for leave of absence.

4 Conflict of interest

Steve Turton advised that he had a conflict of interest in relation to item 8.6 – Community partnership fund applications – September 2025 funding round, application 13 – St John Winton area committee. He advised that he would not take part in debate or voting.

Blair Irwin advised that he had a conflict of interest in relation to item 8.6 – Community partnership fund applications – September 2025 funding round, application 5 – Winton Business Association. He advised that he would not take part in debate or voting.

Sue Allison advised that she had a conflict of interest in relation to item 8.6 – Community partnership fund applications – September 2025 funding round, application 10 – Drummond District Bowling Club.

5 Additional agenda items

There were no additional agenda items.

6 Confirmation of minutes

Resolved

Moved Cr Brian Somerville/Jamie Winsloe

That the Ōreti Community Board confirms the minutes of the emergency meeting held on 29 October 2025 as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Carried

7 Public forum

There was no public forum.

Public excluded

Exclusion of the public: Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

Resolved

Moved Sue Allison/Alexis Halder

That the Ōreti Community Board:

- a) excludes the public from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting.

9.1 Update - Winton CCTV camera project

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Update - Winton CCTV camera project	<p>s7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.</p> <p>Commercially sensitive information, currently going through procurement process.</p>	That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists.

- b) Permits Councillor Menzies to stay in the meeting for public excluded.

Carried

The meeting went into public excluded at 5.34pm.

The meeting returned to open at 5.47pm.

Reports

8.1 Adoption schedule of meetings

Record No: R/25/11/55820

Report presented by Committee advisor, Fiona Dunlop

The purpose of this report is for the community board to adopt a meeting schedule for the triennium.

Resolved

Moved Jamie Winsloe/Sue Allison

That the Ōreti Community Board:

- a) adopts a schedule of meetings for the triennium, of which the community board will meet at 5.30pm in the Winton Memorial Hall, Meldrum Street, Winton on the following dates:
- 16 February 2026
 - 20 April 2026
 - 15 June 2026
 - 17 August 2026
 - 19 October 2026
 - 14 December 2026
 - 15 February 2027
 - 19 April 2027
 - 21 June 2027
 - 16 August 2027
 - 18 October 2027
 - 13 December 2027
 - 21 February 2028
 - 10 April 2028
 - 19 June 2028
 - 21 August 2028

Carried

8.2 Limehills community centre unbudgeted expenditure

Record No: R/25/11/53566

Report presented by Community partnership leader Karen Purdue.

The purpose of the report was to seek approval for unbudgeted expenditure to carry out repairs to the Limehills community centre that have been requested through the Oreti community board.

Resolved

Moved Blair Irwin/Steve Turton

That the Ōreti Community Board:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.
- b) notes that the matter or decision in this report is assessed as being of some importance/administrative based on Southland District Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.
- c) determines that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with Section 79 of the act determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.
- d) Recommends to Council unbudgeted expenditure up to \$40,000 to carry out maintenance at the Limehills community centre to be funded by a 10 year loan with repayments from the Limehills community centre rate.

Carried

8.3 Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2025

Record No: R/25/11/54597

Report presented by chief financial officer Anne Robson and finance business partner Avenet Deo.

The purpose of the report was to present the final financial results and supporting information for the local activities within the Oreti Community Board area for the year ended 30 June 2025.

During discussion, Councillor Dobson joined the meeting at 5.49pm.

Resolved

Moved Chair Margie Ruddenklau/Jamie Winsloe

That the Ōreti Community Board:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.

Carried

8.4 Draft budgets and rates - Annual Plan 2026/2027

Record No: R/25/11/56831

Report presented by chief financial officer Anne Robson and finance business partner Avenet Deo.

The purpose of the report was for the community board to consider and recommend the local budgets for the Annual Plan 2026/2027 and the associated local rates for the year commencing 1 July 2026.

See further down the minutes for the resolution.

8.5 Delegations to the community board

Record No: R/25/11/57013

Report presented by democracy advisor Michal Gray.

The purpose of the report was to provide information to the Ōreti Community Board on the delegations from Council that were approved on 12 November 2025.

Resolved

Moved Sue Allison/Blair Irwin

That the Ōreti Community Board:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.

Carried

8.4 Draft budgets and rates - Annual Plan 2026/2027 - CONTINUED

Record No: R/25/11/56831

Resolved

Moved Chair Margie Ruddenklau/Jamie Winsloe

That the Ōreti Community Board:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.
- b) notes that the matter or decision in this report is assessed as being of some importance based on Council's Significance and Engagement Policy and therefore is not significant. The assessed level of significance indicates that the community is kept informed of the decisions made in this report, rather than engaged prior to this decision being made.
- c) determines that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with Section 79 of the act determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.
- d) confirms the local budgets and work programmes attached (including any amendments agreed at the meeting) and recommends to Council that these be included in the draft Annual Plan 2026/2027.

- e) agrees that the following changes be made to the 2025/2026 local community board projects and recommends to Council that these be incorporated into Council's 2025/2026 forecasting process:

Town: Project	Current budget (2025/2026)	Revised budget (2025/2026)	Recommended timing (year) and budget
Dipton (P-11454) - Dipton - Repair or replace bridge across ditch at reserve and level street	\$10,000	\$0	Project is cancelled as the bridge will be removed and will not be replaced.

- f) recommends to Council that for the year commencing 1 July 2026 it recovers the total amount for each rate as follows (subject to resolution (d) and (e)):

Rate Description	-	Rate (GST inclusive)
Oreti Community Board rate	-	\$527,430
Browns Hall Rate	-	\$9,700
Dipton Hall Rate	-	\$37,330
Limehills Hall Rate	-	\$16,934
Oreti Plains Hall Rate	-	\$15,665
Otapiri/Lora Gorge Hall Rate	-	\$10,186
Tussock Creek Hall Rate	-	\$9,216
Ryal Bush Hall Rate	-	\$15,455
Winton Hall Rate	-	\$57,418
Winton Swimming Pool Rate	-	\$26,703

- g) recommends to Council the setting of the following fees and charges for the year commencing 1 July 2026:

Fee/Charge Description	Notes	Fee/Charge (GST inclusive)
Browns hall		
Hall hire	Per hour (minimum booking 4 hours for casual users, no minimum for verified users)	\$12.50
	Per day	\$100.00
Not for profit/community group		50% discount
Bond (refundable) (may be imposed at discretion of the custodian and advised at time of booking)	No GST	\$250.00

Dipton hall		
Hall hire	Hourly rate (minimum 4 hours)	\$10 maximum of \$80 up to 5pm.
Hall night rate		\$250.00
Play group/RSA		\$35.00 - \$50.00
Bond		\$250.00
Limehills hall		
Hall hire	Per hour (minimum 4 hour booking for casual users, no minimum for verified users)	\$12.50
	Per day	\$100.00
Not for profit/community group		50% discount
Bond (refundable) (may be imposed at discretion of the custodian and advised at time of booking)	No GST	\$250.00
Oreti Plains hall		
Hall hire	Per day (8 hours)	\$200.00
	Per hour	\$30.00
	Per weekend	\$250.00
	Per week	\$875.00
Chairs	Each	\$0.50
Tables	Each	\$5.00
Bond		\$500.00
Ryal Bush hall		
Hall hire	Per hour (note minimum 4 hour booking for casual user)	\$12.50
	Per day	\$100.00
Not for profit/community group		50% discount
Bond (refundable) (may be imposed at discretion of the custodian and advised at time of booking)	No GST	\$250.00
Tussock Creek hall		
Hall hire	Per hour	\$12.50
	Per day	\$100.00
Not for profit/community group or at discretion of hall committee		Up to 100% discount
Bond – Regular users (12 month duration for bond, reviewed and renewed every 12 months)	No GST. These are discretionary and to be advised at time of booking	\$250.00

Winton Memorial hall		
Hall hire	Per hour (minimum booking 4 hours for casual users, no minimum for verified users)	\$50.00
	Per day	\$400.00
Supper room hire	Per hour (minimum booking 2 hours for casual users, no minimum for verified users). Availability of the supper room is dependent on bookings for the main hall hire.	\$30.00
Not for profit/community group		50% discount
Bond - Regular Users (12 month duration for bond, reviewed and renewed every 12 months)	No GST. These are discretionary and to be advised at time of booking	\$200.00
Bond - casual/one-off users	No GST. These are discretionary and to be advised at time of booking	\$500.00
Winton RSA hall		
Hall hire	Per hour (minimum booking 4 hours for casual users, no minimum for verified users)	\$12.50
	Per day	\$100.00
Not for profit/community group		50% discount
Bond - regular users (12 month duration for bond, reviewed and renewed every 12 months)	No GST. These are discretionary and to be advised at time of booking	\$100.00
Bond - casual/one-off users	No GST. These are discretionary and to be advised at time of booking	\$200.00

h) delegates authority to the board chair to approve any minor changes required to the budgets following this meeting.

i) agree the following changes be made to the 2026/2027 budgets:

- Reduce the Community Partnership grant fund from \$31,949 to \$27,949.
- Change the funding of the Browns Hall interior decoration (FHALL010A) from loan to reserve.

- Remove Ryal Bush Hall exterior repaint including roof (FHALL014A) \$26,061 project.
- Remove Limehills Hall – Interior repaint and carpet (FHALL028A) project from 2026/2027.
- Fund the Winton Maternity Centre \$9,325 plus GST from rates rather than reserves.
- Remove Wallacetown western boundary tree removal (P-11436A) \$104,244 project from 2026/2027.
- Agrees to use \$2,604 + GST from the Browns community centre reserves to reduce the Browns Hall rate.

Carried

Staff recommendations were moved with changes as **indicated**.

8.6 Community partnership fund applications - September 2025 funding round

Record No: R/25/12/57606

Report presented by Community liaison officer, Gordon Crombie

The purpose of the report was for the Ōreti Community Board to allocate funding for the September 2025 funding round of the Ōreti Community Partnership Fund.

Resolved

Moved Chair Margie Ruddenklau/Jamie Winsloe

That the Ōreti Community Board:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.
- b) notes that the matter or decision in this report is assessed as having some importance based on Council's Significance and Engagement Policy and the assessed level of significance indicates that the community is kept informed of the decision made in this report, rather than engaged prior to this decision being made.
- c) determines that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with Section 79 of the act determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.
- d) Receives applications from the following:
 1. Wallacetown Community Centre
 2. Waimatuku Highland Pipe Band
 3. Wallacetown School
 4. Forest Hill Foundation Trust
 5. Winton Business Association

6. Dipton Baths Trust
 7. Limehills Netball Club
 8. Winton Golf Club
 9. Winton A&P Association
 10. Drummond District Bowling Club
 11. Central Southland Gun Club
 12. Wallacetown Softball Club
 13. St John Winton Area Committee
- e) **Declines** a grant to the Wallacetown Community Centre.
- f) **Declines** a grant to the Waimatuku Highland Pipe Band.
- g) **Declines** a grant to Wallacetown School to assist with the operational costs of the swimming pool **and requests that the school discuss with Council to set up a pool rate for the pool going forward.**
- h) **Approves** a grant of \$5,000 to the Forest Hill Foundation Trust to assist with the costs of predator control.

Carried

Staff recommendations were moved with changes as **indicated**.

Blair Irwin withdrew from the table due to a conflict of interest.

Resolved

Moved Chair Margie Ruddenklau/Jamie Winsloe

That the Ōreti Community Board:

- i) **Approves** a grant of **\$1,500** to the Winton Business association to assist with the costs of the community newsletter.

Carried

Staff recommendations were moved with changes as **indicated**.

Blair Irwin returned to the table

Resolved

Moved Chair Margie Ruddenklau/Blair Irwin

That the Ōreti Community Board:

- j) **Approves** a grant of \$1,500 to the Dipton Baths Trust to assist with the costs of an automatic chemical controller.
- k) **Approves** a grant of **\$750** to the Limehills Netball Club to assist with the costs of the club centenary celebrations **with a tag to acknowledge the Southland District Council Ōreti Community Board for the grant.**

- l) **Approves** a grant of **\$1,500** to the Winton Golf Club to assist with the costs of the clubhouse refurbishment **with the tag that the funding is dependent on other funding being secured.**
- m) **Approves** a grant of **\$2,000** to the Winton A&P Association to assist with the costs of sound system rental.
- n) **Declines** a grant to the Drummond Bowling Club to assist with the costs of reroofing **but with a tag to look at other funding avenues and apply to the next round.**
- o) **Declines** a grant to the Central Southland Gun Club to assist with the costs of clay trap replacements **but with a tag to look at other funding avenues and apply to the next round.**
- p) **Approves** a grant of **\$1,500** to the Wallacetown Softball Club to assist with the costs of junior equipment.

Carried

Staff recommendations were moved with changes as **indicated.**

Steve Turton withdrew from the table due to a conflict of interest.

Resolved

Moved Chair Margie Ruddenklau/Jamie Winsloe

That the Ōreti Community Board:

- q) **Approves** a grant of \$1,460 to the St John Winton Area Committee for **operational costs.**

Carried

Staff recommendations were moved with changes as **indicated.**

Steve Turton returned to the table.

Final resolution

That the Ōreti Community Board:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.
- b) notes that the matter or decision in this report is assessed as having some importance based on Council's Significance and Engagement Policy and the assessed level of significance indicates that the community is kept informed of the decision made in this report, rather than engaged prior to this decision being made.
- c) determines that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with Section 79 of the act determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.
- d) Receives applications from the following:

1. Wallacetown Community Centre
 2. Waimatuku Highland Pipe Band
 3. Wallacetown School
 4. Forest Hill Foundation Trust
 5. Winton Business Association
 6. Dipton Baths Trust
 7. Limehills Netball Club
 8. Winton Golf Club
 9. Winton A&P Association
 10. Drummond District Bowling Club
 11. Central Southland Gun Club
 12. Wallacetown Softball Club
 13. St John Winton Area Committee
- e) Declines a grant to the Wallacetown Community Centre.
- f) Declines a grant to the Waimatuku Highland Pipe Band.
- g) Declines a grant to Wallacetown School to assist with the operational costs of the swimming pool and requests that the school discuss with Council to set up a pool rate for the pool going forward.
- h) Approves a grant of \$5,000 to the Forest Hill Foundation Trust to assist with the costs of predator control.
- i) Approves a grant of \$1,500 to the Winton Business association to assist with the costs of the community newsletter.
- j) Approves a grant of \$1,500 to the Dipton Baths Trust to assist with the costs of an automatic chemical controller.
- k) Approves a grant of \$750 to the Limehills Netball Club to assist with the costs of the club centenary celebrations with a tag to acknowledge the Southland District Council Ōreti Community Board for the grant.
- l) Approves a grant of \$1,500 to the Winton Golf Club to assist with the costs of the clubhouse refurbishment with the tag that the funding is dependent on other funding being secured.
- m) Approves a grant of \$2,000 to the Winton A&P Association to assist with the costs of sound system rental.
- n) Declines a grant to the Drummond Bowling Club to assist with the costs of reroofing but with a tag to look at other funding avenues and apply to the next round.
- o) Declines a grant to the Central Southland Gun Club to assist with the costs of clay trap replacements but with a tag to look at other funding avenues and apply to the next round.

- p) Approves a grant of \$1,500 to the Wallacetown Softball Club to assist with the costs of junior equipment.
- q) Approves a grant of \$1,460 to the St John Winton Area Committee for operational costs.

8.7 Chairs report

Record No: R/25/11/56104

Chair Ruddenklau presented her report which highlighted many events that she had been involved with since the last Board meeting.

Chair Ruddenklau has been involved with the following:

- **30 October** – Attended the LGNZ induction for elected members.
- **1 November** – Participated in a Community Board workshop with members in Winton.
- **3 November** – Judged lambs at the Limehills School pet day.
- **3 November** – Met with the Browns community committee to discuss the Browns Pavilion transitioning into community ownership.
- **5 November** – Met with Community partnership leader – Karen Purdue and Manager property services – Kevin McNaught to discuss the November workshop.
- **9 November** – Attended the Winton Races with world drivers in attendance which was a great day for Winton.
- **10 November** – Prepared the site at Ivy Russell Reserve ahead of the Winton Kindergarten Forest Kindy planting. Thank you to Councillor Phil Dobson and Board member Sue Allison for your help.
- **11 November** – Planted 50 native trees at Ivy Russell Reserve beside the Sleeping Kiwi with the Forest Kindergarten Tamariki and staff. Special thanks to Catriona Gower (Environment Southland) and Daphne Batt (Winton Garden Club) for their support. *The bulk of the plants were generously donated by the Mid Ōreti Catchment Group, with the remaining plants & plant protectors funded through the Ōreti Community Board's grant to the Stewards of Ivy Russell Reserve group. (Winton Rotary administer the funding)*
- **12 November** – At Kōwhai Reach with Jesse Bythell (QEII National Trust), releasing 135 plants. From plantings 2 years ago. (recycled plant protectors for planting 2026)
- **15 November** – Attended the Winton Open Day with board members. The community engagement was excellent. We welcomed special guests David Rose (Environment Southland Councillor) and Jason Herrick (Federated Farmers Southland), who were both well received by the community.
- **18 November** – Attended Annual General Meeting Arts Murihiku
- **19 November** – Attended the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan for Southland meeting in Winton.

- 5 December – Met with Dave Lindsay and Connor Wells (Winton Cricket Club) alongside staff. It was confirmed that the Cricket Oval will be mown by Delta on Mondays and Thursdays to 25mm. This sits within the existing contract variation.
- 8 December – Met with Warren Bryant (Touch Southland) and Cody Kinraid (Winton Football Club), alongside staff, regarding levels of service and the condition of the grounds at Moores Reserve. Staff are following up with the contractor regarding pricing for mowing for a different level of service.
- General discussion with Winton Rotary regarding replanting the Winton Walking Track tree replacement.
- Discussion held with community members meeting regarding Emergency Management Ōreti regarding the severe wind event Southland.

Resolved

Moved Chair Margie Ruddenklau/Sue Allison

That the Ōreti Community Board:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.

Carried

8.8 Local budget and projects update

Record No: R/25/12/58022

Report presented by Community partnership leader, Karen Purdue

The purpose of the report was to inform the board of the current local budget information for the Ōreti Community Board area and to update the board on the status of current community projects in the board area.

Resolved

Moved Ross Thomson/Alexis Halder

That the Ōreti Community Board:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.
- b) receives the report titled “Local budget and projects update”

Carried

8.9 Councillor update

Record No: R/25/11/57005

Councillor Somerville took the Board through the report.

The purpose of the report was to provide the community board an overview of the matters that have been considered at Council and Finance and Assurance Committee meetings from 30 July 2025 to 12 November 2025.

Resolved

Moved Cr Brian Somerville/Steve Turton

That the Ōreti Community Board:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.

Carried

The meeting closed at 8.39pm.

Confirmed on:

Signed:

Winton RSA memorandum of understanding

Record no: R/25/11/55864

Author: Sara-Jane Fitzgerald, Property advisor

Approved by: Sam Marshall, Group manager customer and community wellbeing

Report type: Information

Purpose

- 1 For the Ōreti Community Board to consider the draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) and provide feedback to guide staff, prior to Council entering into a MOU with the Winton RSA regarding the use and occupation of three rooms within the Winton RSA Hall located at 186 Great North Road, Winton.

Staff recommendations

That the Ōreti Community Board:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.
- b) provides staff with their feedback on the draft memorandum of understanding between Council and the Winton RSA.

Feedback

- 2 Feedback is being sought from the Ōreti Community Board on whether it supports the issuing of the draft MOU to the Winton RSA.

Executive Summary

- 3 The Winton RSA contacted the Ōreti Community Board in May 2025 requesting the use of the committee room in the RSA Hall for a permanent exhibition space, as the walls in the ANZAC lounge have no spare space for further memorabilia.
- 4 The ownership of the Winton RSA Hall was transferred to Council from the RSA in March 1970 on the condition that the RSA be granted free use of the building, primarily the ANZAC room (lounge) and canteen (RSA storage).
- 5 As additional space for use by the Winton RSA has been requested, a MOU was determined to be the most suitable agreement type to cover this amended agreement.
- 6 The draft MOU has been reviewed and approved by the Winton RSA, which covers their use and occupation of the ANZAC lounge, the canteen (RSA storage) and committee room (RSA museum) moving forward.

Context

- 7 In May 2025, the Winton RSA contacted the Ōreti Community Board to request use of the committee room as there was no more space available in the ANZAC lounge for their memorabilia.
- 8 Historical research was undertaken by staff and a 1993 report to the Winton community board was discovered stating “By 1969 the RSA had found the costs of maintaining the building was too great for their members. As from March 1970 it was transferred to the ownership of the District Council on the condition that the RSA be granted free use of the building.”

-
- 9 The Ōreti Community Board at their meeting on 16 June 2025, provided the following resolution from the chairperson's report; 'agrees that Winton RSA to exclusively use the Committee Room free of charge to display their memorabilia indefinitely and recommends Council seeking a Memorandum of Understanding with the Winton RSA, highlighting that the set up and maintenance of the displays / exhibitions is the responsibility of the Winton RSA and that it is the expectation of the Ōreti Community Board that the exhibitions will be open to the public whenever possible.'
- 10 Following an onsite meeting with the Winton RSA, a MOU was drafted to include the points raised in the resolution from the June 2025 community board meeting, including all proposed uses of the hall to be undertaken by the Winton RSA. This MOU is included in attachment A, it has been reviewed and accepted by the Winton RSA.
- 11 It needs to be noted that by entering into a MOU with the Winton RSA, this removes the daily and half daily hire options of the committee room, which in turn limits the income earnings ability of the RSA Hall for Council.

Community views

- 12 Under Council's manual of delegations, community boards do not hold the delegation to enter into a contract or agreement, this sits at a staff level. Given the MOU is within the Ōreti Community Board area, staff are seeking feedback from the board prior to entering into the MOU.

Next steps

- 13 Following receiving feedback from the board, the finalised MOU will be sent to the Winton RSA for signing, before being signed and finalised by delegated staff.

Attachments

- A DRAFT MOU 2025 - Winton RSA - RSA Hall 186 Great North Road, Winton [↴](#)



It is agreed therefore that the Winton RSA:

- a) Is permitted to use the RSA Museum (formerly Committee Room) to display their memorabilia
- b) Is permitted to display RSA memorabilia on the walls of the ANZAC Lounge
- c) Will be responsible for the set-up and maintenance of all their memorabilia displays
- d) Will have sole use of the RSA Museum and RSA Storage rooms and will maintain these rooms in a clean and tidy condition
- e) Whenever possible, will permit and manage public access to the displays in the RSA Museum
- f) Will have preferential booking/use of the ANZAC Lounge on the 1st Thursday of each month from 7:30pm. For any other dates required throughout the year the RSA will book the ANZAC Lounge using the standard booking system
- g) Shall continue to have free use of the Winton RSA Hall
- h) Shall be entitled to hold two sets of keys for the RSA Hall including keys to the ANZAC Lounge, RSA Museum and RSA Storage room. Key holders are to be notified to Council.

It is agreed therefore that Council will:

- a) Maintain the building in a good and serviceable repair and condition
- b) Consult with the RSA prior to carrying out any refurbishment work on the RSA Hall, especially in regards to the ANZAC Lounge, RSA Museum and RSA Storage room to ensure the RSA have adequate time to remove and safely store their belongings
- c) Remedy any faults of construction inside or outside affecting the convenient use and occupation of the RSA hall
- d) Include a yearly programmed maintenance budget in the Long Term Plan to maintain the existing service level. Any increase of service level will be decided upon by the Community Board with legislative consultation where applicable
- e) Include a ten-year capital works budget in the Long Term Plan based on recommendations from the Community Board and building condition assessment reports
- f) Pay all owners obligations e.g. rates, insurance etc

It is mutually agreed that:

- a) Council can continue to hire out rooms in the RSA Hall
- b) Council can hire out the ANZAC Lounge when not booked for use by the Winton RSA



Signature

Signature

Trevor Cochrane

RSA Secretary

Date

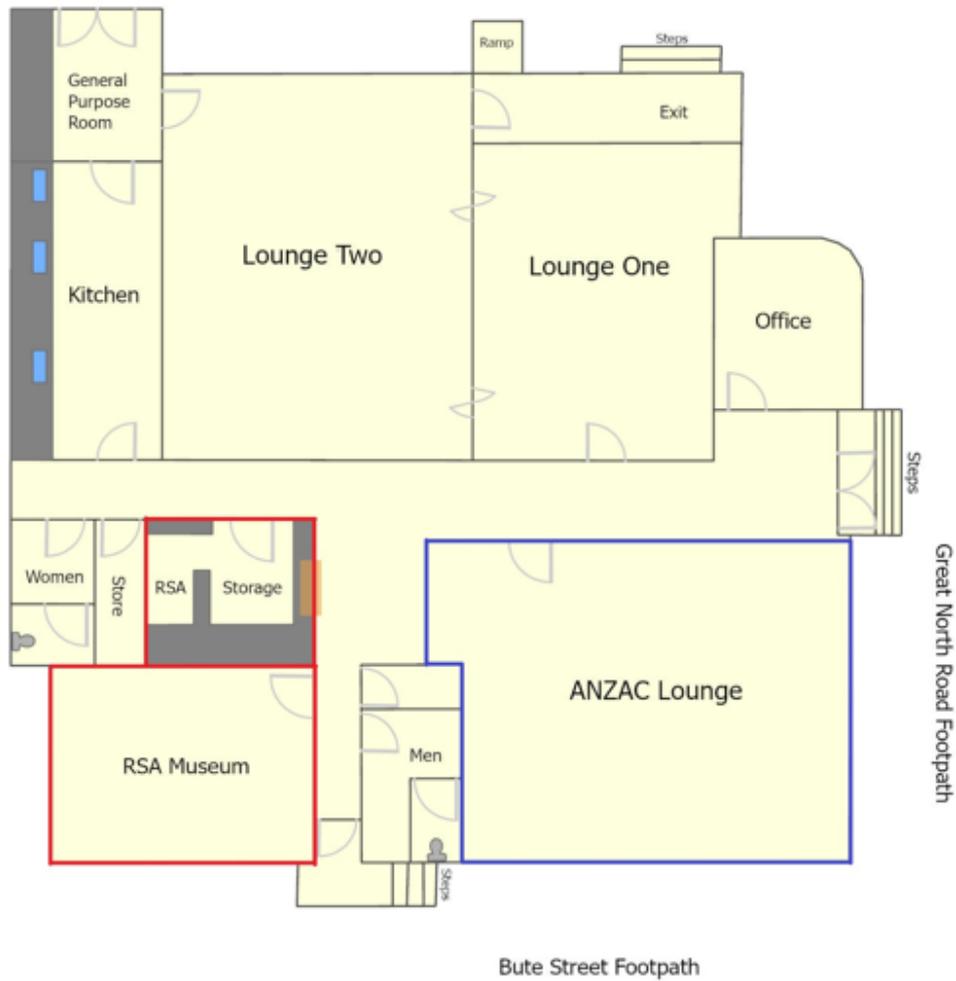
Sam Marshall

Group Manager Customer and Community Wellbeing

Date

DRAFT

RSA Hall Floor Plan



Red = Exclusive Use

Blue = Memorabilia permitted on walls, plus free hire of room for meetings / functions

1st Thursday of every month from 7:30pm, any other bookings to be officially requested/booked

Community board reporting

Record no: R/26/1/3552
Author: Karen Purdue, Community partnership leader
Approved by: Sam Marshall, Group manager customer and community wellbeing
Report type: Information

Purpose

- 1 The purpose of this report is to inform the board of the community leadership, operational and Council activities in the board area and across the district.

Staff recommendations

That the Ōreti Community Board:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.

Attachments

- A Ōreti community leadership report - 16 February 2025 [↓](#)
- B Ōreti operational report - 16 February 2026 [↓](#)
- C Ōreti Community Board projects report - 16 February 2026 [↓](#)
- D School Holiday Programme poster - 2026 [↓](#)
- E Companies office changes poster [↓](#)



What’s happening in your area

Community Partnership Fund

Grants were distributed to the following organisations for the September 2025 funding round of the Ōreti Community Partnership Fund:

- Forest Hill Foundation Trust - predator control \$5,000
- Winton Business Association - community newsletter \$1,500
- Dipton Baths Trust - automatic chemical dispenser \$1,500
- Limehills Netball Club - club centenary \$750
- Winton Golf Club - clubhouse refurbishment \$1,500
- Winton A&P Association - sound system rental \$2,000
- Wallacetown Softball Club - junior equipment \$1,500
- St John Winton Area Committee -hall rental \$1,460

Applications for the next funding round close on 31 March 2026. Applications can be made on the Southland District Council website via the SmartyGrants link:

<https://www.southlanddc.govt.nz/council/funding-and-grants/>

Community Service Award Nominations

Nominations for the 2025 round of Community Service Awards closed on 30 September. One nomination was received for the Oreti area and will be considered at the February community board meeting.

Nominations for the 2026 round of Community Service Awards close on 30 September,

What’s happening across the district

Community Service Award – John Titter

John Titter, the man who orchestrated an epic project to establish a railway heritage hub in Lumsden, was officially honoured with a Community Service Award on 22 August 2025.

The award, bestowed by the Northern Community Board in conjunction with Southland District Council, recognises Mr Titter’s relentless work over 12 years to create a world-class static heritage railway display in the northern Southland township.

John Titter has been the driving force of the Lumsden Heritage Trust since its inception in 2012, fronting a mission to preserve the past, promote the future and provide an attraction for visitors to Lumsden.

Southland District Mayor Rob Scott, who presented the award, is himself a member of the Lumsden Heritage Trust, which consists of just three members. He told the audience gathered for the presentation at the Lumsden Senior Citizens Centre that Mr Titter’s vision and energy had created a legacy that would bring people and benefits to the township and Southland for many decades to come.

“John's countless hours and dedication to his dream will leave a lasting legacy for Lumsden and Southland, and it would not have gone ahead without his drive, his determination, his passion and probably thousands of hours of his time.”

The citation says that Mr Titter recognised in 2012 that Lumsden was missing a heart – it had a train station, reflecting its strong railway history, but it needed a train.

Having come up with the idea he pursued the goal of establishing a heritage train display at the station. It took 13 years and more than \$500,000 of funding, secured by Mr Titter, but in April 2025 the heritage trust completed the job when the final piece of the puzzle, a refurbished 1880s D class locomotive, was swung into position at the head of the train display, completing a unique pre-1900 heritage train.

As well as this, Mr Titter presided over an audacious plan in early 2020 to recover two V class locomotives and their coal tenders buried in the mud of the Mararoa junction near Lumsden. It was a mammoth logistical effort. Around 20 men, four contracting companies, multiple pieces of heavy machinery and equipment and a host of local service organisations and businesses were involved in the successful effort to salvage the two historic steam engine sets, which now sit on the grounds of the Lumsden railway precinct. Mr Titter fondly refers to all those involved as “the A team”.

It is testament to his remarkable networking skills, project management and determination that he has been able to pull together a dedicated bunch of professionals to drive the many individual projects to a positive outcome.

The Lumsden Heritage Trust has won several national rail awards, the direct result of Mr Titter’s efforts.

He has for many years voluntarily run tai chi classes for senior citizens in the Lumsden area and is actively involved in the local hunt community.

Mayor Scott acknowledged Mr Titter’s wife, Karen, who had been a generous supporter of all the hard community work her husband had done over the years.

“If you want something done, ask a busy person,” Mayor Scott said. “And John is the type of person who certainly knows how to get stuff done. He’s a true legend!”



Community Service Award – Pauline Herron

At an emotional Community Service Award presentation in Riversdale on 28 October 2025, Pauline Herron was honoured for her outstanding life-long commitment to northern Southland.

Mrs Herron was presented with the award by Southland District Mayor-elect Rob Scott, with Richard Clarkson representing the Ardlussa Community Board. She received a standing ovation from the large crowd gathered in the Riversdale Community Centre.

Her award acknowledged her embodiment of community spirit.

You can bet Pauline Herron wouldn't be one for all the fuss – but it is certainly well deserved.

Regarded as quietly capable, endlessly generous and deeply compassionate, Mrs Herron has been a driving force behind countless local groups, events, and initiatives.

She began her lengthy commitment to community service in Balfour in the 1970s alongside her late husband Paul.

Her record as a volunteer is expansive, starting as the treasurer of Balfour Plunket. She helped fundraise for families and community projects. Also in the township, she was involved with the Balfour squash and bowling clubs, being awarded life membership of the squash club.

In 1991 Mrs Herron joined the Balfour RSA women's section, again taking on the role of treasurer in 1999 and serving with great diligence. She also received life membership of this group.

She served as president the RSA Southland Provincial Council Women's Section from 2016 to 2018, and again received life membership during the 80th celebrations of the RSA in August 2024.

Moving into the 2000s, Mrs Herron expanded her community impact and moved to Riversdale, where she joined the Riversdale-Waimea Lions Club, serving as president in 2006/2007.

Here, she founded and organised the senior citizens' luncheons, which were held twice a year, but they proved so popular the frequency increased to every two months.

In 2005, Mrs Herron joined the Progress League, (also known as the hall committee) and was subsequently elected as vice-chairperson in 2007. The group leads garden beautification projects in the community and keeps the Riversdale Hall in tip-top shape.

Not one to shy away from lending a helping hand, Mrs Herron is also a volunteer with the Friends of the Hospital Gore programme, where she assists nurses on one shift per week, comforting patients and even bringing delicious homemade baking for the staff. She joined the Gore Cancer Society and has assisted with several Daffodil Days in Riversdale, where the township achieved some of the highest sales amongst small communities, no doubt thanks to the hard work of volunteers such as her.

The list doesn't stop there. Mrs Herron has also lent a hand as book-keeper and auditor for various Riversdale organisations, including the Riversdale Volunteer Fire Brigade, since 2005.

Mayor-elect Rob Scott said: "Pauline's award ceremony saw the largest turnout we have had in our Community Service Awards, reflecting the deep and lasting impact she has had across the community.

"Her dedication spans generations, reaching all the way back to the 1970s, making her a truly deserving recipient – a genuine pillar of the community."

Beyond her formal roles in the community, Pauline Herron is always supporting community events, fundraisers and social groups.

She has been deeply involved in her community and is part of the pulse that keeps the community spirit alive. She is always there with a smile on her face and a twinkle in her eye, ready to lend a helping hand or to share a story and a good laugh.

Mrs Herron truly represents the spirit of service that the Community Service Awards acknowledge.



Community funding

District Initiatives Fund

Grants were distributed to the following organisations for the September 2025 funding round of the District Initiatives Fund:

• Loss and Grief Support Trust – operational costs	\$7,500
• Te Araroa Trust – Longwoods boardwalk renewal project	\$3,000
• Fiordland Marine SAR – training and equipment costs	\$3,000
• Waikaia Trails Trust – Stage 2 – blue descent trail	\$4,000
• Citizens Advice Bureau – operational costs	\$5,000
• Parent to Parent Southland – outreach programme	\$4,000
• NSCRCCT – operational costs	\$4,000
• Multipurpose Turf Central Southland/CSC	\$3,000
• Life Education Trust – operational costs	\$4,000

Applications for the next funding round close on 31 March 2026. Applications can be made on the Southland District Council website via the SmartyGrants link:

<https://www.southlanddc.govt.nz/council/funding-and-grants/>

Other funding opportunities

Grants were distributed to the following organisations for the September 2025 funding round of the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund:

• Netball Fiordland	\$1,200
---------------------	---------

- Fiordland Hockey Club \$1,000
- Johnston Waters Swim Club \$1,000
- Te Anau Cricket Club \$1,000
- Menzies College \$1,000
- Fiordland Swimming Club \$800
- Te Anau Tennis Club \$500

Applications for the next funding round of the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund close on 31 March 2026.

Applications can be made on the Southland District Council website via the SmartyGrants link:

<https://www.southlanddc.govt.nz/council/funding-and-grants/>

The following Southland District Council funds are open for applications:

- Centennial Bursary Scholarships for recognised tertiary study – closes 20 December 2026
- Valmai Robertson Creative NZ Arts Scholarships – closes 20 December 2026
- Eric Hawkes Memorial Outward Bound Scholarship – closes December 2026

Applications can be made on the Southland District Council website via the SmartyGrants link:

<https://www.southlanddc.govt.nz/council/funding-and-grants/>

GEM Local update

Since launching GEM Local for Murihiku Southland in mid August 2025, 20 organisations have registered to use it. Feedback from users is that the Portal has provided information about new funds they can apply for.

This comprehensive database pulls together funding opportunities from across Aotearoa, making it easier than ever for community organisations to find the right funders for their projects and aspirations. Organisations can register for access to the portal by visiting Connected Murihiku’s website www.connectedmurihiku.co.nz.

Connected Murihiku is happy to help organisations find their way around the portal and provide support to ensure they are getting the most from the portal.

Council department updates

Governance

Work streams progressing in the governance team include:

Pecuniary interest register – At the end of January the governance team will be requesting all elected members complete a declaration of their interests. This will need to be completed by the end of February.

Ōraka Aparima Community Board By-election – There are four candidates for the by-election to fill the remaining position on the Ōraka Aparima Community Board. Only people who live in the board area (or who own property in the area) will be able to vote. Voting documents will start being delivered from 30 January and people will be able to vote until noon on 3 March 2026. People can return their vote via post or place their vote in an orange vote bin at either the Riverton library or Council’s head office at 15 Forth St, Invercargill.

Policy and planning update

Climate Change

Regional activities

The membership of the Regional Climate Change Working Group has been confirmed. Cr Matt Wilson is SDC’s governance representative and will work alongside Crs Phil Morrison and Maurice Rodway

(Environment Southland), Crs Paul McPhail and Neville Phillips (Gore District Council) and Cr Alex Crackett (Invercargill City Council). Bi-monthly governance meetings recommence in February 2026. The Working Group’s first task is to consider initial findings of a review into regional climate change governance arrangements. The Working Group will also explore the recently published local government sector climate scenarios which can be viewed at <https://www.lgfa.co.nz/sustainability/sustainability-lgfa/local-government-sector-scenarios>.

The staff interagency group will continue to support the Working Group by monitoring progress of the actions in the Regional Framework for Action on Climate for Murihiku Southland (https://www.es.govt.nz/repository/libraries/id:26gi9ayo517q9stt81sd/hierarchy/environment/climate-change/documents/RFfAC_2025_Draft_v7.pdf), and developing a pathway to create Southland’s first regional Climate Action Plan alongside the next Long Term Plan.

Updated climate projections for Southland have been produced by Earth Sciences NZ (formerly NIWA), and are expected to be made publicly available in the near future. The work was commissioned by ES. We have been working closely with ES to highlight SDC’s science and information needs in relation to natural hazards, including those arising from climate change.

Climate adaptation

We are half-way through an internal project to assess risks from climate change to SDC’s assets and operations, with completion planned in mid 2026.

Late last year, the government announced its plan to require councils to prepare climate adaptation plans for communities that are identified, through spatial planning, as being at risk from flooding and/or coastal hazards. The Climate Change Response (Efficiency and Effectiveness) Amendment Bill will be introduced early this year and will work with the reformed resource management system. The cabinet paper is available on the Ministry for the Environment’s website (<https://environment.govt.nz/assets/publications/Establishing-a-National-Adaptation-Framework-Proactive-Release.pdf>). Staff are closely monitoring developments.

Internal alignment

Council report templates were changed and now include a climate change considerations section. We are continuing to develop information and resources for staff so that relevant climate change issues are identified and can be factored into decision-making. Our internal staff climate change working group will recommence meetings soon to plan sustainability-focussed activities for the coming year.

Stakeholder updates

Active Southland - update

The school holiday programme run by Active Southland in conjunction with SDC is underway with three of the programmes having been held at the time of writing this report; Te Anau, Lumsden and Riverton. The advertising flyer for this popular programme is attached.

New Zealand Companies Office changes

An important law change affecting all incorporated societies in New Zealand is taking place. Under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022, all incorporated societies, registered under the 1908 Act, must reregister by 5 April 2026, or they will no longer exist. There are around 24,000 incorporated societies across Aotearoa, but only about a third have updated their rules in line with the **Incorporated Societies Act 2022**. This is not just a tick-box exercise—the new Act sets clearer expectations around governance, officer duties, dispute resolution, and member rights.

This is a significant change that some societies may not yet be aware of. Please share this information in the attached poster with any community groups and society members that you know.

Ōreti Community Board

Tracker - ongoing

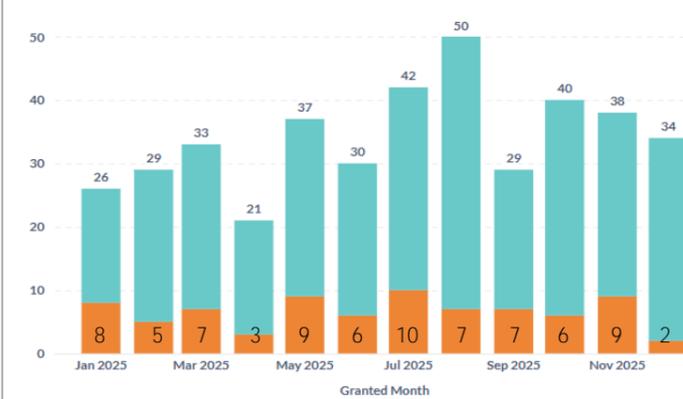
- Wallacetown recreational project – Ryal Bush Transport Ltd were the successful tenderer for this project and work is due to commence 23 March
- Completion of ANZAC Oval planting – planned for after winter
- Limehills Hall – sliding door has been ordered and project on target to be completed before rugby club centennial
- Winton Centennial Park playground – final budget and scope to be decided by community board
- Winton RSA project – tender closed 4 February followed by evaluation process
- Winton CCTV – contract awarded to South Tech and installation due to be completed before end of June.

Upcoming priorities

- Discussion with the RSA on a memorandum of understanding
- Discussion on future options for the Winton bowls club building

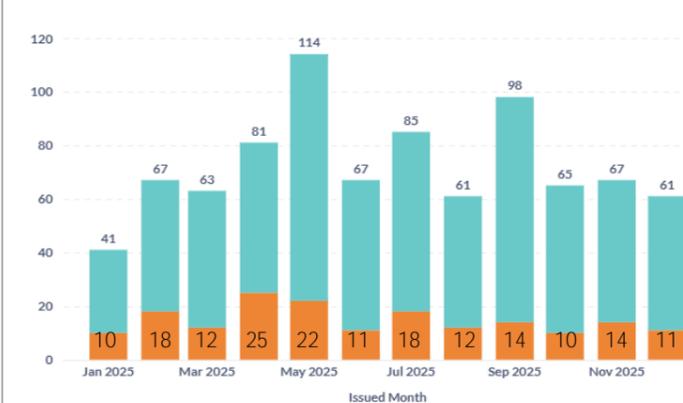
Resource consents granted

RM applications granted for community board

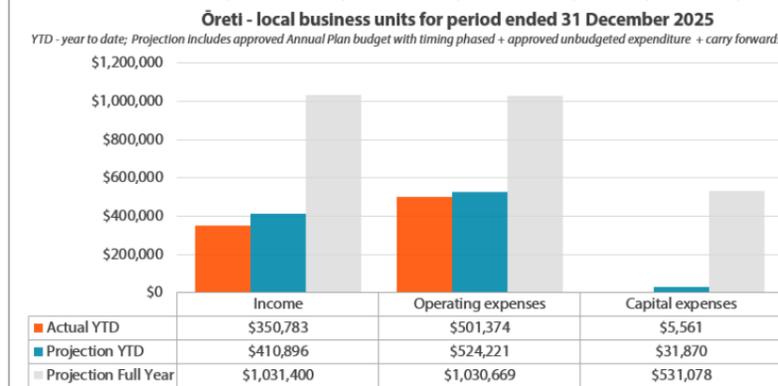


Building consents issued

Building Consents issued for community board



Local budget information



Budget notes

Income is \$60k (15%) under projection largely due to the timing of grant income that will be received as work is done. This is NZTA/Waka Kotahi funding for footpaths (\$11k) as well as Better off Funding for the Memorial Hall project (\$59k) and the Wallacetown Recreational Project (\$2k). The Ryal Bush roofing project is \$9k over projection due to the timing of the budget and has been completed under budget with the remaining grant funding to be utilized at the Memorial Hall.

Operating expenses are \$23k (4%) under projection. \$59k of the under projection relates to Memorial Hall internal refurbishment project that is underway. The Ryal Bush Hall project is \$9k over projection as the budget is in the capital section, this project has been completed under budget. The Browns Hall toilet maintenance project is showing as \$2k over projection as the budget is phased until later in the year. General maintenance codes are overall \$16k over projection however this includes an open purchase order for emergency tree work of \$40,000 that will be removed in January. Once this is removed general maintenance is \$24k under projection as it is largely reactive. Tree and hedge is \$25k under projection and footpaths are \$20k under projection as minimal costs have been incurred in these areas. Storm damage costs have not been included as we are still working through this matter with our insurers. We will keep the board updated as more information comes to hand. Insurance is \$16k under projection due to actual costs being less than projected. Miscellaneous grants are \$2k over projection due to a grant to the Lochiel Hall Society for the hall floor that was in line with their rental agreement. This will be included in forecasting. The above under projected items are partially offset by an over projection of a grant paid out to the Lora Gorge Hall Committee for the hall reserve of \$70k that is phased until later in the year. Caretaker costs are \$2k below projection as no caretaker costs have been incurred at the RSA hall to date.

Capital expenses are \$26k (83%) under projection. This largely relates to the Ryal Bush roofing project that has been completed under budget and some costs have been classified as operating expenses.

Service requests – breakdown by type

REQUEST TYPE	COUNT
Bridge repairs	2
Cemeteries/memorials - repairs and maintenance	1
Community facilities - halls - repairs/maintenance	1
Community facilities general	2
Community housing - repairs and maintenance	2
Council property enquiry	1
Culverts blocked - rural	1
Emergency spill roading	1
Footpaths	2
Gravel road faults	5
Hazards	8
New sign requests (where none existed before)	1
Roadside spraying - noxious weeds	1
Sealed road faults	2
Signs repairs (not stop/give way)	2
Stop/give way signs - repairs (urgent 24hr fix)	2
Streetscape - vegetation	24
Toilets - cleaning, repairs and maintenance	2
Transfer/recycling station matters	2
Transport general enquiries	5
Urban stormwater (manholes, grates)	1
Vegetation rural (overgrown or visibility issues)	2
Water and waste general	6
Wheelie bin - cancel/damaged/stolen	7
Wheelie bin - collection complaints	10
Wheelie bin - general enquiry	5
Wheelie bin - new/additional	9
TOTAL	107

Service contracts

Water and wastewater services operation and maintenance

The 23/01 operations and maintenance contract continues to perform well across the Oreti Community Board area. Water and wastewater services have remained stable and are operating effectively.

Limehills stormwater/roadside ditches are nearing completion of their clean out, additional works were required to remove overhanging tree branches to ensure full access. This will be completed by the end of January.

During December, Council representatives undertook site investigations and audits of all contract facilities within the Oreti Community Board area. These inspections assessed the standard of maintenance and verified recorded asset information against on-site conditions. All facilities audited were found to be in generally good condition. A consistent theme identified through the audits was the need for increased monitoring of grounds maintenance. This matter has been raised with the contractor and is being addressed.

Some minor damage resulting from the October/November storm events was identified during inspections and has been reported to Downer for remediation.

Mowing contract

The mowing is progressing, the weather is still proving to be an issue with grass growth continuing to be above average for this time of the year. Staff have been working with the Winton cricket, touch and football clubs to implement new levels of service at the **Moore's** reserve grounds.

Gardening

The local gardener is continuing to maintain the gardens as weather permits and keeping the weed growth to a minimum.

The tender documents for the renewal of the gardening and mowing contracts are currently out to market. These close on 5 February 2026 with the intention that the new contractors will be awarded and in place to start on 1 July 2026.

Central Alliance roading contract

Roading maintenance and operational activities continued throughout December, with a focus on completing the final reseal works for the 2025/2026 season, progressing routine maintenance, and maintaining network safety over the holiday period.

Sealed Road Network - Pre reseal repair works for the 2025/2026 season are now complete. The final reseal site for the 2025/2026 programme, Marson Road in Drummond, was completed in early December following successful culvert replacement and sealing.

Unsealed Road Network – Grading operations continued across programmed areas. Grading resources were managed through the holiday period with one resource available during non-stat days.

Routine Maintenance – Drainage maintenance progressed as programmed.

Additional resource was provided to also support RFS responses prior to the Christmas break.

Central Alliance roading contract **continued...**

Inspections of culverts 600 and above commenced, with majority of inspections now completed.

Cyclic was completed, covering Drummond, Argyle, and Thornbury. Winton and Wallacetown was deferred with priority given to completing a full run of level one roads prior to the Christmas shutdown to maintain network condition during the holiday period. Additional resource was also allocated to this. A further level one run in the new year will occur before resuming routine operations.

The sealed road spray programme was completed with spraying of the unsealed network commencing. The second round of mowing across the sealed road network was undertaken during the month.

The premix crew was decommissioned for December due to staff leave. Available resources were redeployed to other maintenance activities, including bridge painting works in the Ryan Road and Hundred Line Road East area.

Weather Related Response - Residual tree damage from the October weather event continues to be addressed. One damaged tree on Scott Road was remediated during December, with further tidy up works programmed for the new year on Tanner Road and Brookdale Road. Engagement with affected landowners is ongoing where required.

Service requests

Across the district there were 1010 requests for service lodged during the period November and December 2025, of which 211 were related to 3 waters. 107 of the total requests belonged to this board area. A full summary of those requests follows.

● Outside Service Level ● Within Service Level



JANUARY 2026	FEBRUARY 2026	MARCH 2026	APRIL 2026	MAY 2026	JUNE 2026	JULY 2026	AUGUST 2026	SEPTEMBER 2026	OCTOBER 2026	NOVEMBER 2026	DECEMBER 2026
	16 Feb - Board meeting	16 March - Board workshop	20 April - Board meeting	18 May - Board workshop	15 June - Board meeting	20 July - Board workshop	17 August - Board meeting	21 September - Board workshop	19 October - Board meeting	16 November - Board workshop	14 December - Board meeting
		District Initiative fund, Community partnership fund, Creative Communities Fund, Sport New Zealand Rural Travel fund applications close 31 March						Community service award nominations close 30 September			
								Community partnership fund applications close 30 September			Scholarships and bursary applications close 20 December
								District Initiative fund, Community partnership fund, Creative Communities Fund, Sport New Zealand Rural Travel fund applications close 30 September			

Project updates

ACTIVITY	NAME	CURRENT PHASE	CURRENT PROGRESS	BUDGET ACTUAL YTD
COMMUNITY FACILITIES	Winton Memorial Hall - internal refurbishment	Delivery phase	On track	\$76,667 \$17,747 P-10742
This project is well underway with the main hall having been repainted, the storage room lined out and painted. There is some minor work to be completed in the stage area that will complete the project. It is proposed to transfer the remaining funding from this project to the Winton RSA hall project.				
COMMUNITY FACILITIES	Winton RSA hall - interior refurbishment	Delivery phase	On track	\$40,000 \$0 P-11440
Contractors have been sourced, and work will begin early February.				
COMMUNITY FACILITIES	Winton install CCTV	Pre-delivery phase	On track	\$65,000 \$0 P-11482
Tender awarded and the contracts are in the process of signing.				
PARKS AND RESERVES	Wallacetown recreational project	Delivery phase	On track	\$229,932 \$4,300 P-10829
The tender has been awarded, and work will start in March.				
STORMWATER	Winton stormwater - retic mains replacement	Delivery phase	Monitor	\$512,500 \$51,394 P-10445
This project has a yearly budget through to 2033/2034 with the stormwater consent due to be started in 2031/2032. The 2025/2026 programme currently to go to tender. Stage1- Waterford Drive post Christmas. Stage 2- McKenzie, Albert Street goes to tender April/ May 2026 and Stage 3- Eglington Street will now be 2026/2027.				



SDC SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Get #ActiveAS with our #FunAS Holiday Programme

PREPARED BY ACTIVE SOUTHLAND

LOCATIONS

- Te Anau - Tuesday 13th January
- Lumsden - Wednesday 14th January
- Riverton - Tuesday 20th January
- Otautau - Thursday 22nd January
- Winton - Monday 26th January
- Wyndham - Tuesday 27th January
- Riversdale - Friday 30th January
- Stewart Island - Monday 2nd February

\$6 PER CHILD

5-12 YEARS

Free play

Sports

Swimming

10AM - 3PM

And more

To register, visit our event page on our website: www.activesouthland.co.nz

Registrations close 48 hours before the session





Are you a member of a community group or club?

Your community group or club could be an incorporated society

Recent law changes mean that every incorporated society must **reregister before 5 April 2026** to keep its status and assets.



Learn more about the law changes by scanning the QR code, or go to: is-register.companiesoffice.govt.nz/law-changes



Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

Councillor update

Record no: R/26/1/3009
 Author: Deborah-Ann Smith-Harding, Committee advisor
 Approved by: Vibhuti Chopra, Group manager strategy and partnerships
 Report type: Information

Purpose

- 1 This report is to provide the community board an overview of the matters that have been considered at Council and Finance and Assurance Committee meetings from 13 November 2025 to 28 January 2026.

Staff recommendations

That the Ōreti Community Board:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.

Context

- 2 An overview of the reports that have gone to Council and the Finance and Assurance Committee is given in the table below.
- 3 This report also provides an opportunity for Councillor Somerville to highlight matters or to update the board on any other issues that have arisen around the Council table.
- 4 If you are interested, you can watch Council or Finance and Assurance Committee meetings via this link: [SDC YouTube](#)

26 November 2025 – Council meeting																						
Report	Overview																					
Sport NZ rural travel fund allocations - September 2025 funding round	<p>Council received seven application and approved the allocation of funds for the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund as follows:</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>1.</td><td>Netball Fiordland</td><td>\$1,200</td></tr> <tr><td>2.</td><td>Fiordland Hockey Club</td><td>\$1,000</td></tr> <tr><td>3.</td><td>Winton Swimming Club</td><td>\$1,000</td></tr> <tr><td>4.</td><td>Te Anau Cricket Club</td><td>\$1,000</td></tr> <tr><td>5.</td><td>Menzies College</td><td>\$1,000</td></tr> <tr><td>6.</td><td>Fiordland Swimming Club</td><td>\$800</td></tr> <tr><td>7.</td><td>Te Anau Tennis Club</td><td>\$500</td></tr> </table>	1.	Netball Fiordland	\$1,200	2.	Fiordland Hockey Club	\$1,000	3.	Winton Swimming Club	\$1,000	4.	Te Anau Cricket Club	\$1,000	5.	Menzies College	\$1,000	6.	Fiordland Swimming Club	\$800	7.	Te Anau Tennis Club	\$500
1.	Netball Fiordland	\$1,200																				
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3.	Winton Swimming Club	\$1,000																				
4.	Te Anau Cricket Club	\$1,000																				
5.	Menzies College	\$1,000																				
6.	Fiordland Swimming Club	\$800																				
7.	Te Anau Tennis Club	\$500																				
District initiatives fund allocations - September 2025 funding round	<p>Council received 11 applications and approved the allocation of funds from the District Initiatives Fund as follows:</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>1.</td><td>Loss & Grief Support Trust</td><td>\$7,500</td></tr> <tr><td>2.</td><td>Te Araroa Trail</td><td>\$3,000</td></tr> <tr><td>3.</td><td>Fiordland Marine SAR</td><td>\$3,000</td></tr> <tr><td>4.</td><td>Waikaia Trails Trust</td><td>\$4,000</td></tr> <tr><td>5.</td><td>Citizens Advice Bureau</td><td>\$5,000</td></tr> <tr><td>6.</td><td>Southern Cancer Society</td><td>\$0</td></tr> <tr><td>7.</td><td>Parent to Parent</td><td>\$4,000</td></tr> </table>	1.	Loss & Grief Support Trust	\$7,500	2.	Te Araroa Trail	\$3,000	3.	Fiordland Marine SAR	\$3,000	4.	Waikaia Trails Trust	\$4,000	5.	Citizens Advice Bureau	\$5,000	6.	Southern Cancer Society	\$0	7.	Parent to Parent	\$4,000
1.	Loss & Grief Support Trust	\$7,500																				
2.	Te Araroa Trail	\$3,000																				
3.	Fiordland Marine SAR	\$3,000																				
4.	Waikaia Trails Trust	\$4,000																				
5.	Citizens Advice Bureau	\$5,000																				
6.	Southern Cancer Society	\$0																				
7.	Parent to Parent	\$4,000																				

	<p>8. Northern Southland Community Resource Centre Charitable Trust \$4,000</p> <p>9. Multi-purpose turf Central Southland \$3,000</p> <p>10. Royal NZ Plunket Trust \$0</p> <p>11. Life Education Trust \$4,000</p>
10 December 2025 – Council meeting	
Report	Overview
Private plan change 3 - Blue Sky Meats - approval	<p>Plan Change 3 sought to rezone approximately 46 hectares of land at 729 Woodlands Morton Mains Road from Rural to Industrial with Blue Sky Meats Precinct provisions.</p> <p>Council accepted the recommendation of the Independent Hearing Commissioner pursuant to Clause 10 of the First Schedule of the Resource Management Act 1991, and approves Plan Change 3 with modifications as set out in the Commissioner's report.</p> <p>Council noted that the decision will be publicly notified under Clauses 10 and 11 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991, with a 30-working day appeal period.</p>
Revised Charter of Understanding	<p>The Charter of Understanding He Huarahi mō Ngā Uri Whakatupu (the Charter) provides the basis for an ongoing relationship between local authorities and tangata whenua of Murihiku Southland.</p> <p>Council noted the information contained in the report that informed them of the review of the Charter and the changes made. Due to the current uncertainty around the local government structure, Council requested that the charter be reviewed within 12 months to ensure relationships are maintained.</p>
Management report October 2025	<p>The chief executive and staff provided an update on recent staff activity across Council and spoke about the severe windstorm event that struck at the end of October. Mr McIntosh reflected that what stood out for him was the character and commitment of our people.</p> <p>Through the challenges of the weeks that followed, staff continued to deliver essential services as well as supporting families and friends who were affected by the storm.</p> <p>Manager resource consent processing Elizabeth Hovell, team leader monitoring and compliance Dave Blanks, programme delivery manager Dave Connell, strategic manager transport Hartley Hare, GM customer and community wellbeing Sam Marshall, community facilities manager Mark Day and GM strategy and partnerships Vibhuti Chopra spoke to their parts of the management report.</p>
10 December 2025 – Finance and Assurance Committee meeting	
Finance and Assurance Committee work plan for the year ended 30 June 2026	The Committee noted the information and amendments made to the work plan for the work programme discussed and agreed at the 19 March 2025 meeting for the financial year ending 30 June 2026.
Financial Report for the period ended 31 October 2025	The Committee received an overview of the financial results for the four months to 31 October 2025 by Council's seven activity

	<p>groups and corporate services, as well as the financial position and the statement of cashflows as of 31 October 2025.</p> <p>This provided the Committee with a report on the reporting covenants and thresholds on 31 October 2025 as identified in our investment and liability management policy and by the Local Government Funding Agency.</p> <p>The Committee was provided with the most recent investment reports from Council’s balanced funds managers, Milford Investments and BTNZ (Westpac). BTNZ returned 11.34% and Milford returned 11.24% for the previous 1 year period.</p>
<p>Health and Safety Update</p>	<p>Organisational health and safety manager, David McCone provided an update on health and safety related events and activity over the last quarter.</p> <p>Staff have identified the top three risks encountered during the last quarter as driving (one near miss), unstable ground/falling objects (approx. 15,000 trees in public areas) and psychosocial (abuse from members of the public). Effective mitigation is in place for these identified risks.</p>
<p>Risk management - December 2025 quarterly update</p>	<p>Risk analyst, Jane Edwards, submitted the December 2025 quarterly risk management report noting the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • three risks are assessed as requiring an increased focus. The increased risk status of two of these remains unchanged from last quarter (change risk and finance risk), and one risk status has changed from stable to increased (adverse event risk). • two risks have changed from increased to stable (cybersecurity risk and strategic relationships risk). • one risk has been changed from stable to decreased (social licence risk). <p>The Committee noted those risks currently assessed as of significant issue for the December 2025 quarter.</p>
<p>Capital delivery programme review</p>	<p>Programme delivery manager, Dave Connell and GM infrastructure and capital delivery, Fran Mikulicic spoke to the Committee and confirmed that the Capital Programme Delivery Governance Group (CPDGG) reviewed the 2025/2026 programme and determined its deliverability.</p> <p>The Committee recommended to Council that it approves the changes to the 2025/2026 capital programme as reported, with the outcome being the total annual capital programme will reduce for 2025/2026 to \$75,965,364.</p> <p>The Committee requested a workshop be held to understand the budgeting and scoping process and prioritisation of projects and that future capital delivery programme reporting will include the origin date of projects where practicable.</p>

B2B update	The Committee received an update on the progress with the Back Together Build (B2B) project. Internal demolition has started, staff have been involved in key design refinements, and everything is progressing as planned. Requests for tender have been uploaded and will close on 19 December 2025 and all other KPI's are on track.
Interim performance report - period one, 1 July 2025 to 31 October 2025	The Committee was presented with the Interim Performance Report for period one, from 1 July 2025 to 31 October 2025 by GM finance and assurance, Anne Robson. The results to date show that for the 70 KPI's, 66% (46) are on target, 10% (7) are near target, 13% (9) are off target and 11% (8) are yet to be measured. This is in line with reporting for the same period last year.
Quarterly update on progress for the Environmental Services Business Improvement plan - 17a review	The Committee received an update and approved the closure of all remaining Environmental Services Business Improvement Plan action points based on the work undertaken and discussions included in the report.

Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

Chairperson's Report

Record no: R/26/1/1232
Author: Fiona Dunlop, Committee advisor
Approved by: Robyn Rout, Governance legal manager
Report type: Information

Purpose

- 1 The purpose of this report is for the chair to update the board on activities they have been involved with since the previous meeting.
- 2 Board members are also able to provide an update on any recent events and issues of relevance and interest to the community board.

Staff recommendations

That the Ōreti Community Board:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.
- b) endorses the letter of support from the chair for the Southern REAP application to Lottery Grants.

Chairperson update

- 3 Chair Ruddenklau is updating the Board on activities, meeting and engagements from December 2025.

16 December 2025 - Walked the walking track with Catriona Gower and Chris Klein (Environment Southland)

- 4 We discussed planting times and species, costs, maintenance, and neighbouring landowners' needs. The meeting was very useful, and I will be able to provide further detail to both the Ōreti Community Board and yourself, which will be reassuring for the community.
- 5 There will be a staged planting plan, incorporating a variety of species. Catriona is preparing a draft plan and recommendations.
- 6 In the meantime, Catriona has requested that regrowth and weeds are kept under control, as they will impact survival rates for any future planting. The biggest concern remains establishing root systems to stabilise the substrate before high water flows, which will be challenging for any plantings.

Other meetings and engagements

- Meeting with Central Bowling Club and members of the Ōreti Community Board
- 15–21 January – South Sea Spray, Te Anau
- 14 January – Meeting at Dipton Bridge with community members, staff, and elected members.

January 2026 activities

- Spoke with Radio New Zealand regarding Winton CCTV cameras
- Met with David Kean regarding Limehills Community Centre and Jubilee
- Met with Mark Thomson regarding McRae's Road closure and Kauana War Memorial
- Met with Mark Thomson (Co-Chair, Makarewa Headwaters Catchment Group) regarding Kōwhai Reach
- Met with Richard Kyte (Thriving Southland) regarding Kōwhai Reach.

February 2026 activities

- 5 February – Attended opening evening, Fiordland Arts Hub Waitangi Art Exhibition.

Proposed letter in support

- 7 Attached to the report is a letter in support of Southern REAP's application to Lottery Grants for funding to redevelop the former Winton Senior Citizens building into a modern, compliant Community Hub.

Attachments

- A Letter of support for Southern REAP application to Lottery Grants [↓](#)



4 February 2026

To Whom It May Concern

Letter of Support – Southern REAP Community Hub Redevelopment Lotteries Community Facilities Application

I am pleased to provide this letter in support of Southern REAP’s application for funding to redevelop the former Winton Senior Citizens building into a modern, compliant Community Hub.

This redevelopment is an important investment in community wellbeing, education, and resilience. The proposed works, including structural upgrades, accessibility improvements, and safety and compliance enhancements, will ensure the facility is safe, inclusive, sustainable, and fit for purpose.

The upgraded Hub will provide dedicated spaces for early childhood, parenting, youth, adult, and community education programmes, as well as a community kitchen supporting wellbeing, life-skills, and family initiatives. These facilities will strengthen community connection and improve access to learning and support services.

Importantly, the project preserves the ongoing free use of the building for the Winton Senior Citizens group, recognising their long-standing connection to the facility and ensuring they remain an integral part of the community.

The Hub will also play a valuable role in emergency and disaster response, with the ability to provide safe overnight accommodation, showering, and cooking facilities when required.

Southern REAP has a strong reputation for delivering high-quality, accessible programmes. This redevelopment will enhance their capacity to meet current and future community needs and establish the Hub as a long-term centre for learning, connection, and community resilience.

I fully support this application.

Kind regards

Margie Ruddenklau
Chair, Ōreti Community Board

Southland District Council
Te Rohe Pōtae o Murihiku

PO Box 903
15 Forth Street
Invercargill 9840

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@ sdc@southlanddc.govt.nz
🏠 southlanddc.govt.nz

Exclusion of the public: Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

Recommendation

That the public be excluded from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting.

9.1 Community service award nomination - September 2025 - confidential

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Community service award nomination - September 2025 - confidential	s7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased person.	That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists.