

Ashburton District Council

AGENDA

Notice of Meeting:

A meeting of the Ashburton District Council will be held on:

Date: Wednesday 16 March 2022

Time: 1.00pm

Venue: Council Chamber

Membership

Mayor	Neil Brown
Deputy Mayor	Liz McMillan
Members	Leen Braam
	Carolyn Cameron
	John Falloon
	Rodger Letham
	Lynette Lovett
	Angus McKay
	Diane Rawlinson
	Stuart Wilson

Covid-19 Protection

Council meetings will go ahead as normal under the Red traffic light setting, but anyone aged 12 and older will require a vaccine pass to attend in person. Please sign/scan in and wear a mask. People without vaccine passes have the opportunity to view the meeting via livestream on either Council's Facebook page or You Tube channel when available.

Watch the live-stream of this meeting on our You Tube channel, Facebook page and website:

<https://www.ashburtondc.govt.nz/council/public-meetings-research-centre>

Meeting Timetable

Time	Item
1pm	Meeting commences
1.15pm	ECan – Aurora Grant (Consents Planning Manager)
2pm	ChChNZ – Kath Low (Head of Tourism) & Bruce Moffat (Marketing Manager)

1 Apologies

– Mayor Neil Brown

2 Extraordinary Business

3 Declarations of Interest

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

Minutes

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Reports

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9	Councillor Reports – <i>Deputy Mayor Liz McMillan</i>	54

Business Transacted with the Public Excluded

10	Council – 3/02/22		PE 1
	• Ashburton Contracting Ltd	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities	
11	Library & Civic Centre PCG – 8/03/22	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities	PE 2

4. Council Minutes – 2 March 2022

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 2 March 2022, commencing at 1pm in the Council Chamber, 137 Havelock Street, Ashburton.

Present

His Worship the Mayor Neil Brown; Deputy Mayor Liz McMillan; Councillors Leen Braam, Carolyn Cameron, John Falloon, Rodger Letham, Lynette Lovett, Angus McKay, Diane Rawlinson and Stuart Wilson.

In attendance

Hamish Riach (Chief Executive), Jane Donaldson (GM Strategy & Compliance), Steve Fabish (GM Community Services), Neil McCann (GM Infrastructure Services), Sarah Mosley (Manager People & Capability) and Phillipa Clark (Governance Team Leader).

Staff present for the duration of their reports: Toni Durham (Strategy & Policy Manager), Mel Neumann (Policy Advisor), Andrew Guthrie (Assets Manager), Ian Hyde (Planning Manager) and Bert Hofmans (Open Spaces Planner).

Via MS Teams: Paul Brake (GM Business Support), Ruben Garcia (Communications Manager)

Three members of the public attended.

Presentations

Ashburton Contracting Limited – 3.05pm – 3.50pm.

1 Apologies

Nil.

2 Extraordinary Business

Nil.

3 Declarations of Interest

Item 6 – Cr Letham declared a non pecuniary interest and will participate in the debate.

Former Councillor Jack Ross

Council observed a moment's silence for former Cr Jack Ross who was elected to the Ashburton District Council as an Ashburton Urban Ward Councillor in 1998, retiring in 2001.

Public Forum

Alan Totty attended on behalf of the Mt Somers Walkway Society (apology from the Society's President, Charles Ross).

Council received an update on the Sharplin Falls walking track project. The Society have applied for a Council community project grant but are concerned at the potential for their project to be delayed as the funding, if successful, won't be available until after 1 July 2022, and work needs to start shortly on the walkway bridges. The Society is also looking at the possibility of applying to the Tourism Infrastructure Fund and have had good responses from the Mid South Canterbury Trust and the Lion Foundation. .

Council acknowledged the request and asked for officers to prepare a report to further consider funding options.

The presentation concluded at 1.16pm.

4 Confirmation of Minutes – 16/02/22

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 16 February 2022, be taken as read and confirmed.

Braam/McMillan

Carried

5 Biodiversity Advisory Group – 1/02/22

Clarification was sought on the purpose of the Mid Canterbury Catchment Collective, formed in December 2021. It was noted that this group's objective is to collect data on water quality/quantity, including groundwater nitrates. Details on the Collective will be circulated to Council.

That Council receives the minutes of the Biodiversity Advisory Group meeting held on 1 February 2022.

Lovett/Rawlinson

Carried

6 Request for renaming of Mill Road and Ross Road

Councillors opposing the officer's recommendation cited examples of other road names in the district that are duplicated or similar sounding. It was further noted that RAPID numbering doesn't exist on either road.

Officers acknowledged that there are historical occurrences of conflicting names in the district and advised that there have been issues as a result of this.

That Council approves the request to rename the existing Ross Road as George Ross Road, and a section of Mill Road as Ross Road.

McKay/Braam

Carried

7 Naming of Road – Westview Drive

That the road to vest in Council as part of Subdivision Sub20/0040, at 46-56 Tinwald Westerfield Mayfield Road, be named Westview Drive.

Braam/Cameron

Carried

8 Ministry for Environment Submission (NES Sources of Human Drinking Water)

The draft submission was supported with minor amendment –

Q18 – reference to Canterbury being a nitrate hot spot will be amended to 'parts of Canterbury'

Q33 – note that the ability to inspect all bores is possible, but it's likely to be impractical.

That Council approves the draft submission to the Ministry for the Environment's consultation document *Improving the protection of drinking-water sources*.

Cameron/Braam

Carried

9 Canterbury Climate Change Risk Assessment

That Council receives the Canterbury Climate Change Risk Assessment Technical Report and the Summary Report.

McMillan/Braam

Carried

10 Ashton Beach Enhancement Project

That Council agrees to covenanting land at Ashton Beach (in accordance with Figure 1) and proceeds with the application for a Wildlife Act Authority.

Braam/Lovett

Carried

11 Mayor's Report

That the Mayor's report be received.

Mayor/Cameron

Carried

Welcome to staff – 2.38pm

Sarah Mosley, Manager People & Capability, introduced new staff – Dr Christian Chukwuka (Ecologist/Biodiversity Advisor) and Zani van der Westhuizen (Development Engineer).

Council also acknowledged the long service of Paul Stirling (Systems Team Leader) – 10 years and Brian Kerr (Business Systems Analyst) – 15 years.

Business transacted with the public excluded – 2.44pm.

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely – 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:

Item No	General subject of each matter to be considered:	In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Act, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:	
13	Council 16/02/22 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Library & Civic Centre [Now in open meeting] <ul style="list-style-type: none">Methven exploratory bore drilling contracts	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
14	Ashburton Contracting Ltd	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

Braam/McMillan

Carried

Council adjourned for afternoon tea from 2.44pm to 3.05pm.

The meeting concluded at 3.52pm.

Confirmed 16 March 2022

MAYOR

5. ***Stockwater Race Closure SKW/017/20 – Longbeach Road***

Author	<i>Crissie Drummond, Support Officer Infrastructure Services</i>
Activity Manager	<i>Andrew Guthrie, Assets Manager</i>
GM responsible	<i>Neil McCann, Group Manager Infrastructure Services</i>

Summary

- The purpose of this report is for Council to approve the closure of a local stockwater race in the Longbeach Road/Willowby area.
- The total distance to be closed is 1,457m.
- There are six affected properties affected by the race closure. Five of the six owners have consented to the closure.
- This section of local stockwater race was the subject of a previous application to close. That application (**180502**) was declined at the time due to the concerns raised by one affected party of the ecological values of the race.
- Due to the previous concerns, Aquatic Ecology Limited (AEL) were commissioned to undertake a full ecological assessment of the section of race to be closed, and identify any ecological values and recommendations if required.

Recommendation

1. **That** Council approves the closure of the stockwater race from a junction at 310 Longbeach Road (RS 20914 BLKS IV VIII HINDS SD, PN: 16221), and finishing at a junction located on Boundary Road where the race exists 273 Longbeach Road (Lot 1 DP 62106, PN: 21899)

Attachments

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| Appendix 1 | Map of proposed closure |
| Appendix 2 | Aquatic Ecology Limited Ecological Assessment |
| Appendix 3 | Submission from non-consenting property owners |

Background

The current situation

1. An application has been received from the owners of 344 Longbeach Road; PN: 16220 to close the local stockwater race that runs through their property.
2. The applicants own the property immediately downstream of where the section of race is to be closed. The race often dries up for 2-3 weeks at a time and is therefore not a reliable source of stockwater.
3. The race is fed from a junction at 310 Longbeach Road, and runs for a total distance of 1,457m.
4. Of the six affected property owners, five have consented to the closure.
5. An application to close this section of water race was previously received by Council in 2018.
6. A report recommending that the closure proceed was considered at the Service Delivery Committee meeting held on 26 July 2018.
7. The non-consenting property owner made a presentation at the Committee meeting expressing their concerns for the loss of bio diversity, fresh water ecological and aesthetic values should the race be closed.
8. The Committee resolved the race was to remain open.
9. The non-consenting property owner has again submitted their concerns for the fresh water biodiversity and ecological values the race supports. They also expressed their wish to retain the historic water race to provide drainage during big weather events, to prevent flooding of land and roads. A copy of the non-consenting property owner's submission is attached as **Appendix 3**.
10. In light of the above concerns, Aquatic Ecology Limited (AEL) were commissioned to undertake a full ecological assessment of the section of race to be closed, and to identify ecological values and make any necessary decommissioning recommendations if required. A copy of the assessment is attached as **Appendix 2**.
11. The assessment report provides the results of the survey of the physical habitat, the collection of macroinvertebrates and fish species along the length of race to be closed.
12. The report concludes with six recommendations should the closure proceed:
 - *Translocation of fish, and any other significant aquatic life, from Willowby water race into new Willowby water race.*

- *Diversion of all remaining flow into new Willowby water race at 344 Longbeach Road, possibly by bunding the old channel.*
- *As Willowby water race dewateres, the receding habitat should be electric-fished downstream to push any remaining fish out of the bottom of the Willowby water race.*
- *Bund the Willowby water race at its downstream confluence with the new Willowby water race vicinity of 779 Boundary Road.*
- *Fill Willowby water race in an upstream direction, pumping any residual dirty groundwater onto adjacent pasture.*
- *Contractor to consider the means of mitigating the residual flow of ground water along the de-commissioned course of Willowby water race.*

13. There is one road crossing affected by this closure on Longbeach Road. Council's roading team inspected the crossing and advise that the culvert can remain in place.

Māori and tangata whenua participation

14. Aoraki Environmental Consultancy provided a cultural assessment of the proposal to close the race. This assessment advised that no cultural values are impacted by this closure.

Options analysis

Factors to be considered:

a	Length and location of section of race to be altered or closed	A total of 1,457 metres will be closed from a junction at 310 Longbeach Road.
b	Number of properties that will be affected	Six properties are affected by this closure.
c	Current use of the section of race proposed to be altered or closed	This local race is been used for stockwater.
d	Percentage of landowners/occupiers in support of the closure	83% of the affected property owners support the race closure. The non-consenting property owner has 18.8% of the race to be closed running through their property.
e	Economic analysis of race closures and alterations, including the operating and capital costs and benefits for all affected parties, and the equitable distribution of those costs and benefits.	Operational costs of this race are the sole responsibility of the landowners. Once the race is closed, there will be no further associated maintenance costs for these landowners.
f	Cost-effective water sources available to properties, including costs of in-farm	All consenting property owners have on-property wells which they use for

	infrastructure, such as wells, pumps, tanks and reticulation	domestic and stockwater. The non-consenting property owner has a well on property, although they advise it is unreliable.
g	Whether the race is a main race or a local race	It is a local race.
h	Cultural values affected by the alteration or closure	A cultural assessment was received from Te Runanga O Arowhenua on 27 November 2020. This assessment advised that no cultural values are impacted by this closure.
i	Ecological values affected by the alteration or closure	A full ecological assessment was commissioned and undertaken by Aquatic Ecology Limited. Their report concluded that the ecological values in the race were low. There are six recommendations, including the relocation of any fish found in the race should the closure proceed.
j	Land/storm water drainage values affected by the alteration or closure	The race will not impact detrimentally on drainage or storm water. The affected parties will be requested to leave the race as a swale.
k	Fire-fighting values affected by the alteration or closure, such as the availability of water within that section of the race to provide a source for fire-fighting	Available water supply for firefighting will be affected. However as the water supply was often intermittent, it has not been a reliable source of water for firefighting.
l	Physical effects of closure on other network infrastructure	No other network infrastructure will be affected by the works.
m	Impacts of mitigation measures that may reduce the effects of race closures or alterations	Consideration must be given for the race to be swaled through the properties as mitigation for heavy rain events.
n	Achievement of the objectives of the Surface Water Strategy, the Ashburton Water Zone Implementation Programme, and the Canterbury Water Management Strategy and the Council meeting its obligations under the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan	<p>The closing of this section of stockwater race will contribute to a more efficient race network, which is entirely consistent with the Surface Water Strategy and Ashburton ZIP.</p> <p>It will also contribute to the incremental reduction of stockwater required to be taken from the Ashburton River system.</p>

Option one – Decline the water race closure application

15. Under this option the race will remain in its current location despite five of the six property owners wishing to close the race.
16. All property owners would be required to continue to maintain the race, and pay stockwater rates for a race that the majority of whom no longer require.
17. Analysis of the 14 bylaw criteria does not support this recommendation.

Option two – Approve the water race closure application (recommended)

18. Under this option, the race which five of the six property owners no longer require would be closed.
19. The five consenting property owners no longer require the water race.
20. The non-consenting property has 18.8% of the total race length to be closed running through their property. They do have a well on their property, although they advise it is unreliable.
21. Analysis of the 14 bylaw criteria supports the position that closure of this race can proceed.

Legal/policy implications

Legislation

22. The Water Races Bylaw, under which the closure process sits, meets the bylaw requirements under the Local Government Act 2002.

Bylaw

23. Council adopted the Water Race Bylaw in 2019. At the time of this being developed, officers also received the Standard Operating Procedure for Water Race Alterations (including Closures). The recommended option is compliant with the Bylaw and SOP.

Strategies

24. Council adopted the Surface Water Strategy in 2018. This ten year strategy includes Council's water race network. The recommended option also aligns with the direction of the Strategy.

Strategic alignment

25. The recommendation relates to Council's community outcomes of '*A district of great spaces and places*', '*A prosperous economy based on innovation and opportunity*' and '*A balanced and sustainable economy*' because the closure of unused/needed water races supports the long-term goal of leaving water in rivers.

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic	✓	The recommended option to close the water race supports these three wellbeings by improving the efficiency of the race network and ultimately leaving water at its source.
Environmental	✓	
Cultural	✓	
Social		

Financial implications

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	There will be a cost of re-locating any fish found in the race in the lead up to any closure. This cost which is currently unknown, will be met from the Stockwater account.
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	No
Where is the funding coming from?	The stockwater account
Are there any future budget implications?	The amount of stockwater rates currently received will cease on 30 June 2022. This equates to a reduction in revenue of \$700 which will either need to be met next year from all other stockwater ratepayers or saved through cost efficiencies.
Reviewed by Finance	Paul Brake: Group Manager Business Support

Significance and engagement assessment

26. All property owners were consulted as part of the application process.
27. One external stakeholder, Te Runanga O Arowhenua were consulted as part of the application process.

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No
Level of significance	Low
Rationale for selecting level of significance	Applying the formula set out in the Policy, six criteria scored LOW, and the seventh scored MED, for an overall score of LOW. Reviewing this assessment “in the round” it remained LOW overall.
Level of engagement selected	Level 3. Consult - all affected parties have been formally engaged with.
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	This is consistent with Council’s bylaw and SOP and council’s S&E Policy.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Richard Mabon, Senior Policy Advisor

Appendix 1



16 August 2021

Crissie Drummond
Ashburton District Council
5 Baring Square West,
Ashburton 7700

Dear Crissie,

Willowby Water Race Diversion

Proposal

The Ashburton District Council (ADC) has received an application for the closure of the Willowby Water Race (130 years old, pers. comm. Emma Montgomery, ADC). The Willowby Water Race is a narrow stockwater waterway which flows south through the small township of Willowby, south of Ashburton, central Canterbury (red line in Fig. 1). There is already an existing alternative water path with greater hydraulic capacity (blue line in Fig. 1), which bypasses the Willowby township, and re-joining the Willowby Water Race at Boundary Road (Fig. 1). The length of the Willowby Water Race proposed for decommissioning is 1,521.6 m.

ADC commissioned Aquatic Ecology Limited (AEL) to undertake an ecological assessment of the Willowby Water Race, detailing ecological values and recommendations on how to avoid, minimise or mitigate any negative effects (of Water Race decommissioning) (email Emma Montgomery, 29/4/21).

Physical Habitat

The relevant reach of Willowby Water Race traverses four properties (344, 378, & 273 Longbeach Road, 816 Boundary Road, Fig. 1). The substrate in this reach varies between hard clay and soft sediment. The upper section, at 344 Longbeach Road, flows through a potential stock paddock but is unfenced. Both banks have been sprayed with herbicide (App. I, Fig. a). Patches of macrophytic growth were present, however no native macrophytes were found. Downstream of this section, a short reach of the Water Race flows through 378 Longbeach Road. This approximately 50 m reach is not sprayed and displays an abundance of watercress and monkey musk (App. I, Fig. b). The Water Race then flows southwest alongside Longbeach Road for 380 m. At the time of survey, this section appeared to have been recently dredged of all macrophytes, resulting in a hard clay stream bed with no instream cover (App. I, Figs. c, d). After crossing Longbeach Road through a culvert, the stream flows south through the 273 Longbeach Road and 816 Boundary Road properties. Most of this downstream section consists of a deep channel and soft sediment, with an approximately 1 m wide fenced riparian section on the true left bank and a hedge on the true right bank (App. I, Fig. e). Part of this section, in the 816 Boundary Road property, has native instream and riparian planting (*Carex*, *Juncus* and harakeke) and a cobble bed (App. I, Fig. f). The planted section is approximately 40 m in length, however patches of native plants such as *Carex* and raupo continue for approximately 100 m (App. I, Fig. g) before returning to a deep channel with soft sediment. A slight backflow was present where the Willowby Water Race re-joins the alternative water race at the Boundary Road culvert.

Upon arrival, the water level of the relevant section of Willowby Water Race was low, with ponded sections. After a diversion board was removed by ADC staff from the upstream end at 344 Longbeach Road, the water level rose significantly overnight. Because water was still present despite the damming, and the channel was watered by inflows downstream of the diversion board, we consider that the obstruction did not affect our results materially.



Figure 1. Showing the current path of the Willowby Water Race (red line), and the alternative water race route (blue line). Areas surveyed using GM traps are marked in blue, electric fishing sites are marked in yellow, and the site of invertebrate sample is marked in green. Orange arrows mark the sites where upland bullies were identified.

The nearby Willowby wildlife reserve, a historic wetland, was dry during the AEL survey (App. I, Fig. h). Native plants such as *Carex* and harakeke were still present, however there are no signs the wetland had contained water recently. The ground is not waterlogged, and there is a thick layer of terrestrial grass covering the lowest points. There are also indications of recent grazing by sheep.

Field Survey

- Invertebrates

The macroinvertebrate sample for this ecological survey was taken from the most ideal habitat, specifically the unsprayed section of 378 Longbeach Road (Figs. 1, App. I, Fig. b). Very little flow was present at the time of sample, as the sample was collected before the diversion board was removed upstream.

Macroinvertebrates were collected using a standard 0.3 m wide, 500-micron kicknet, using a subset of the standard sampling protocols outlined in Stark *et al.* (2001). Due to the lack of sampleable hard substrate, the conventional soft substrate sampling protocol (C2) was used. This involved jabbing along the overhanging vegetation on the bank margin, or macrophytes, with the kicknet for 1 m, then sweeping the kicknet through the disturbed section twice. This process was repeated 5 times, and supplemented with the washing of >3 m of instream woody debris through the sample net, to create a composite sample. This sample was field-preserved in iso-propyl alcohol, and transported to the Christchurch laboratory for identification using the standard identification keys (Chapman *et al.* 2011; Winterbourn 1973; Winterbourn *et al.* 2006).

A total of 5 invertebrate species were identified from this sample (Table 1). None of these species were from the so-called clean water group (i.e., EPT Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, or Trichoptera orders), resulting in a low overall Macroinvertebrate Community Index (MCI-sb) score of 52.4. The most abundant species in this sample was the New Zealand mud snail, *Potamopyrgus antipodarum*. A total of 1,234 individuals were recorded in the sample. *Physa acuta* was also common, with 103 individuals recorded from the single sample.

Table 1. Macroinvertebrate taxa from Willowby Water Race.

		Willowby Water Race	
		No.	MCI-sb
ANNELIDA			
Oligochaeta		6	3.8
MOLLUSCA			
Gastropoda			
Hydrobiidae	<i>Potamopyrgus antipodarum</i>	1234	2.1
Physidae	<i>Physa acuta</i>	103	0.1
Bivalvia			
Sphaeriidae	<i>Sphaerium novaezelandiae</i>	2	2.9
INSECTA			
Diptera			
Stratiomyidae		6	4.2
No. Scoring taxa		5	
TOTAL No. of animals		1351	
Total indice score			13.1
MCI-sb			52.4
% EPT taxa			0.0

- Fish

Fishing was conducted by an electric fishing machine using a conventional Kainga EFM300 electric fishing machine at an operating voltage of 500 V. D.C. A higher-than-normal voltage was required because of the low electrical conductivity of the water (60 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$), and the higher voltage was required to provide a sufficiently wide electrical field prevent escapement. Other than that, conditions were good for electric fishing with water clarity sufficient to the bottom and small fish.

Electric fishing serves to briefly (approx. 3 seconds) render fish unconscious to facilitate their capture in nets for identification. The machine incorporates a timer, allowing the effective fishing time to be recorded. The total effective fishing time (i.e., the total time that the machine was delivering current to the water) for these reaches was 35 minutes. Captured fish were then anaesthetised, identified, measured, and upon recovery from anaesthesia, released back into their resident habitats.

Fishing was undertaken using AEL's electric fishing permits (MPI Permit 749, DOC 70754-FAU and under authority from NCFGC).

Ten sites were electro-fished on 14th May 2021. In combination, these reaches encompassed all hydrological habitat types available in the reach being pool, riffle, fast-run, and slow-run habitats.

Electric fishing was also supplemented with overnight trapping. Trapping fishing techniques are more effective in deep and slow-flowing habitats, especially if there is overhanging vegetation which makes wading difficult. Trapping is also important in areas with difficult access, such as the lower section of Willowby Water Race at 273 Longbeach Road. On 13th May 2021, seven baited Gee Minnow™ (GM) lines were set overnight, spread evenly across the relevant reach (Fig. 1). Each GM line was composed of five baited GM traps. These lines were spread evenly across the relevant section of Willowby Water Race.

All captured fish were anaesthetised, identified, measured, and after recovery, released back into their resident habitat.

Together, electric fishing and GM traps were used to survey all different habitat types in the relevant reach. From this extensive fishing effort, only one fish species was found in Willowby Water Race. This was the upland bully (*Gobiomorphus breviceps*, App. I, Fig. i), of which 35 individuals were identified. Two upland bullies were identified in the 344 Longbeach Road reach, and the rest were identified at the downstream limit of the survey, near the Boundary Road culvert. Many individuals in the downstream population appeared gravid (App. I, Fig. j), therefore are likely spawning in this vicinity. Upland bullies are currently considered "Not Threatened" (Dunn *et al.* 2017).

Discussion

Based on a lack of aquatic macrophytes, discussions with landowners, and our water level observations, it was determined that this Water Race is ephemeral. Technically, this is when the groundwater level is always below the thalweg (the mid-line of the channel). Based on discussions with a landowner the Water Race appears to dry out completely many times a year (pers. comm. Sheryl Stivens/816 Boundary Rd). While a reach of the Water Race, at 816 Boundary Road, was planted with a variety of native shrubs and rushes, such as *Carex*, *Juncus* and harakeke (i.e., flax). Riparian vegetation in all other reaches were entirely introduced.

The ephemeral nature of Willowby Water Race is likely to be limiting the number of fish and invertebrate taxa present. Only 5 invertebrate taxa were identified in the sample, none of which were sensitive to high levels of pollutants. The most abundant invertebrate identified was the New Zealand mud snail (*Potamopyrgus antipodarum*). This is a native species, but very common in soft-substrate waterways throughout New Zealand. The presence of *Physa acuta*, commonly known as the acute bladder snail, reflects an exceedingly low water quality. This species has an MCI-sb score of 0.1, meaning it can withstand high concentrations of contaminants. The species with the highest sensitivity to pollutants in this sample was soldier fly (*Stratiomyidae*) larvae, with still a fairly pollution-tolerant score of 4.2 from a maximum of 10. The overall MCI-sb score of 52.4 is indicative of (very) poor water quality (i.e., MCI < 80 (Stark & Maxted 2007).

The ephemeral nature of this waterway could also contribute to this low MCI score and skew the fauna towards one which can tolerate stagnant hypoxic conditions. Long-term bank spraying, both on private and road reserve land, is likely to be detrimental to aquatic invertebrates. There is little experimental information of toxicity of herbicides to NZ aquatic invertebrates. However field observations indicate some toxic effects at least for earlier herbicides (Burnet 1972). Moreover, because riparian vegetation has ecological links to the waterway, the loss of riparian plants is almost always detrimental to aquatic invertebrates.

We also consider it unlikely that freshwater mussels are present in the waterway. Freshwater mussels are unlikely to tolerate bed drying for extended periods and are considered to be sensitive to poor water quality but also low oxygen levels at the bed level (James 1985), which are likely to occur where water pools at night in the absence of macrophytes.

The artificially constructed wetland bed in the local-purpose reserve ("Willowby wildlife reserve", vicinity of 448 Longbeach Rd) was totally dry and hard at the time of survey (Fig. 9), and had deteriorated to a point that it cannot be further ecologically affected by the decommissioning of Willowby Water Race.

In 2002, Department of Conservation staff translocated a population of mudfish into this wetland, when water was still present (O'Brien & Dunn 2007). Although records on the New Zealand freshwater fish database (NZFFD) indicate a presence of Canterbury mudfish (*Neochanna burrowsius*) in the wetland in 2000, subsequent visits from DOC between 2009 and 2015, unfortunately, found no aquatic life (NZFFDB). Its likely that wetland naturally drained between 2002 and 2009, or may be related to potential low flows in the Willowby Water Race. Canterbury mudfish can tolerate some loss of surface water, but extended period of water loss reduces survival and reproductive success, after water returns (Eldon 1979; O'Brien 2005).

After significant fishing effort, only one species of fish was identified in Willowby Water Race, the upland bully, a species that does not require sea access. This species has high reproductive material, and a number of gravid fish were identified at the downstream limit of Willowby Water Race. The presence of this one non-migratory fish is probably an artifact of frequent waterway drying, combined with the perched culvert at Boundary Road at the downstream end of the survey reach (App. I, Fig. k). This is because, while some juvenile fish like eels and some whitebait species can climb damp surfaces, they cannot negotiate overhangs. While the perched culvert invert may be submerged at high flows, it is likely the opposing current in the Boundary Road culvert would be too fast for fish to negotiate. Potentially the fish diversity is already restricted by other or similar fish passage impediments further downstream.

As an aside, native riparian planting will enhance the visual appeal of the New Willowby Water Race, and enhance the instream ecology, especially in respect to aquatic macroinvertebrates. The Boundary Road culvert will minimise any ecological enhancement of New Willowby Water Race Based, and based on the Google StreetView photo (vicinity of 779 Boundary Road) New Willowby Water Race may have its own perched outlet at the confluence with Boundary Road Water Race.

Concluding remarks

Ecological values in the Willowby Water Race are low, with particularly low stream health scores. The ephemeral nature of the flow, the presence of perched culverts, and bank spraying are probably major reasons for the low health score. The fishing effort was of an intensity that we are confident that the fish fauna is composed of only one species, the upland bully, a common species throughout New Zealand. We are also confident that freshwater mussels are not present given the ephemeral nature of the flow, and the poor water quality.

New Willowby Water Race was not fished, but it may have higher ecological values than Willowby Water Race, as it may have permanent (i.e., perennial) flow. However, fish diversity will always be constrained by perched culverts mentioned above, and potentially others between Boundary Road and the sea.

Decommissioning Willowby Water Race would result in the loss of limited upland bully habitat in the upper section of the Water Race, and no rare or important invertebrates. The upland bully population

in the downstream reach is close to the Boundary Road culvert, so their habitat is likely to be retained by backflow at the confluence of New Willowby Water Race. It would be possible to translocate the majority of the upland bullies to the new channel prior to the decommissioning. Following the removal of fish, as much flow as possible should be diverted into New Willowby Water Race at 344 Longbeach Road. With the water flow stopped, as the water level recedes in the Willowby Water Race, the channel should be electric fished in a downstream direction to either capture fish stragglers, or chase fish downstream out of the bottom of Willowby Water Race. Then, Willowby Water Race should be bunded at the bottom end, filled and compacted in an upstream direction. Any ponded groundwater should be trash-pumped on nearby pasture to filter the fines. If deemed necessary by ADC, the contractor is to consider means of mitigating the risk of erosion by groundwater along the filled path of Willowby Water Race. We have summarised the decommissioning fish handling aspects of any decommissioning below as Recommendations.

Recommendations:

If Council proceeded with closure of Willowby Water Race, we recommend, in order of operation:

- Translocation of fish, and any other significant aquatic life, from Willowby Water Race into New Willowby Water Race.
- Diversion of all remaining flow into New Willowby Water Race at 344 Longbeach Road, possibly by bunding the old channel.
- As Willowby Water Race dewater, the receding habitat should be electric-fished downstream to push any remaining fish out of the bottom of the Willowby Water Race.
- Bund the Willowby Water Race at its downstream confluence with the New Willowby Water Race vicinity of 779 Boundary Road.
- Fill Willowby Water Race in an upstream direction, pumping any residual dirty groundwater onto adjacent pasture.
- Contractor to consider the means of mitigating the residual flow of groundwater along the decommissioned course of Willowby Water Race.

Yours sincerely,



Mark Taylor,



Riley Payne

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Appendix I. Photographs mentioned in the text.



Figure a. Looking downstream along Willowby Water Race, at 344 Longbeach Road. Two upland bullies were identified in this reach.



Figure b. Looking downstream at an unsprayed section of the Water Race, at 378 Longbeach Road. The invertebrate sample was taken at this location.



Figure c. Looking upstream at a dredged section of Willowby Water Race, flowing alongside Longbeach Road.



Figure d. Looking downstream at the dredged section of Willowby Water Race, flowing south along Longbeach Road.(photo 30th April 2021).



Figure e. Willowby Water Race looking downstream through the fenced reach from 273 Longbeach Rd.



Figure f. Willowby Water Race looking upstream through the fenced reach at 816 Boundary Rd.



Figure g. Willowby Water Race, looking downstream at patches of native planting in the vicinity of 816 Boundary Rd.



Figure h. Willowby local purpose reserve. The wetland was dry.



Figure i. Upland bully identified at the downstream limit of the ecological survey.



Figure j. This upland bully, part of the downstream population, appears gravid.



Figure k. Perched culvert across Boundary Road, at the downstream limit of ecological survey.

Appendix 3

Ashburton District Council

STOCK WATER RACES CLOSURE SURVEY FORM

Sheryl & Hal Stivens 15th November 2020

To Ashburton District Council

It is only 2 years since we last filled out this paperwork to protect this historic water race. This water race would have been a naturally occurring drain before the stock water races were dug as historically this area was wetlands prior to being tiled and drained by the early settlers.

Please support us in protecting this historic fresh water resource and the fresh water bio diversity values it supports.

Sheryl & Hal Stivens Property # 4244
15th November 2020

Key Points

We purchased this property 38 years ago and the historic drain /water race flowing through it was a big part of our decision to make this our organic farm & family home.

It is only 2 years since we went to the Council meeting to seek protection and to preserve this historic drain / water race and the Ashburton District Council agreed to do so.

Now just as the frog population has recovered and the creek has a healthy flow we are once again being approached to fill out the same Stock Water race closure forms.

There has been a reliable flow of water in this water race until very recent times supporting frogs, eels, mudfish, freshwater crayfish, insects and bees. These animals survived thanks to this bio diversity-- through severe droughts and big floods; due to water from up country flowing down as our property is the centre of the old historic Willowby swamp and some of the lowest lying land of the area.

Our domestic well has become increasingly unreliable over the last decade due to water allocations with this area currently being 180% allocated.

We have spent in excess of \$30,000 since the year 2000 on digging deeper wells and require Reverse Osmosis filtration to remove the nitrates and other nasties to make the water suitable for drinking water for humans. .

In a powercut, natural event ie earthquake or a big weather event our only water is the stock water race .

This historic water race in the centre of the old swamp has been providing a channel for fast drainage during big weather events and re charging the lowland drains for 130 years.

We are told our property was the Boundary Riders Cottage for Longbeach Estate and one of the oldest dwellings and properties in the area.

Further information

Are Stockwater races and their tributaries manmade?

Yes - 130 years ago

Under the National Policy for Freshwater Management where do historic drains such as this Willowby drain in the centre of the old swamp feature?

- The property on which we farm is the centre of the historic swamp as we were told by locals and other Ashburton farming people 38 years ago when we purchased this land.
- When we get a big weather event like 6- 8 inches of rain + the water has to go somewhere .
- It drains naturally fast tracked from the upper plains down to this area and through our historic drain.
- If you close this short area of drain it will flood the Longbeach and Boundary roads and other properties causing damage and traffic hazards during heavy rainfall events.

Some of the stock water races were or are strategic ecologically.

- Stockwater races provide augmentation to groundwater, flood channels in the lowland plains in big weather events and the only reliable water for animals, insects and sometimes humans as well as fire fighting in areas where the groundwater & aquifers are seriously overallocated and unreliable.
- In this area the water is 180% allocated as the Ashburton Water Committee were informed by the ECAN groundwater scientists.

Ashburton District Council appear to have been committed to closing down stockwater races thus destroying the bio diversity and fresh water ecological values that are contained in some of the historic water ways; adding significantly to the loss of bio diversity in the Ashburton District.

Over time some of the stock water races have developed their own ecology and bio diversity. Mayfly, caddisfly, mudfish, eels, freshwater mussels, frogs, bees, insects for pollinating crops and more flourish in these waterways.

If you shut off the fresh water supply you diminish the freshwater habitat & destroy the historic values of this land.

It is not possible to artificially replicate these values and habitats with irrigation ponds as flowing water is required.

Some of the impacts of closing the historic drain that flows through our property were made very clear when Longbeach School had so many problems with bees in 2018 at the swimming pool . This happened when landowners began diverting the stock water races away from its natural channel that it had flowed through for over 100 years. That issue was solved 2 years ago when we last went through this process with Ashburton District Council.

Bees are essential for pollination and seed and grains is a significant farming activity in Ashburton District and stock water races are ideal for bees to collect water for their hives from.

The land owners who purchased this land knew they contained stockwater races. Some land owners have not lived here long enough to have the knowledge to understand the weather cycles and the flooding from up country as the water drains downstream.

Corporate greed & industrial farming practices along with short term thinking has diminished our freshwater ecology. Please help us to stop this short term approach and help us to demonstrate long term thinking, planning and vision in relation to the retention and support in perpetuity for our waterways in the Ashburton District by the Council.

Selwyn Council has now recognized the freshwater values contained in stockwater races. We are submitting to Ashburton District Council to retain our historic drain now renamed as a stock water race as an historic waterway with biodiversity values for the Ashburton District.

Sheryl & Hal Stivens
816 Boundary Road Ashburton 7773

6. Triennial Elections 2022

Author *Phillipa Clark; Governance Team Leader*
GM responsible *Hamish Riach; Chief Executive*

Summary

- This report is to update Council on the arrangements for the 2022 triennial elections and establish the order in which candidates' names are to be shown on the voting documents.

Recommendation

1. **That** the report be received.
2. **That** the names of the candidates for the 2022 Ashburton District Council triennial elections, and any subsequent by-elections, be arranged on the ballot paper in random order.

Background

1. The triennial elections for Ashburton District Council will be held on 8 October 2022.
2. Council has contracted electionz.com to manage its 2022 elections with Anthony Morton appointed as Electoral Officer.
3. Council's 2022 elections will be conducted using the First Past the Post (FPP) electoral system.
4. Council may decide whether candidate names are to be arranged on the voting documents in alphabetical order of surname, pseudo-random order or random order.
5. In the absence of any Council resolution approving another arrangement, legislation provides for a default position of alphabetical order of surname.
6. Prior to the Local Electoral Act 2001, candidates' names were required to be listed on the voting documents in alphabetical order. Ashburton District Council has used random order since 2004.
7. The voting papers for the 2022 election will contain elections for the following potential issues (or will advise who has been elected if the number of candidates doesn't exceed the number of vacancies for any particular position) –
 - a) Mayoral election
 - b) Election of councillors for three wards – Ashburton, Eastern and Western Wards
 - c) Methven Community Board election
 - d) Election of constituency councillors for Canterbury Regional Council
 - e) Election of members of Ashburton Licensing Trust

The issues (a, b and c) are all subject to decisions on candidate order by Ashburton District Council. The other two authorities (d and e) can make their own decisions.

8. In the 2019 elections 57% of territorial local authorities used random order, 33% alphabetical and 10% pseudo-random. Throughout the region, this is reflected as follows:

Ashburton District	Random
Canterbury Regional Council	Random
Christchurch City	Random
Hurunui District	Alpha
Kaikoura District	Random
Mackenzie District	Random
Selwyn District	Random
Timaru District	Random
Waimakariri District	Random
Waimate District	Random
Waitaki District	Random

2022 Triennial Elections – key dates

9. Council staff are preparing communications and engagement plans for the 2022 elections which will be timed for the three key stages – Enrol / Stand / Vote. This includes the Pre-election report.

10. Key dates are shown below:

May/June 2022	Pre-election report finalised
15 July – 12 August 2022	Candidate nominations open and electoral roll opens for public inspection
19 July 2022	ADC Candidate information evening
12 August 2022	Candidate nominations and electoral roll close at 12 noon
17 August 2022	Public notice of candidates' names
16-21 September 2022	Voting documents delivered
16 September – 8 October 2022	Progressive roll scrutiny, progressive processing, special voting period
8 October 2022	Election day – voting closes at 12 noon
8 October 2022	Preliminary results (from 12 noon)
13-19 October 2022	Declaration of election results
October/November 2022	Inaugural Council meeting and swearing in elected members

Options analysis

Option one – Random order of candidate names (recommended)

11. Random order is where all candidate names are randomly selected by computer, and the order of names is different on every voting document.

Advantage

- Council will continue to use the system that is familiar to voters in the Ashburton District. Random order has been in place for the past six triennial elections.
- The perception of alphabetical advantage or bias is avoided.

Disadvantage

- The order of candidates on the voting document doesn't match the alphabetical listing of candidates in the candidate directory (candidate profile statements) and may create voter criticism/confusion as specific candidate names are not easily found.

Option two – Pseudo-random order of candidate names

12. Pseudo-random order is where all candidate names are randomly selected, and the order selected is the order appearing on all voting documents relevant to that issue. The names are randomly selected by a method such as drawing names out of a hat.

Advantage

- With candidate names appearing in mixed order, the perception of alphabetical advantage or bias is avoided.

Disadvantage

- Voting documents won't be individually unique as the mixed order of candidate names is repeated on all documents relevant to a particular issue.
- The order of candidates on the voting document doesn't match the alphabetical listing of candidates in the candidate directory.

Option three – Alphabetical order of candidate names

13. Candidate names are listed alphabetically on all voting documents.

Advantage

- Voters would be expected to easily find candidate names for whom they wish to vote for.
- The order of candidates on the voting document will match the alphabetical listing of candidates in the candidate directory.

Disadvantage

- Some candidates and voters over the years have argued that alphabetical order of candidate names may tend to favour those candidates with names in the first part of the alphabet. But in practice, this is not the case – reportedly most voters tend to look for name recognition, regardless of where in the alphabet the name lies.

Legal/policy implications

14. [Clause 31\(1\) of the Local Electoral Regulations 2001](#) determines whether candidate names are to be arranged on the voting documents in alphabetical order of surname, pseudo-random order or random order.

Strategic alignment

15. The recommendation relates to Council's community outcome of '*Residents are included and have a voice*' because the community participates in local elections and representation reviews.

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic		
Environmental		
Cultural		
Social	✓	The community participates in local elections and residents have the opportunity to have their say on Council business and influence Council decision-making.

Financial implications

28. There is no price differential in printing costs between the three orders of candidate name options.

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	Included within overall contract cost for printing, processing, mailing
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	Yes, budget provision in year 2 of the LTP
Where is the funding coming from?	Democracy budget
Are there any future budget implications?	No
Reviewed by Finance	Erin Register; Finance Manager

Significance and engagement assessment

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No
Level of significance	Low
Rationale for selecting level of significance	This decision is primarily administrative, rather than a policy issue.
Level of engagement selected	1. Inform involved parties
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	Statutory notice requirement and the decision will be publicised through a media release.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Toni Durham; Strategy & Policy Manager

7. Christchurch NZ

Half Year Update – March 2022

Introduction

The impact of COVID-19 continues to reverberate across the tourism industry, with the country recently moving into the red traffic light system to protect the country from the Omicron variant. While New Zealanders can travel across regions, it is apparent they are choosing not to.

The current traffic light system is heavily impacting the industry as New Zealanders refrain from travelling in favour of staying closer to home. Current red traffic light rules dictate that if infected with Omicron while travelling, you must make your way back home via private motor vehicle or isolate in the location of diagnosis. This has a significant impact on the South Island as our largest visitor market, predominantly, arrives here by air. They cannot fly home if infected while in the South Island.

Once again, we have moved to business support and paused our marketing and famil activity, including an Inbound Tour Operator famil that was due to come to the region in February. Below is an outline of some key areas of concern from the industry and the feedback they've provided:

Questions	Yes	No	Maybe	Comments/Consensus
Are you concerned for your business under the new covid19 system?	27	2	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central Governments policy is scaring the travelling public by mandating staying put if contracting Omicron. Most of our corporate customers have had travel suspended. We are the most vaccinated country in the OECD, and we are still unable to open our borders. The mandatory isolation on entry to NZ must be removed to ensure that not just VFR travelling come to NZ.
Have you had to refinance over the covid19 period to save your business?	23	9	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have been lucky in not having to refinance, given our co-ownership.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have met with the accountant and bank manager on several occasions for advice but no refinancing. • We are lucky to have support from outside the industry. • I have lost my partner, savings and my lifestyle, I have sold my lease. • If this mess goes on longer than the middle of the year, our business will likely fail. • We are getting older and this situation is not what had planned for our retirement. • Our restaurant has been doing well over the past year so we are okay. • As some operators have done in Methven, we need to support each other with more packages that we can sell collaboratively.
Have you been receiving lease/management support?	15	11	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our landlord was very supportive in the initial outbreak, but not now! We have been working with our accountant to provide evidence of our financial situation. • There is no support whatsoever. Its been a very challenging relationship, and we are seeking legal action. I have cried most nights! • Our landlord has changed the lease to pay by a percentage of the overall monthly revenue. This has been extremely difficult to work with, but it is not as bad as others in the area. • We have tried every angle possible to get support from our landlord but nothing has eventuated. We are using our personal savings to top up the loss. • Our landlord has been fully understanding until recently! • Actually, we want to expand our business, but the landlord wants us to

				<p>pay for all the repairs to the building if we lease it. We are concerning moving to another location.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have not received any support. I will probably lose my house out of this fiasco! • I'm not sure. If it was my business, I think I would walk away.
Post Covid19, will you consider the sale of your business?	12	15	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The lease has been sold to an Auckland based family as of December 2021. • If the international market comes back this winter, we should be okay. • We have done okay with the domestic market at this stage. We would consider selling if the Covid19 saga continues into the next financial year. • I still think there are plenty of opportunities for forward bookings this year, so we will not sell. • Unsure if we can hold on much longer, but then who will buy the lease. • If this government doesn't fix the self-isolation issues, the wider industry will be in big trouble. • I only manage the motel now, so I will sell soon.
When do you believe you will start to see consistent revenue back in your business again?				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Even if the borders open tomorrow, it will be six months to a year before we will see any signs of improvement, as people are still concerned about travelling. • If the government stopped lockdowns and other restrictions, forward bookings would be more certainty in Winter 2022. • Mid Winter • Maybe Christmas time • In 5 years! • I'm confident that we will have a pretty good winter if the border opens in July, as announced recently. • We have been doing okay with the domestic market and, long may this last

				<p>as I do not see many international travellers coming to our shores this year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The airlines will probably play an essential part in the recovery. So it will be down to them as to who, what and when the revenue will be consistent again. • Hopefully, we will have some Australian skiers on Mt Hutt in July when the border opens. That will help our financial status.
Have you had any staffing issues in the past six months?	12	20	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall this has been the biggest issue. We are paying the correct wage, but there is a massive demand, so they want more! We cannot find staff willing to work for the wages that we can afford. The border closure has meant international workers are no longer available. • The Consumer Price Index (CIP) is now at 5.9%, so costs are through the roof, and staff are looking for wage increases and additional benefits that we can't afford. • Chefs and waiting staff are impossible to find and keep. When you get a good staff member, they are getting poached. • The government wage subsidy was a huge help last year, but there has been zero support since the traffic light system has been in place. • We reduced our staff from the very beginning of the covid19 crisis, and we are doing all the work ourselves, cleaning reception, check-in etc. It has been busy but not too difficult to manage. • We have been privileged to keep our existing staff, we look after them, and they have looked after us. • Our GM has left, and our Food & Beverage Manager has left. I'm not sure what the company is doing with these staffing issues.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From what I hear in the market, staffing has been challenging. Thankfully, we do not have staff.
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Survey summary.

Overall, market confidence is low. Consumer confidence is down. Trust in Central Government policy is declining.

The CIP at 5.9% has hit a three-decade high impacting business, interest rates are up 1.4%, and rent is up 5.8%

While some Mid Canterbury Tourism operators have been open about their business health and mental well-being, some would not elaborate in the response. I sense many of the operators did not fully disclose the scale of the impacts to their business. Like other industries, many of the surveyed operators have had financial challenges with low revenue streams and rising costs.

Staffing will continue to be problematic without international travellers.

Consumer confidence is dire, with kiwis poorer than ever. The Tourism New Zealand Kantar survey results showed:

- 4 out of 10 New Zealanders surveyed have less than \$1000.00 in the bank.
- New Zealanders are \$150.00 a week less off currently, equivalent to a 1-night stay in Mid Canterbury.
- Discretionary spending is highly competitive and is likely to be spent near home rather than outside the region.

The new funding for businesses affected by the Omicron outbreak has offered some relief to operators but a temporary support for a very fiscal environment which is not sustainable for many.

Source: Tourism New Zealand Kantar Survey

Economic challenges and Omicron is also reflected in domestic travel intent declining

% New Zealanders intending to holiday domestically in the next 12 months – total and by segment (those who says 'yes, planning a holiday')



There is a growing trend among New Zealanders to be saving - especially evident in December among older generations. Whilst down vs. last quarter a majority do still intend to spend on domestic holidays (57%)

What New Zealanders plan to do with money saved on overseas holidays due to Covid-19 (% NZers who will take a domestic holiday in next 12 months)



Tourism Development

October – March has seen a focus on digital marketing via social media channels and leveraging the marketing activities ChristchurchNZ has undertaken.

Covid19 has disrupted much activity, and as stated by Tourism New Zealand in a recent industry update, "we can no longer market ourselves out of this situation". The focus of the Mid Canterbury Tourism Development Manager has been to the scope and manage key messaging and operator support via our digital channels, continuing to maintain relationships with key trade partners in readiness for border openings (and isolation restrictions easing), continuing collaboration with regional partners and supporting industry partners in these uncertain times and planning families to showcase the region (which are currently paused). Below is a pipeline of work showing the current status.

Mid Canterbury Promotional Initiatives October 2021 – March 2022

Status Index	KPI Met	KPI On track	Deferred or Cancelled
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Initiative	Commentary	Status
Business Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued business support throughout the covid19 period, training and webinars implemented. ChristchurchNZ set up a Mid Canterbury Tourism Operators forum (Private Facebook page) with 40+ Members to help disseminate the knowledge <i>A Business Support Communications matrix is included in the appendix</i> 	
Inland Scenic Campaign	Completed at Mid Canterbury level, waiting on neighbouring regions to finalise partner operators	
Destination Marketing Plan (DMP)	The Mid Canterbury DMP is in the early stages of construction. A consultant will be recruited to manage the document	
Tourism New Zealand NZME Summer Campaign	Mid Canterbury featured well in this nationwide campaign, focusing on relaxation & revitalisation with Opuke Thermal Pools and Spa and Summer adventure activities – Ballooning, Jetboating and Ultra Terrain vehicle experiences	

Tourism New Zealand Australian Virtual Roadshow	Mid Canterbury has attended two virtual roadshows to educate Australian trade.	
Social Media	Ongoing social media has been strong for Mid Canterbury – Focusing on Food & Beverage, Accommodation and Family summer activities.	
Media Famil	<p>Four highly successful media famils have taken place during this period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AA Traveller – Nationwide Travel magazine -3 page editorial on the district • Otago Daily Times – Dunedin based nationwide newsprint – 1 page editorial on Mid Canterbury gardens • Kia Ora Magazine – Air New Zealand's inflight Magazine – 4 page editorial on things to do in Mid Canterbury • Stuff Travel Media famil – Methven and Opuke Thermal Pools and Spa. 	
Social media Influencers Famil	Planning in place to hold a Mid Canterbury Influencers famil to support the generation of social content and domestic awareness	
Contract with SkiMax AU	On hold due to border closures will revisit in July 2022	
Agritourism Growth	Agri community focused on critical farming factors, not ready to explore agri-tourism options	
Mid Canterbury Cycleway	Working with the previous trust to understand ongoing commitments and how the development can be moved forward	
Ashburton Farmers Market	On-Going partnership with ADC Economic development team	
NZMCA Motorhome Expo	Cancelled due to Covid19	
Tourism New Zealand Australian Roadshow	This critical event, designed to educate the Australian travel trade, has been postponed till border openings	
Inbound Tour Operators Famil	On hold due to traffic light policy	

- **Australian Trade promotions:**

- We have held virtual meetings with Australian based travel agents to update them on Mid Canterbury products.
- All marketing into Australia is on hold.
- The district's biggest challenge in Australia is a lack of product knowledge due to the mass loss of travel trade partners. Most key partners have scaled back to skeleton staffing and primarily working remotely
- Subject to isolation requirements relaxing, ChristchurchNZ will attend the Ski Shows in Sydney and Melbourne with appointments to key wholesalers in both cities, and Brisbane, immediately beforehand, and after.

- **Mid Canterbury Food & Beverage Campaign:**

- Campaign period: October – April 2022

Top performing posts – F&B Campaign (statistics to 1 February 2022)

- 1 November 2021: #18 Café 131 Methven – 998 people reached, 60 reactions
- 10 January 2022: #35 The Dubliner – 1862 people reached 40 reactions
- 31 January 2022: #36 Staveley Store – 1339 people reached, 24 reactions
- 08 February 2022: #37 Brown Pub – 1830 people reached 48 reactions
- Highlighting all food and beverage properties across Mid Canterbury over the summer months – Driving visitation and business cashflow
- Each week, seven posts sourced from each food & beverage business in Mid Canterbury will be promoted on social media.
- Call to action: www.Midcanterburynz.com/eat

- **Mid Canterbury Stay Campaign:**

- Campaign period: October 2021 – April 2022

Top performing posts – Accommodation Campaign

- 11 Nov 2021: #11 Montrose Estate – 553 people reached, 25 reactions
- 23 December 2021: #Northfield Luxury – 654 people reached, 10 reactions
- 20 January 2022: #21 Carradale Manor – 661 people reached, 4 reactions
- Highlighting all commercial accommodation across Mid Canterbury in the lead up to summer – driving visitation and business cashflow
- Each half week, a property post will be promoted on social media.
- Call to action: www.Midcanterburynz.com/stay

- **Mid Canterbury Family Summer Campaign:**
 - Campaign period: January – February 2022
 - Link clicks through to website: 4539
 - Reach: 51,791
 - Impressions: 96,012
 - Cost per click: .04c
 - Spend: \$200.00
 - Highlighting all things to do across Mid Canterbury in the lead up to summer – driving visitation and business cashflow
 - Call to action: <https://midcanterburynz.com/region/blogs/>

Overall the Mid Canterbury Facebook page is performing well:

- Page reach up 37%
- Page visits up 173.5%
- FB Likes up 298.7%

Mid Canterbury's tourism performance data.

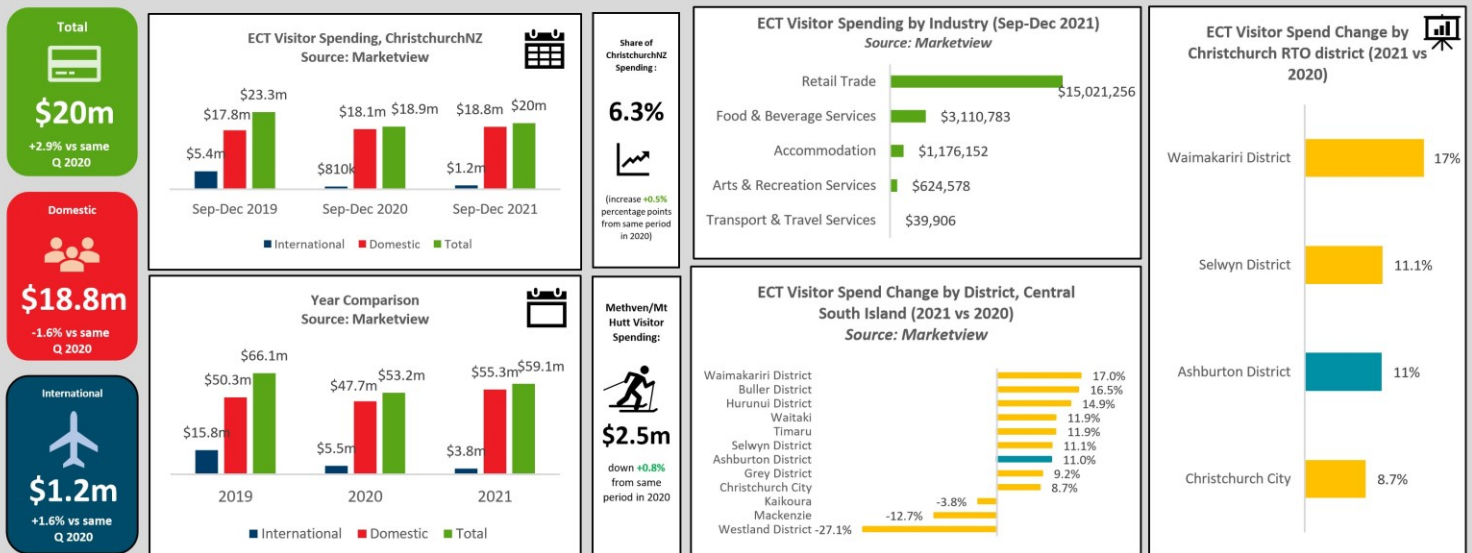


Ashburton District Visitor Insights: September-December 2021



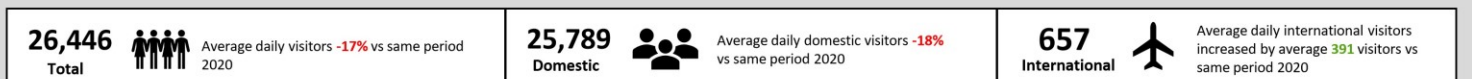
Visitor Spending

in Ashburton District via electronic card transactions (ECT) by visitors from outside the ChristchurchNZ RTO area



Visitor Numbers

To the wider Canterbury region- ChristchurchNZ RTO area + Hurunui, Source: Dataventures



ChristchurchNZ™

BNZ centre, level 3 (West), 101 Cashel St
PO Box 2962, Christchurch 8140
Christchurch 8011, New Zealand
www.christchurchnz.org.nz

info@christchurchnz.com
Phone: +64 3 353 5990
Fax: +64 3 353 5990



Accommodation

Airbnb and Commercial accommodation in the Ashburton District Source: AirDNA and Accommodation Data Programme
Please note starting from the month December 2021, ADP has excluded MIQ facilities from active establishments and corresponding guest data.



Commercial Accommodation



Average Active Establishments
Source: ADP



Active establishments in September-December 2021 increased by **3%** from same period in 2020



Average Guest Nights/Arrivals
Source: AirDNA



Guests' night in September-December 2021 increased by **25%** from same Q2020
Guest Arrivals increased by **4%** in September-December from same Q2020



Airbnb



Average Airbnb Listings
Source: AirDNA



Airbnb average listings in September-December 2021 decreased by **-15%** from same period in 2020



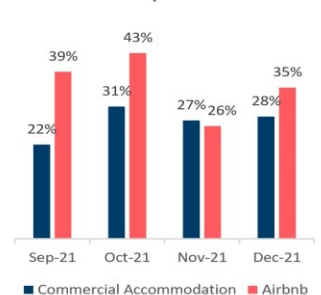
Airbnb Revenue
Source: AirDNA



Airbnb revenue in September-December 2021 increased by **14%** from same period in 2020

Average Occupancy Rate Comparison

Average Occupancy Month Comparison



Average Occupancy (Sep-Dec 2021)

Commercial

27%

Down -4% percentage point from same quarter 2020

Airbnb

36%

Up 6% percentage point from same period 2020

Key Summary Points:

- **Quarterly Spend September 2021 – December 2021**
 - Total Spend \$20m up \$1.1m on the same period 2020
 - Domestic spend \$18.8m up \$700K on the same period 2020
- **Annual Spend**
 - Total Spend \$59.1m up \$5.9m on the same period 2020
 - Domestic Spend \$55.3m up \$7.6m on the same period 2020
 - Overall spend growth 11% up year on year, which is in line with the Selwyn District at 11.1%

ChristchurchNZ Mid-Canterbury KPIs 2021-2022 Tracking

KPI	Strategic Priority	Activity	Target	Measure	Progress
Target Domestic Visitors	Destination recovery	Domestic campaigns: 2 x Mid-Canterbury specific 1 x Explore CHC (Canterbury campaign inclusion)	Resident households in Christchurch, Canterbury, Wellington and Auckland with HHI above \$100,000	Reach: Canterbury – 365,000 digital impressions Auckland – 500,000 digital impressions Grow domestic GDP spend – establish a baseline	ExploreCHC content and launch. YouTube Campaign
Industry Partnerships and Engagement	Destination alignment	Create cohesion within the local tourism industry through regular engagement	Mid Canterbury Tourism Advisory Group meetings x 4 annually All-of-industry networking x 2 annually	Delivery of planned engagement	MCTAG meetings ongoing four meetings were held. <i>A schedule of the six weekly meetings is referenced in the appendix</i> All of the industry networking – Met during Mega Met

District Media exposure	Domestic & local marketing, media and brand development	Host media famils to showcase Mid Canterbury in target markets	Domestic and Australia International long-haul if Covid-19 restrictions allow	\$4,000,000 EAV in 12 months	<p>Channel 9' Today Show with live broadcasts from the Mt Hutt Base. EAV \$2.85m</p> <p>YouTube Campaign July - September EAV \$1.27m</p> <p>AA Traveller,</p> <p>Kia Ora Magazine</p> <p>ODT media famils.</p> <p>Stuff Travel Media Famil</p>
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District Trade Exposure: Domestic & International	Converting campaigns into visitation to Ashburton District	<p>IBO Trade Famils</p> <p>Australian wholesale training</p> <p>Domestic packaging to generate sales</p>	<p>2 x inbound tour operator famils</p> <p>2 x Domestic Travel famil.</p> <p>2 x Australian travel wholesaler famil</p> <p>2 x domestic package inclusions (House of Travel and Flight Centre)</p>	<p>Establish baseline</p> <p>Generate revenue through packages</p> <p>Grow domestic GDP spend – establish a baseline</p>	<p>Hosted one domestic Famil with Auckland based Fuzion Travel</p> <p>Will host Australian Trade and media when COVID19 restrictions allow</p> <p>IBO Trade Famil was to be held in February. However, this was cancelled due to the Omicron status</p>
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Appendix

- Business support Communication Matrix as referenced in Mid Canterbury Promotional Initiatives October 2021 – March 2022

Business Support Communication Matrix		
A list of business support correspondances to Mid Canterbury Tourism Operators August 2021 - Present day		
Date	Mechanism	Topic
17 August 2021	EDM	Updating operators on spend trends in Mid Canterbury - March - May 2021 Spend is up 81% on the same period in 2020
18 August 2021	EDM	Updates operators on various financial support initiatives that have been available
19 August 2021	EDM	Sent Covid level 4 Guidelines for accomodation to all operators
19 August 2021	EDM	Sent reminder about Covid19 Business hotline to operators
19 August 2021	Webinar	Webinar - Insight and guidance on the economic response and tips for prioritising mental health and supporting employee wellbeing at this time.
20 August 2021	EDM	FAQ document sent to all operators on financial support and level 4 business retrictions
25 August 2021	Webinar	Clarity on financial support available to businesses - Wage Subsidy and Resurgence Support Payment (RSP)
27 August 2021	Webinar	Social media tips to help operators to
1 September 2021	EDM	Weekly Media - updates sent to operators regarding nationwide tourism stories
7 September 2021	Webinar	Operating at Alert Level 2
9 September 2021	Webinar	Updated Alert Level 2 guidelines for Tourism Activities and Accommodation providers
10 September 2021	Webinar	Wellbeing tips with Westpac Ambassador Sir John Kirwan
15 September 2021	Webinar	NZME snapshot of New Zealand's economy, the impact lockdown has had and the what the road ahead looks like for business.
22 September 2021	Webinar	The legal ramifications on Vaccinations – your employees and your visitors
24 September 2021	EDM	Vaccination Q&A with Fiona McMillan – Lane Neave Lawyers
27 September 2021	EDM	Tourism New Zealand gift voucher campaign - driving future bookings
30 September 2021	Webinar	Monitoring your Mental Health status
14 October 2021	Webinar	Adventure Activities Regulatory Regime, and Risk Disclosure vs Liability Disclaimers
2 November 2021	Webinar	The new COVID-19 Protection Framework
1 December 2021	Webinar	The new Traffic Light System and Worker Vaccination
2 December 2021	Webinar	Employment law - working with non-vaccinated employees and the best legal approach to handling the situation.
3 December 2021	Webinar	FAQ on new set of guidelines for Tourism Activities under the new Covid Protection Framework
3 December 2021	Webinar	Mask waring, vaccine passes and mandatory scanning
7 December 2021	Webinar	How to win the war on talent—strategies to attract and retain staff
9 December 2021	Webinar	Leading staff with compassion
10 December 2021	Webinar	Get bookings for summer and beyond
21 February 2022	Webinar	New Financial support for Omicron affected businesses.
24 February 2022	EDM	Moving to phase 3 of the omicron response
24 February 2022	EDM	Managing the impact of COVID-19 cases at your business
24 February 2022	EDM	Staff Testing and returning to work during Omicron

- A digital copy of the Air New Zealand Kia Ora Magazine stories on Mid Canterbury can be viewed here <https://www.airnewzealand.co.nz/kia-ora-magazine>
- Scheduled dates for the Mid Canterbury Tourism Advisory Group are as follows:

08 March 2022	19 April 2022	31 May 2022	12 July 2022	23 August 2022
04 October 2022	15 November 2022	20 December 2022		

8. *Mayor's Report*

8.1 Covid-19

Numbers are steady throughout the community and people all seem to be doing the right thing and isolating at home. There are services in place for people who require assistance with food and medicines etc.

8.2 LGNZ Rural and Provincial

The Rural and Provincial meeting was held via Zoom on 4 March, topics of interest included:

- **Taumata Arowai**

Incentivise good practice by reducing compliance monitoring and making sure practices are simple and clear and as cost effective as possible. Councils are required to submit their drinking water safety plans by 15 November 2022. Unregistered water supplies have four years to register and then three years to meet the requirements of the Water Services Act 2021.

- **Carbon Farming**

Some land is suitable for nothing else but carbon farming or forever forestry. This land would likely be planted in native planting as the land would possibly be too steep for harvesting. Radiata pine is not suitable for forever forestry and must be milled. Minister Naish reported that the right tree needs to be planted in the right place and rules are tightening for what can be planted and where. These rules will be in place by 1 January 2023 and it is likely that these rules will not work well for some companies that are currently undertaking tree planting.

- **Future for Local Government**

Future for Local Government webinars have been happening regularly and Councillors have access to all of these webinars.

8.3 3 Waters Reform

The 3 Waters working group led by Doug Martin has given their report to Government with the following suggested changes:

- One share per 50,000 population which will ensure ownership stays with the community and will make the sale of the entity extremely difficult.
- The appointment of an Ombudsman for dealing with complaints from users
- Strengthening the Regional Representation Group with more local voice through advisory groups.

The goal is still healthy water for New Zealander's and our goal is the same. I have not changed my view on the reform following this report and will continue to ask for the review to be slowed and made more acceptable to our community.

We have now received answers to the questions put to Government last October.

8.4 Waka Kotahi/NZTA

At the 16 February Council meeting James Caygill, Director Regional Relationship briefed Council on Waka Kotahi activity in and around the Ashburton District. A number of questions were raised which James has since provided further commentary on:

- **Speed on SH 77 – Methven to Ashburton**

Two related issues were raised, first the speed along the entire SH77 corridor between Ashburton and Methven; and secondly the precise location of the speed change as one enters Methven (coming from Ashburton). Unfortunately, the current speed management rule makes it impossible to move the speed sign at the entrance to Methven more than 20m from its gazetted location without undertaking the full speed change process, which takes a considerable amount of time and resource.

Waka Kotahi understands residents' concerns regarding the speed along this corridor and thanks the community for organising the petition – these are a very useful gauge of community sentiment. The team are going to do further work to confirm the existing risk, and the potential reduction in deaths and serious injuries a review could deliver. Waka Kotahi will prioritise their programme of reviews and have advised they will do their very best to respond to community concerns in detail as soon as they can.

- **Cycleway location in Tinwald**

Concern was raised about the location of the proposed cycleway on Melcombe Street. This option has been the subject of discussions at stakeholder workshops in the past. Waka Kotahi have identified that Melcombe Street provides better connectivity to the residential area when compared to an off-road path. As part of the detailed design phase they will be holding a workshop with ADC staff to work through a design solution for Melcombe Street.

- **Passing lanes on the SH1 bridge**

The Waka Kotahi team is looking into the feasibility and cost of adding in passing bays to the existing Ashburton River/ Hakatere Bridge clip-on cycle lane. They will report back to the Ashburton District Council in due course, however there is no certainty that any widening to the clip-on bays will get the go-ahead. In the meantime, Waka Kotahi encourage all users of the clip-on shared pedestrian and cycle path to take care and be as courteous as possible if they need to pass each other along the way.

- **Location of Weighright stations (particularly the south-bound one)**

Concerns were raised about safe access to the proposed weighbridge which was originally to be located north of the Rakaia River and south of the rail overbridge, off SH1 on Main Rakaia Road. After consultation with stakeholders and an on-site trial, Waka Kotahi has reconsidered this proposal and is presently planning for two separate Weigh Rite stations off SH1 north of the Rakaia River. Each station would separately address northbound and southbound Heavy Commercial Vehicle (HCV) traffic. The site locations are still being determined and detailed design of the new proposal has not yet commenced. If one of the stations is still built at Rakaia, off Main Rakaia Road, then it would just cater for southbound HCVs – they would safely left turn in and left turn out.

As part of the corridor safety improvements between the Selwyn and the Rakaia Waka Kotahi are likely to consider appropriate speed as well as other SH1 improvements (e.g. deceleration and acceleration lanes either side of Main Rakaia Road to reduce the safety risk on SH as HCVs are entering and exiting the Station).

Assuming these other related improvements were built then they would expect the station would operate without any significant road safety issues. Waka Kotahi expect its safety and network management teams to have further input to the final design and there should also be design and post-construction safety audits undertaken too, to ensure anything missed of contention is indeed resolved.

- **Scenic Route maintenance**

Concerns were raised about the maintenance costs of former SH72. Waka Kotahi has no plans to re-designate this road as a state highway. The only other types of roads which attract a higher rate of subsidy than the standard are special purpose roads which attract a 100% subsidy, however special purpose roads are being phased out by 2024.

8.5 Mayor's Discretionary Fund

Council will recognise that people in our community are often faced with unexpected financial pressures. Whether this stems from a loss of work, escalating debt, unplanned expenses, or a combination of factors, it is not uncommon for people to find themselves in need of urgent assistance. Increasingly I am being approached through my office by people needing help and this has led to my review of the \$10,000 discretionary fund that Council provided to the Mayor to allocate at their discretion.

The Mayoral Discretionary Fund is a means of providing one-off assistance to families and individuals who demonstrate a real need, and who have shown that they've already approached the other funding sources that they're entitled to.

The appended guidelines and a set of criteria will be applied to determine eligible applications. Subject to available funding, the Mayor will have full discretion to allocate this.

Appendix 1-2

Recommendation

<p>That Council receives the Mayoral Discretionary Fund report and endorses the criteria and guidelines to be applied to applications made for financial assistance.</p>

8.6 2021 John Grigg Scholarship

Ashburton College has advised that at their 2021 Year 13 Graduation Ceremony the John Grigg Scholarship was awarded to Maddy Wilson. Maddy is studying at Lincoln University undertaking a Bachelor of Agricultural Science degree.

8.7 Mid Canterbury Provincial Rural Women NZ

A letter of appreciation has been received from the Mid Canterbury Provincial Rural Women expressing thanks and appreciation to Council staff for help given to affected families during the May 2021 floods.

Appendix 2

8.8 Meetings

- **Mayoral calendar**

March 2022

- 1 March: Roger Sutton and Phil McKendry – EA Networks with CE Hamish Riach
- 1 March: RDR Budget Reviews

- 2 March: Josh Dondertman – Rural Support Trust and Pup Chamberlain – Safer Mid Canterbury with Crs McMillan and Lovett
- 2 March: Airport Development Briefing
- 2 March: Council Meeting
- 2 March: Rotary Club meeting guest speaker
- 3 March: Canterbury Regional Leaders Group meeting (via MS Teams)
- 3 March: LGNZ - Reforms Update (via Zoom)
- 4 March: LGNZ – Rural and Provincial meeting (via Zoom)
- 4 March: Future for Local Government workshop – The System of Local Governance (via Zoom)
- 5 March: Taiwha Track Pou unveiling
- 7 March: Grant Bunting and Janet Wright – ANZCO update with CE Hamish Riach
- 8 March: Library and Civic Centre PCG
- 8 March: Andrew Sander – MPI, Black Grass Canterbury 2021
- 9 March: LGNZ – 3W Governance Working Group report release briefing
- 9 March: Resilient Business Project workshop
- 9 March: Climate Change policy workshop
- 10 March: Canterbury Regional Leadership Group, COVID Protection Framework
- 10 March: CECC – Climate Change webinar
- 11 March: Hokonui Radio interview
- 11 March: Plenary Group (via Zoom)
- 11 March: Hekeao Hinds Water Enhancement Trust
- 11 March: Temel Atacocugu – Peace Walk, arrival in Ashburton
- 14 March: LGNZ Zone 5 & 6 (via Zoom)
- 14 March: 3 Waters Rural Water Supplies workshop (via Zoom)
- 15 March: Braided Rivers Community Trust/Lion Foundation meeting
- 16 March: Council Meeting, Deputy Mayor Liz McMillan deputised

Recommendation

<p>That Council receives the Mayor’s report.</p>

Neil Brown

Mayor

Guidelines

Mayoral Discretionary Fund

TEAM:	Governance Team
RESPONSIBILITY:	Governance Support Officers
DATE:	16 March 2022

Purpose

The Mayoral Discretionary Fund has been established as a response to ongoing requests for financial assistance that are not eligible under existing funding avenues within Council, or are of an emergency assistance nature.

The Fund, which sits alongside other agencies and organisations supporting the community, can provide assistance on a one-off basis where real need is demonstrated. Applicants would be asked to show that they have previously approached other appropriate sources of relief funding such as Work and Income New Zealand (WINZ).

Introduction

The objective of these guidelines is to provide both a mechanism and criteria for distribution of discretionary funds by the Mayor for the purpose of supporting people in the Ashburton District and responding to emergency situations.

Eligibility

1. In order to be eligible for consideration for funding, all applications should:
 - be for people who are living in the Ashburton District Council area
 - be accompanied by evidence of applications to other relief funding sources
2. Applications must not be:
 - for recurrent funding
 - for private gain or for waiving any Council fees or charges
 - for funding from another Council programme
3. All decisions on funding are at the discretion of the Mayor who will assess individual applications against the criteria.

4. The Fund will have a budgeted amount of \$10,000 excluding GST, per annum. The Fund is to be included as a recurrent item in Council's annual operational budget, with any unspent funds carried over in the next financial year. All grants are to be reported confidentially to Council through the Mayor's Report.
5. Consideration of requests is subject to the availability of funds remaining in the Mayoral Discretionary Fund. Applications that meet the eligibility criteria may not necessarily receive funding.
6. The type of relief funding provided is for:
 - essential utilities which are disconnected including power or gas and/or outstanding bills on properties with young children and/or elderly in residence
 - family or personal crisis
 - ability to purchase food as a result of an emergency
 - homelessness as a result of an emergency
7. Applicants can only apply once within a 12 month period.
8. Applications for financial assistance will need to be provided to the Mayor in writing.
9. The Mayor's office will provide confidential assistance to help applicants through the process of completing a Mayoral discretionary fund application.

Mayoral Discretionary Fund

Application for Funding

Ashburton District Council recognises that people in our community are often faced with unexpected financial pressures. Whether this stems from a loss of work, escalating debt, unplanned expenses, or a combination of factors, it is not uncommon for people to find themselves in need of urgent assistance.

The **Mayoral Discretionary Fund** has been established as a means of providing one-off assistance to families and individuals who demonstrate a real need, and who have shown that they've already approached the other funding sources that they're entitled to. We are well served in this community by a wide range of organisations and agencies whose purpose is to provide support to families and individuals in times of financial need and Council expects these to continue to be the first places that people will approach for help.

Applications to the Mayoral Discretionary Fund will be treated confidentially, and all applicants will be asked to agree to the criteria (shown on the back of this application form).

By signing this form below, you agree that the information you are providing is true and accurate

Applicant details:

First name(s): _____

Surname: _____

Current residential address: _____

Current postal address: _____

Contact phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Please outline the nature of the financial loss or hardship, the amount you are applying for and the impact on your circumstances (attach further details if required).

Declaration:

I/we declare that the information provided is true and correct. I/we understand this application may be declined if any of the above information is not correct. I/we grant permission for the Ashburton District Council to contact other relevant government or non-government organisations for the purpose of considering this application. I/we also understand the Privacy Act 1993 entitles me to have access to, and if necessary request correction of, the information.

Applicant signature: _____

Date: _____

Mayoral Discretionary Fund Criteria

Purpose of the Mayoral Discretionary Fund (the Fund):

- The Fund provides assistance to families and individuals in the community who are in extreme financial distress. The Fund provides assistance on a one-off basis where real need is shown.
- Applications will generally only be considered if the applicants can show that they have already approached other appropriate sources of relief funding, including but not limited to Work and Income New Zealand.

Selection Criteria:

- This Fund is intended for families and individuals who are living within the Ashburton District Council (ADC) catchment area.
- All decisions on funding are at the discretion of the Mayor who will assess individual applications against the criteria.
- The type of relief funding provided is:
 - essential utilities which are disconnected including power or gas and/or outstanding bills on properties with young children and/or elderly in residence
 - family or personal crisis
 - ability to purchase food as a result of an emergency
 - homelessness as a result of an emergency
- Applicants can only apply once within a 12 month period.
- If the application is successful, assistance for utility bills, accommodation, and payment of outstanding invoices will be paid by ADC to the supplier directly.
- The Mayor's office will review all applications, arrange payment (if applicable), and inform applicants of the outcome.
- The Mayor's office will provide confidential assistance to help applicants through the process of completing a Mayoral discretionary fund application.

[OFFICE CHECKLIST]

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Any documents or material that support the application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | A copy of an electricity account, phone account or bank statement showing applicants name and usual residential address |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Printed deposit slip of the bank account the grant is to be paid into, or a copy of a bank statement showing applicants name and account number. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Letter from WINZ stating that assistance is unavailable from other social agencies |
-

Please complete the details on this form, attach any supporting documents, and send to either of the following:
 Ashburton District Council, (5 Baring Square West) PO Box 94, Ashburton 7740

Email: governance@adc.govt.nz

Mid Canterbury Provincial Rural Women N.Z.



888 Dromore Methven Road,
No. 2 R.D., Ashburton 7772

P - 03 3024754

C - 027 324 5635

E - midcanterburyrwnz@gmail.com

28 February 2022

Toni Durham
Ashburton District Council
P.O. Box 94
ASHBURTON 7740.

Dear Toni,

On behalf of Mid Canterbury RWNZ Members, I wish to convey our sincere appreciation to the Council's support and contribution when our flood affected families needed support.

Adverse Events, as we experienced in May 2021, placed extreme pressure on families. Rural Women Members have supported the families and workers throughout this time. Numerous visits, co-ordinating food deliveries, cups of teas and chats and then early December we made our last visit to them with our 'baskets of Xmas cheer'.

The Families and Workers were all very appreciative each time when Rural Women Members made deliveries. It also means a lot to them knowing that others from outside our District have taken the time to provide support.

Sample of messages following deliveries:-

"Thank you so much from the bottom of our hearts for the delivery of the amazing food bags we received yesterday and earlier on in June.

We are still battling ongoing flood issues which are exhausting. To come home and find these on our doorstep brought a huge smile to our faces and to those of our Staff. We are truly grateful for the kindness of yourself and others."

"A quick note to thank you very much for the care package you put together for us. It was great to receive and had some delicious treats which all disappeared quickly!

Here's hoping 2022 has some more settled weather with just the right amount of rain".

Once again, Rural Women has certainly appreciated the way in which your contribution supported our rural community.

With much appreciation.

Yours faithfully,
MID CANTERBURY RWNZ PROVINCIAL

Sandra Curd
SECRETARY



Items for delivery



9. Councillor Reports

Deputy Mayor Liz McMillan

9.1 Limited Service Volunteer Course S01/22

Over the last five weeks (31/01/22 – 6/03/22) I have been the Patron of the LSV course which is run in conjunction with the NZ Defence Force and MSD at the Burnham camp. This course is offered to young people aged 17-24 and would usually run for six weeks, however this time it was cut down to just five weeks, due to Covid.

Young people from all over NZ enrol in the course. Every day is full of activities and there are three field exercises undertaken. I joined the course for the following activities –

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 1 February | Welcome speech at Burnham Camp |
| 7 February | FTX1 – day one of the field exercise at Orton Bradley Park |
| 18 February | FTX2 – longest day. This started at 4.30am with a 10km walk and confidence course, followed by activities until 5pm. |
| 22 February | Employers Expo |
| 2-4 March | FTX3 – Mt White. Here I spent two nights camping with the trainees, joining in on their activities. It was a good opportunity for me to spend more time with the trainees. |
| 6 March | Graduation day. While graduation would normally involve three separate events – cappy, dinner and a march-out, due to Covid and the course finishing a week earlier, the three events were combined on the one day. |

A total of 51 trainees graduated and many told me how proud they were to finish the course. While there were no Ashburton youth represented on this course, I did hear that a couple of the trainees are interested in coming to our district to work.

I'd like to thank the Mayor, and also Jim Henderson for their support. I found this to be a very rewarding experience and would encourage any Councillors to take on the role of Patron if that opportunity presents in the future.

Photos appended

Liz McMillan

Deputy Mayor

Appendix 1

