

Performance Report

Venture Timaru
For the year ended 30 June 2025

Prepared by Foundry56 Ltd

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Entity Information

Venture Timaru

For the year ended 30 June 2025

ENTITY INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Legal Name of Entity

Venture Timaru Limited (Venture Timaru)

Entity Type and Legal Basis

The Company is incorporated in New Zealand under the Companies Act 1993. The Company is wholly owned by Timaru District Council.

Registration Number

2515190

Entity's Purpose or Mission

The primary objective of the Company is to facilitate and support smart, sustainable economic development and to deliver tourism and business services for the district.

Entity Structure and Governance

The Company has five Directors who oversee the governance of the Company, a Chief Executive who is responsible for the day-to-day operations and reporting to the Directors, and seven staff who support the Chief Executive in delivering the Company's objectives. The Directors are appointed by Timaru District Council.

The Company does not have any separate operating units, divisions or branches and does not have any subsidiaries or other controlled entities for financial reporting purposes.

Main Sources of Entity's Cash and Resources

Operating grants received from Timaru District Council and government agencies are the primary sources of funding.

Physical Address

2 Sefton Street East, Timaru, 7910

Postal Address

PO Box 560, Timaru, 7940

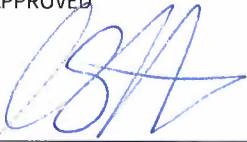
Approval of Financial Report

Venture Timaru

For the year ended 30 June 2025

The Directors are pleased to present the approved financial report including the historical financial statements of Venture Timaru Limited for year ended 30 June 2025.

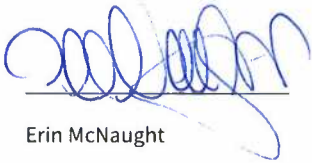
APPROVED



Logan Hanifin

Chair

Date 25/09/2025



Erin McNaught

Deputy Chair

Date 25/09/2025

Statement of Financial Performance

Venture Timaru

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	NOTES	2025	2024	SOI 2025
Revenue				
Funding from local government	1	1,500,736	1,588,296	1,458,000
Funding from central government	2	216,995	146,500	169,000
Service delivery contracts from central government	3	352,776	476,200	358,000
Interest, dividends and other investment revenue	4	51,346	49,830	25,000
Other revenue	4	73,637	82,241	13,000
Total Revenue		2,195,490	2,343,067	2,023,000
Expenses				
Employee related costs	5	686,119	652,440	705,000
Economic development - administration and overhead costs	6	359,805	535,040	330,000
Tourism administration and overheads	6	291,107	337,259	263,000
Other programmes administration and overheads	6	799,892	705,392	725,000
Provision for tax	7	16,445	32,232	-
Total Expenses		2,153,368	2,262,364	2,023,000
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		42,122	80,703	-



These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Independent Auditor's Report and accompanying notes.

Statement of Financial Position

Venture Timaru

As at 30 June 2025

Account	Notes	30 Jun 2025	30 Jun 2024	Budget 2025
Assets				
Current Assets				
Bank accounts and cash	8	220,211	311,819	297,000
Debtors, prepayments and other current assets	9	124,416	131,094	45,100
Short term investments	10	612,646	825,275	364,500
Total Current Assets		957,273	1,268,188	706,600
Non-Current Assets				
Property, Plant and Equipment	11	29,482	38,048	35,000
Total Non-Current Assets		29,482	38,048	35,000
Total Assets		986,755	1,306,236	741,600
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Creditors and accrued expenses	12	109,156	206,378	98,000
Employee costs payable	13	63,953	54,248	56,000
Funding unallocated	14	231,635	505,722	185,000
Total Current Liabilities		404,744	766,348	339,000
Total Liabilities		404,744	766,348	339,000
Total Assets less Total Liabilities (Net Assets)		582,011	539,889	402,600
Accumulated Funds				
Issued Capital	15	1,000	1,000	1,000
Equity	15	581,011	538,889	401,600
Total Accumulated Funds		582,011	539,889	402,600

These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Independent Auditor's Report and accompanying notes.



Statement of Cash Flows

Venture Timaru

For the year ended 30 June 2025

Account	2025	2024	Budget 2025
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Funding from local government	1,583,939	1,520,116	
Funding from central government	243,495	189,750	
Service delivery contracts from central government	0	358,000	2,040,000
Interest, dividends and other investment receipts	49,965	49,468	40,000
Other revenue	54,687	57,810	
GST	(45,746)	70,813	(41,000)
Employee related payments	(702,005)	(659,154)	(1,660,000)
Administration and overhead payments	(1,469,509)	(1,486,466)	(804,000)
Income Tax	(26,855)	4,127	0
Total Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(312,028)	104,464	(425,000)
Cash Flows from Investing and Financing Activities			
Receipts from sale of property, plant and equipment	250	1,151	
Receipts from sale of investments	425,275	435,920	410,000
Payments to acquire property, plant and equipment	0	(8,765)	
Payments to purchase investments	(205,105)	(766,399)	
Total Cash Flows from Investing and Financing Activities	220,420	(338,093)	410,000
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash	(91,608)	(233,629)	(15,000)
Bank Accounts and Cash			
Opening cash	311,819	545,448	312,000
Net change in cash for period	(91,608)	(233,629)	(15,000)
Closing cash	220,211	311,819	297,000

These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Independent Auditor's Report and accompanying notes.



Statement of Accounting Policies

Venture Timaru

For the year ended 30 June 2025

ACCOUNTING POLICIES APPLIED

Basis of Preparation

Venture Timaru Ltd is permitted by law to apply the Tier 3 Public Sector Entities (Tier 3 (PS) Standard) and has elected to do so. A PS may apply the standard if it does not have public accountability and has total annual expenses less than or equal to \$5,000,000. All transactions in the Performance Report are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. The Performance Report is prepared under the assumption that the entity will continue to operate in the foreseeable future.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

The entity is registered for GST. All amounts are stated exclusive of goods and services tax (GST) except for accounts payable and accounts receivable which are stated inclusive of GST.

Income Tax

Income Tax is accounted for using the taxes payable method. As a result, no allowance is made for deferred tax. Tax expense includes the current tax liability.

Bank Accounts and Cash

Bank accounts and cash in the Statement of Cash Flows comprise cash balances and bank balances (including short term deposits) with original maturities of 90 days or less.

Property Plant & Equipment

Venture Timaru has elected not to revalue any of its classes of Property, Plant and Equipment after initial recognition. Plant & Equipment are recorded at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is recognised using a diminishing value method over the estimated useful lives. Depreciation rates are between 10% and 50%.

Revenue

Grants

Grants are recognised as revenue when they become receivable if there are no documented expectations over use. If there is such documentation, the grants are initially recorded as grants received in advance and recognised as revenue when conditions of the grant are satisfied.

Service Delivery

Revenue from the sale of services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the services delivered at balance date as a percentage of the total services to be provided.

Interest

Interest is recognised on the accrual basis.

Employee Remuneration

Wages, salaries and annual leave are recognised as an expense as staff provide services and become entitled to wages, salaries and leave entitlements.



Employee benefits

Defined contribution Scheme - Kiwi Saver. Contributions to defined pension schemes are charged to the income statement in the year to which they relate. A provision is recognised for the amount expected to be paid for outstanding annual leave balances if the company has a present legal or constructive obligation to pay this amount as a result of past services provided by the employee and the obligation can be estimated reliably. Non vesting benefits such as sick leave are not recognised.

Marketing, Administration and Overhead

These costs are recognised as an expense when the related service has been received.

Lease Payments

Lease payments are recognised as an expense on the straight line basis over the lease term.

Cash and Short Term Deposits

Cash and short term deposits comprise cash on hand, cheque, call accounts and deposits held with original maturities of three months or less. Cash and short term deposits are measured at the amount held.

Debtors and accrued revenue

Debtors are originally recorded at the amount owed.

Prepayments

Prepayments are recorded when the payment is made and are measured at the amount paid that relates to future services that Venture Timaru will receive.

Once benefit is received, the prepayment (or a portion of it) is transferred from Prepayments and recorded as an expense.

Investments

Investments comprise investment in term deposits with banks. These deposits are recorded at cost.

Creditor & Accrued Expenses

Recorded at the amount of cash required to settle those liabilities. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

Employee Costs Payable

A liability for employee costs payable is recorded when an employee has earned the entitlement. These include salaries and wages accrued up to balance date and annual leave earned but not yet taken at balance date.

Deferred Revenue

Deferred revenue (grants) is initially recorded at the amount received. As documented expectations over use are met, the deferred revenue is reduced and revenue is recorded.

Ability to Continue Operating

The company has sufficient liquidity and solvency to continue as going concern. The Board of Directors considers that the company has sufficient working capital and appropriate funding from Timaru District Council for a period of at least 12 months from the date the financial statements are approved.



Imputation Credit Account

Imputation credits available to shareholders at 31 March 2025 \$138,245 (Last year: 108,107).

Budget Figures

The budget figures are derived from the Statement of Intent (SOI) as approved by the Board at the beginning of the financial year. The budget figures have been prepared in accordance with Tier 3 standards, using accounting policies that are consistent with those adopted by the Board in preparing this performance report.

Tier 2 PBE accounting standards applied

Venture Timaru has not applied any Tier 2 accounting standards in preparing its performance report.

Changes in Accounting Policies

Venture Timaru Ltd applied the Tier 3 (PS) Standard for the first time this year. This has not resulted in any significant changes. There has been no other changes in the accounting policies since the last audited performance report.



Notes to the Performance Report

Venture Timaru

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
1. Funding from local government		
Local government	1,500,736	1,588,296
Total Funding from local government	1,500,736	1,588,296
	2025	2024
2. Funding from central government		
Central government	216,995	146,500
Total Funding from central government	216,995	146,500
	2025	2024
3. Service delivery contracts from central government		
Grants from central government	352,776	476,200
Total Service delivery contracts from central government	352,776	476,200
	2025	2024
4. Other revenue		
Investment income	51,346	49,830
Other revenue	73,637	82,241
Total Other revenue	124,983	132,071
	2025	2024
5. Employee Related Costs		
Salaries & wages	682,721	640,065
Other employee- related costs	3,397	12,375
Total Employee Related Costs	686,119	652,440
	2025	2024
6. Other expenses		
Audit fees	12,522	11,500
Directors fees	64,295	67,500
Depreciation	8,065	9,461
Administration & Overhead	1,365,922	1,489,230
Total Other expenses	1,450,804	1,577,692
	2025	2024
7. Relationship between income tax expense and accounting surplus		
Surplus before tax		

	2025	2024
Surplus before tax	58,567	112,935
Total Surplus before tax	58,567	112,935
Tax Adjustments		
Non-deductible entertainment	3,580	2,534
Change in holiday pay accrual	(3,417)	(329)
Total Tax Adjustments	163	2,205
Surplus after tax	58,730	115,140
Tax at 28%	16,444	32,239
	2025	2024

8. Cash and short-term deposits

Cash on hand	100	100
Cheque & Call Account	220,111	206,731
Deposits maturing three months or less	-	104,988
Total Cash and short-term deposits	220,211	311,819
	2025	2024

9. Debtors, prepayments and other current assets

Debtors	27,025	117,415
Accrued income	8,435	7,054
Prepayments	55,588	28,972
Tax refund	10,410	-
GST	22,958	(22,347)
Total Debtors, prepayments and other current assets	124,416	131,094
	2025	2024

10. Investments

Term Deposits (current)	612,646	825,275
Total Investments	612,646	825,275
	2025	2024

11. Property, Plant and Equipment

Office Fit-out		
Opening Balance	9,465	10,614
Depreciation	(1,023)	(1,149)
Total Office Fit-out	8,442	9,465
Furniture and Fittings		
Opening Balance	15,266	16,468
Purchases	-	1,151
Depreciation	(2,024)	(2,353)
Total Furniture and Fittings	13,242	15,266

	2025	2024
Plant and Equipment		
Opening Balance	4,259	5,324
Depreciation	(852)	(1,065)
Total Plant and Equipment	3,407	4,259
Computers		
Opening Balance	9,059	7,556
Purchases (Disposals)	(502)	5,146
Depreciation	(4,166)	(3,643)
Total Computers	4,391	9,059
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	29,482	38,048
	2025	2024

12. Creditors & accrued expenses

Creditors	41,354	127,937
Accrued expenses	39,887	45,196
Terminal tax	-	8,380
Other current liabilities	27,915	24,865
Total Creditors & accrued expenses	109,156	206,378
	2025	2024

13. Employee costs payable

Accrued salaries & wages	26,217	23,483
Annual leave	37,736	30,765
Total Employee costs payable	63,953	54,248
	2025	2024

14. Deferred revenue

Council funding	44,982	13,088
Central government funding	158,610	492,634
Other deferred revenue	28,043	-
Total Deferred revenue	231,635	505,722

Significant grants with revenue recognition deferred at balance date are:

Regional Apprenticeship Initiative

This project was to subsidise apprenticeships in the regions up to \$40,000 per apprenticeship spread over a 2 year period. As at 30 June 2025 an amount of \$132,110 remained and will be paid out to employers by 31 December 2025.

My Next Move- Education to Employment

Government abruptly ended this programme from 30 June 2025. Funding of \$26,500 was obtained from the Ministry of Social Development to finalise the programme within 4 months from 1 July 2025.

Cruise Grant

Timaru District Council had allocated \$60,000 funding for the 2024-25 cruise season. Unspent funding of \$33,580 will be used in the 2025-26 cruise season.



	2025	2024
15. Accumulated Funds		
Accumulated Funds		
Opening Balance	539,889	459,185
Accumulated surpluses or (deficits)	42,122	80,703
Total Accumulated Funds	582,011	539,889
Total Accumulated Funds	582,011	539,889

16. Leases

The company leases office premises, motor vehicles and equipment.

	2025	2024
Commitments to lease or rent assets		
Explanation and timing		
Less than one year	67,052	64,810
Between one and five years	188,787	27,843
Over five years	12,564	-

17. Directors Remuneration

S Scott and A Booth are also Timaru District Councillors.

The directors received the following remuneration during the year:

	2025	2024	
T Howey	\$10,454	T Howey (Resigned As Chair)	\$14,584
R de Joux	\$ -	R de Joux (Resigned 6/12/23)	\$5,000
A Brien (Resigned)	\$8,750	A Brien (Chair)	\$10,416
S Scott	\$10,454	S Scott	\$10,000
E McNaught	\$11,455	E McNaught	\$10,000
K Te Raki	\$ -	K Te Raki (Resigned 1/11/23)	\$2,500
A Booth	\$10,455	A Booth	\$10,000
L Hanifin (Chair)	\$12,727	L Hanifin (Appointed 6/12/23)	\$5,000
	\$64,295		\$67,500

18. Related Party Transactions

		2025	2024
Description of Related Party Transaction	Description of Transaction	Value of Transaction	Value of Transaction
Timaru District Council - Shareholder	Economic Grant	\$745,000	\$720,000
Timaru District Council - Shareholder	Tourism Grant	\$408,000	\$395,000



Timaru District Council - Shareholder	Events Support	\$245,000	\$230,000
Bayhill Development Ltd - Director	Carparking	\$7,728	\$5,712
Aoraki Multicultural Council - Director	CBD City/Town Events	\$4,000	\$0
Aoraki Multicultural Council - Director	Major Events Support Fund	\$10,000	\$10,000
Matariki - Director	Major Events Support Fund	\$10,000	\$15,000
Timaru District Council	Timaru City Town Programme	\$ -	\$195,000
Timaru District Council	Cruise Ship Support	\$60,000	\$19,744
Timaru District Council	Accounts Payable	\$2,458	\$ -
Timaru District Council	Accounts Receivable	\$2,530	\$62,675
Timaru District Council	Active Transport	\$23,639	\$ -
Timaru District Council	CBD City/Town Events	\$50,000	\$ -

19. Subsequent Events

Venture Timaru are moving premises in November and have entered into a lease agreement with Timaru District Holdings Ltd for five years from 1 November 2025 (Last year: Nil).

20. Budget Variances

A prudent financial approach has been exercised in this accounting year.

The major variances from Venture Timaru's budget figures on the Statement of Financial Performance are as follows:

- Underspend on special projects, a timing issue
- My Next Move (MNM) programme discontinued
- Staff utilised for marketing, design and graphics instead of outsourcing
- Interest income greater due to underspend

21. Contingencies

No contingent assets or liabilities exist at balance date for Venture Timaru Limited (Last year: Nil).



Statement of Service Performance

For the year ended 30 June 2025

What We Seek to Achieve

Venture Timaru's vision is to ***enable a vibrant and thriving community by cultivating the economic potential of our district***. We are the Economic Development and Tourism Agency for the Timaru District, working to support existing businesses, attract new investment, develop workforce capabilities, promote tourism, and facilitate infrastructure development that enhances our district's economic prosperity.

Our medium to long-term objectives focus on building a resilient, diverse economy that provides quality employment opportunities, attracts sustainable investment, and positions Timaru District as a destination of choice for business, residents, and visitors.

Our Significant Activities and Achievements 2024/25

Supporting Existing Business Growth and Innovation

We engaged with over 20 existing businesses monthly, providing assistance with expansion plans, barrier removal, and access to key enablers including power, water, and workforce solutions. Our support helped businesses navigate challenges including the significant Alliance Smithfield closure, where we helped coordinate community response efforts that resulted in a great number of those affected finding new employment.

Key achievements included facilitating business expansion opportunities, supporting decarbonisation initiatives, and representing the region in participating in the development of Canterbury's Energy Stocktake to inform a regional energy strategy. We assisted five small-medium enterprises with establishment support across taxi, electrical, hospitality, transport, and trades sectors.

Attracting New Business Investment

Our flagship "Make Timaru your Business" campaign was launched and gained significant traction, generating 38,000 reach across print media and 9,609 social media views. We engaged with 128 local businesses as district advocates and maintained active discussions with in excess of 30 new-to-district business opportunities, with 15 at advanced stages at time of this report.

While we did not secure a medium or large new business in 2024/25, we made substantial progress in developing a robust pipeline of opportunities across diverse sectors including protein extraction, energy, aerospace, aquaculture, and advanced manufacturing. We worked closely with TDHL to promote the new 13-hectare Washdyke Industrial Park and other project-ready land.

Workforce Development and Attraction

We renewed workforce attraction resources and continued our MyNextMove student transition initiative, engaging 1700+ students across our secondary schools through various career pathway events. Despite the Ministry of Social Development discontinuing our eight-year MyNextMove contract, we are actively pursuing alternative funding sources to maintain this valued service.

Working with the Deputy Mayor we have ignited discussions with Ara Institute to explore developing an "Educational Hub" model for the Timaru Campus, bringing together multiple training providers to deliver enhanced workforce development aligned to local industry needs.



We proudly received Economic Development New Zealand's Supreme Award and the Best Innovative Use of Technology Award for our Virtual Reality Driving Simulator Programme. A programme designed to make driver education for our youth much more accessible and break down the barriers to starting their driving journey. This programme would not have been possible with the committed support of our funding partners including Timaru District Council, Ministry of Social Development, Kanoa and Fulton Hogan.

Tourism and Destination Promotion

Our cruise sector generated significant economic benefit with 9 cruise ship visits delivering \$3.60 million total impact, equating to \$229.49 per passenger. We completed a comprehensive Cruise Strategy in partnership with Primeport and tourism operators for implementation in the 2025/26 season.

Major events supported through our Major Events Fund delivered substantial returns, with examples including the South Island Masters Games (ROI 1:\$75.14) and the inaugural World Tennis Tour event in February 2025, which received outstanding national coverage and international feedback. We successfully administered the CityTown Events Project and Active Transport Strategy projects for the Council, completing both on time and within budget.

Infrastructure and Investment Facilitation

We successfully supported Opuha Water's Regional Infrastructure Fund application, as they secured \$20.8 million for critical water infrastructure. We actively represented Timaru District interests in Canterbury Regional Deals discussions and facilitated connections between local residential developers and new-to-district investors.

Our "Making it Happen" resource for inner and near-city living was completed and positioned with Council, while we continued advocating for transport infrastructure improvements including the proposed right-hand rail turn at Rolleston to support a two-port Canterbury strategy.

Towards 2050 Strategic Planning

We completed extensive community engagement for our Towards 2050 long-term strategic plan, consulting with over 60 businesses and organizations. The draft plan was finalized by 30 June 2025, incorporating aspirational goals, priority recommendations, and monitoring frameworks to guide our district's economic development through to 2050 and beyond.

Through the latter part of 2025 we will position the draft plan across all engaged parties with an aim to finalise and implement by early 2026.

Performance Measurement

Our performance is measured through both quantitative metrics and qualitative outcomes.

(Noting as these are new agreed measurements for the 2024/25 year, in the majority of cases comparisons to prior periods are unavailable)

Business Engagement (New and Existing): Maintained consistent monthly engagement with 20+ existing businesses while expanding our new business opportunity pipeline to >30 active discussions.

- Energy Strategy Completed and Implemented – DEFERRED
 - Local Energy Strategy deferred due to Canterbury Mayoral Forum undertaking Regional Energy Stocktake from which a Regional Energy Strategy will be developed in 2025/26. Venture Timaru is a member of the Steering Group undertaking this work.
- Detail expansion plan assistance provided to local business – ACHIEVED
 - Details provided in monthly board reports and quarterly council reports
- Commitments in place for min 50% tenancy of TDHL Washdyke Industrial Park – NOT ACHIEVED
 - At date in advanced discussions with two entities equating to approx. 50% of available TDHL Industrial Park land.
- Min 4 New Medium/Large Businesses committed to establish in Timaru District – NOT ACHIEVED
 - Support provided to 5 x small/mid-sized new business established in taxi, electrical, hospitality, transport, and trades sectors.



Workforce Development: Continued to foster and enhance connections between business & industry, secondary schools, training providers and associated entities to “expose educate and excite” our future workforce to the array of career pathways locally and explore locally delivered skill development opportunities for our existing workforce.

- Detail successes of students into local employment – ACHIEVED
 - Details provided in monthly board reports and quarterly council reports
- Assist delivery of 20 pathway events, min 3500 students and 150 local businesses – ONGOING
 - The continuation of funding associated with the MyNextMove youth transition initiative became increasingly uncertain in early 2025 leading to a curtailment of activity. Up until then 14 events, supporting 1700+ students involving 96 local businesses had been undertaken.
 - Confirmation subsequently received that the contract for this central government funded initiative was not being renewed
 - Currently exploring alternative funding to retain and enhance this offering.
- Report on the number of new industry aligned locally provided training opportunities developed- DEFERRED
 - Reversal of Vocational Education reforms for Polytechs has deferred engagement with Ara pending confirmation of their future - received July 2025 – Venture Timaru/Deputy Mayor re-engaging to secure Timaru Campus future offerings.

District Promotion and Event Success: Delivered major events with strong economic returns, exemplified by the South Island Masters Games' \$1:\$75.14 return on investment and successful attraction of new international events.

- Plan for Caroline Bay completed and implementation underway – DEFERRED
 - Plan completed but not yet adopted by Council. Venture Timaru role in implementation of the plan yet to be decided
- Event ROI Economic Benefit for every \$ invested via Major Events Fund - ACHIEVED
 - Economic benefit assessments completed for ticketed events - Rock'N'Hop, Brews on Bay, South Island Masters Games, 4'N'Rotary and Illuminate - evidencing an average ROI of \$56.00 return for every \$1 of Major Events Fund Support. Ranging from Brews on the Bay \$22.88 to South Island Masters Games \$75.14.
- Cruise survey Economic Benefit reported on - target year on year growth – NOT ACHIEVED
 - The assessed Economic Benefit from the 2024/25 was \$3.60m due to reduced ships visit (9) resulting in an average spend per passenger of \$229.00 (2023/24 season saw 12 visits with an assessed economic impact of \$5.13m). \$229.

Regional Advocacy and Investment: Helped secure \$20.8 million in regional infrastructure funding and maintained active representation in Canterbury-wide strategic initiatives endorsed by the Canterbury Mayoral Forum.

- Report on the amount of new to district investment secured – ACHIEVED
 - as above
- Assist the progression of a minimum 6 new residential developments bringing diversity to local housing stock – ONGOING.
 - 6 opportunities progressed across inner/near city living. All aligned to the completion of "Making it Happen" promoting inner/near city living - with TDC to confirm.
- Detail facilitated investment/development introductions made. ACHIEVED
 - Details provided in monthly board reports and quarterly council reports. Canterbury Mayoral Forum Steering Group member –local voice/context/priorities: Energy Stock-take – next step Regional Energy Strategy, Housing Strategy and Regional Deal formation.

Operational Excellence: Delivered contracted projects (CityTown Events, Active Transport Strategy) on time and within budget, while achieving better-than-forecast financial performance with a year-end surplus of approximately \$62,000 versus a reforecast budgeted deficit of \$59,000.

Strategic Development: Completed comprehensive community engagement and draft strategic planning for Towards 2050, positioning the district for long-term sustainable economic growth.

Looking Forward

Building on 2024/25 achievements, our focus continues on converting our strong new business pipeline into secured business and investments, implementing our Cruise Strategy, advancing the Towards 2050 plan, and maintaining our role as the district's primary economic development and tourism advocate.

Our current platforms to “advocate for local” across Energy, Housing and Infrastructure (via the Canterbury Mayoral Forum steering group membership), are complimented by Venture Timaru staff appointments as board members of our respective Economic and Tourism national organisations – Economic Development New Zealand and Regional Tourism New Zealand. These roles importantly ensure our voice is heard and local opportunities and priorities are at the forefront of all discussions.

Our co-location with TDHL from October 2025 will enhance operational efficiencies and strengthen our collaborative approach to economic development and the growth in prosperity for this great district of ours.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**TO THE READERS OF VENTURE TIMARU LIMITED LIMITED'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND THE STATEMENT OF SERVICE PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

The Auditor-General is the auditor of Venture Timaru Limited (the Company). The Auditor-General has appointed me, Sam Naylor, using the staff and resources of Nexia Audit Christchurch, to carry out the audit of the financial statements and the statement of service performance of the Company on his behalf.

We have audited:

- the financial statements of the Company on pages 5 to 15, that comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, the statement of financial performance and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date and the notes to the financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information; and
- the statement of service performance of the Company on pages 16 to 18.

Opinion

In our opinion:

- the financial statements of the Company:
 - present fairly, in all material respects:
 - its financial position as at 30 June 2025; and
 - its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
 - comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with Tier 3 (PS) Standard and
- the statement of service performance, in all material respects :
 - accurately reports the Company's actual performance compared against the performance targets and other measures by which Company's performance can be judged in relation to the Company's objectives in its statement of intent for the year ended 30 June 2025; and
 - has been prepared in accordance with section 68 of the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act).

Our audit was completed on 25 September 2025. This is the date at which our opinion is expressed.

The basis for our opinion is explained below. In addition, we outline the responsibilities of the Board of Directors and our responsibilities relating to the financial statements and the statement of service performance, *we comment on other information*, and we explain our independence.

Basis for our opinion

We carried out our audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Responsibilities of the auditor section of our report.

We have fulfilled our responsibilities in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of the Board of Directors for the financial statements and the statement of service performance

The Board of Directors is responsible on behalf of the Company for preparing financial statements that are fairly presented and that comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand. The Board of Directors is also responsible for preparing the statement of service performance in accordance with the Act.

The Board of Directors is responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable it to prepare financial statements and the statement of service performance that are free from misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements and the statement of service performance, the Board of Directors is responsible on behalf of the Company for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. The Board of Directors is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the Board of Directors intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Board of Directors' responsibilities arise from the Local Government Act 2002.

Responsibilities of the auditor for the audit of the financial statements and the statement of service performance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and the statement of service performance, as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit carried out in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts or disclosures, and can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of readers taken on the basis of these financial statements and the statement of service performance.

For the budget information reported in the financial statements and in the statement of service performance, our procedures were limited to checking that the information agreed to the Company's statement of intent.

We did not evaluate the security and controls over the electronic publication of the financial statements and the statement of service performance.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. Also:

- We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and the statement of service performance, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- We obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- We evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board of Directors.
- We conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Board of Directors and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements and the statement of service performance or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- We evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- We evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the statement of service performance, including the disclosures, and assess whether the statement of service performance achieves its statutory purpose of enabling the Company's READERS to judge the actual performance of the Company against its objectives in its statement of intent.

We communicate with the Board of Directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Our responsibilities arise from the Public Audit Act 2001.

Other Information

The Board of Directors is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included on page 3, but does not include the financial statements and the statement of service performance, and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements and the statement of service performance does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of audit opinion or assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements and the statement of service performance, our responsibility is to read the other information. In doing so, we consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements and the statement of service performance or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on our work, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independence

We are independent of the Company in accordance with the independence requirements of the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the independence requirements of Professional and Ethical Standard 1: *International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards)* (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Other than the audit, we have no relationship with, or interests in, the Company.

**Sam Naylor**

Nexia Audit Christchurch
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Christchurch, New Zealand