



AGENDA

Pleasant Point Community Board Meeting Tuesday, 20 May 2025

Date Tuesday, 20 May 2025

Time 7:00 pm

Location Pleasant Point Town Hall

File Reference 1759680

Timaru District Council

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Pleasant Point Community Board will be held in the Pleasant Point Town Hall, on Tuesday 20 May 2025, at 7:00 pm.

Pleasant Point Community Board Members

Raewyn Hessel (Chairperson), Ross Munro (Deputy Chairperson), Anna Lyon, Michael Thomas, Kathleen Wilkins, Cllr Michelle Pye and Cllr Scott Shannon

Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968

Community Board members are reminded that if you have a pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda, then you must declare this interest and refrain from discussing or voting on this item, and are advised to withdraw from the meeting table.

Nigel Trainor
Chief Executive

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- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Public Forum**
- 3 Identification of Items of Urgent Business**
- 4 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature**
- 5 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**
- 6 Elected Member Update**

7 Confirmation of Minutes

7.1 Minutes of the Pleasant Point Community Board Meeting held on 15 April 2025

Author: Jessica Kavanaugh, Team Leader Governance

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Pleasant Point Community Board Meeting held on 15 April 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

Attachments

- 1. Minutes of the Pleasant Point Community Board Meeting held on 15 April 2025**



MINUTES

Pleasant Point Community Board Meeting Tuesday, 15 April 2025

Ref: 1759680

**Minutes of Timaru District Council
Pleasant Point Community Board Meeting
Held in the Pleasant Point Town Hall
on Tuesday, 15 April 2025 at 7:00 pm**

Present: Raewyn Hessel (Chairperson), Ross Munro (Deputy Chairperson), Anna Lyon, Michael Thomas, Kathleen Wilkins, Cllr Michelle Pye, Cllr Scott Shannon

In Attendance: **Councillors:** Mayor Nigel Bowen

Officers: Paul Cooper (Group Manager Environmental Services & Acting Group Manager Community Services), Meghan Taylor (Executive Operations Coordinator)

Public: Richard Spackman (Aoraki Foundation Chief Executive), Dale Waldron (Aoraki Foundation Trustee)

1 Apologies

1.1 Apologies Received

Resolution 2025/205

Moved: Raewyn Hessel

Seconded: Cllr Scott Shannon

That the apologies of Cllr Owen Jackson be received and accepted.

Carried

2 Public Forum

Richard Spackman and Dale Waldron from Aoraki Foundation presented an overview of the organisation to the Pleasant Point Community Board Members.

Its primary purpose is to build endowment funds for the community, covering South Canterbury, Waimate, Mackenzie, and Timaru districts. The foundation receives money, invests it, and uses the income according to the donor's wishes. Currently, the foundation manages approximately \$6.3 million, with an additional \$700,000 on the way.

The foundation encourages community members to consider leaving a legacy through their contributions, ensuring that their generosity benefits the local community for years to come.

3 Identification of Items of Urgent Business

No items of urgent business were received.

4 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature

The following matters of a Minor Nature were raised:

- ANZAC Memorial services

5 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

- Chairperson Raewyn Hessel declared a conflict of interest in item 9.3 Pleasant Point Community Rate: Application from Pleasant Point Promotions and Item 14.1 Pleasant Point Community Board Targeted Rate Application: Pleasant Point Promotions Committee - Supporting Documentation
- Deputy Chairperson Ross Munro declared a conflict of interest in item 9.3 Pleasant Point Community Rate: Application from Pleasant Point Promotions and Item 14.1 Pleasant Point Community Board Targeted Rate Application: Pleasant Point Promotions Committee - Supporting Documentation

6 Elected Member Update**6.1 Presentation of Elected Member Update**

Clr Pye presented an update on matters that have the potential to affect the Pleasant Point Community within the 25/26 Annual Plan which is due to go to Consultation in May.

Of note it has been proposed to reduce all Community Boards strategic funding to \$50,000 for the next financial year.

Resolution 2025/206

Moved: Clr Michelle Pye

Seconded: Kathleen Wilkins

That the Elected Members report be received.

Carried

7 Confirmation of Minutes**7.1 Minutes of the Pleasant Point Community Board Meeting held on 18 March 2025****Resolution 2025/207**

Moved: Clr Scott Shannon

Seconded: Clr Michelle Pye

That the Minutes of the Pleasant Point Community Board Meeting held on 18 March 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

Carried

8 Schedules of Functions Attended

8.1 Schedule of Functions Attended by the Chairperson

Resolution 2025/208

Moved: Raewyn Hessel

Seconded: Anna Lyon

That the Schedule of Functions Attended by the Chairperson be received and noted.

Carried

9 Reports

9.1 Actions Register Update

The purpose of this report is to provide the Pleasant Point Community Board with an update on the status of the action requests raised by Community Board Members at previous meetings.

Resolution 2025/209

Moved: Raewyn Hessel

Seconded: Clr Scott Shannon

That the Pleasant Point Community Board receives and notes the updates to the Actions Register.

Carried

9.2 Community Board Targeted Rate Funding Application Process

The Executive Operations Coordinator spoke to the report for the Community Board to adopt a documented process for when individuals or organisations apply for an amount from the Community Board's targeted rate.

An overview of the feedback received from the Temuka Community Board Meeting was discussed.

Feedback included the inclusion of an accountability report (if applicable), add a note to the beginning of the form that not all questions may be applicable, and mark mandatory fields.

Resolution 2025/210

Moved: Raewyn Hessel

Seconded: Anna Lyon

That the Pleasant Point Community Board:

1. Provide feedback on the targeted rate funding application process; and
2. Approve the proposed application process.

Carried

Resolution 2025/211

Moved: Raewyn Hessel

Seconded: Cllr Michelle Pye

That the Pleasant Point Community Board appoint Michael Thomas as the acting chairperson for item 9.3 (Pleasant Point Community Rate: Application from Pleasant Point Promotions) and Public excluded Item 14.1 Pleasant Point Community Board Targeted Rate Application: Pleasant Point Promotions Committee - Supporting Documentation due to the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson having declared conflicts of interest at the beginning of the meeting.

Carried

9.3 Pleasant Point Community Rate: Application from Pleasant Point Promotions

The Executive Operations Coordinator spoke to the report for the Pleasant Point Community Board to consider the funding request from the Pleasant Point Promotions Committee (the Committee) for a grant of \$3,500 towards the community paper 'Talking Point'.

An update on the progress of Pleasant Point Promotions becoming a formal entity was requested from the board. The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson gave the board a brief update on the status of Pleasant Point Promotions.

The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson sat back from the table.

Further discussion included the history of the annual contribution to the talking point from the targeted rate fund, the board agreed it was a great community asset but was not in the same situation it was many years ago.

The community board encourages the group to resubmit an application for consideration once they are incorporated to help cover a portion of the cost to get registered as an entity.

Resolution 2025/212

Moved: Michael Thomas

Seconded: Cllr Scott Shannon

That the Pleasant Point Community Board

1. Receives the report titled Pleasant Point Community Rate: Application from the Pleasant Point Promotions Committee; and
2. The Pleasant Point Community Board declines funding from the Pleasant Point Community Board Targeted Fund, to go towards the 'Talking Point'.

Carried

10 Consideration of Urgent Business Items

No items of urgent business were received.

11 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters

The chairperson discussed attendance to the ANZAC memorial services in Pleasant Point and Cave.

12 Public Forum Issues Requiring Consideration

There were no public forum items that required consideration.

13 Exclusion of the Public**Resolution 2025/213**

Moved: Raewyn Hessel

Seconded: Cllr Michelle Pye

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting on the grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 as follows at 7:58pm:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Plain English Reason
14.1 - Pleasant Point Community Board Targeted Rate Application: Pleasant Point Promotions Committee - Supporting Documentation	<p>s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons</p> <p>s7(2)(b)(ii) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information</p>	<p>To protect a person's privacy, including the privacy of deceased persons</p> <p>To protect commercially sensitive information</p>

Carried

14 Public Excluded Reports**14.1 Pleasant Point Community Board Targeted Rate Application: Pleasant Point Promotions Committee - Supporting Documentation****15 Readmittance of the Public****Resolution 2025/214**

Moved: Raewyn Hessel

Seconded: Cllr Michelle Pye

That the meeting moves out of Closed Meeting into Open Meeting at 7:59pm.

Carried

The Meeting closed at 7:59pm.

.....
Raewyn Hessel
Chairperson

8 Schedules of Functions Attended

8.1 Schedule of Functions Attended by the Chairperson

Author: Jessica Kavanaugh, Team Leader Governance

Authoriser: Stephen Doran, Group Manager Corporate and Communications

Recommendation

That the Schedule of Functions Attended by the Chairperson be received and noted.

Functions Attended by the Chairperson for the Period 01 April 2025 and 07 May 2025.

- 10 April 2025* Waste Operations Manager contacted me regarding a rubbish bin audit he was carrying out. I have had the pleasure of checking out the rubbish bins. Interestingly the map I received had a lot more bins on it than I can find in Pleasant Point. He has promised in writing if feasible, one may be transferred to our new playground. I look forward to the results from this survey.
- 14 April 2025* I shared the email received from Belinda King re the idea of putting the waste dump station for camper vans/ caravans down George Street. I had positive feedback from Pleasant Point Community Board members. On the 6 May 2025 I had a conversation with Belinda and have followed this up with an email to request some further investigation into this location and a price which will include suitable surfacing and signage.
- 25 April 2025* I attended the Pleasant Point ANZAC service with Mayor Nigel Bowen. Unfortunately, I had something crop up and did not make Caves service which I was disappointed about.
- There's been a lot of positive feedback around the poppy tree that the Mahjong group made for Pleasant Point.
- 30 April 2025* I received an email from Pleasant Point Railway and Museum. Georgina Greenwood has requested that Stewart Frew the President and herself attend our next meeting to share some ideas around the 150th celebrations they are planning Anniversary weekend this year. I suggested the Public Forum, Georgina is happy with this.
- 5 May 2025* After cancelling due to the appalling weather last week, myself and Parks Operation Officer finally met down by the flower beds. He agrees they have not been as successful as he had hoped and is going to go away and do some more planning and send me the new plan which I will share with the Pleasant Point Community Board. The Parks Operation Officer also asked questions around the trees overhanging the Road in Cave that were mentioned during our March meeting at Cave Arms Tavern. I described the location; he was going to have a look on his way home. He has been consulting with Reon regarding the fencing.

Meetings were also held with various ratepayers, businesses and/or residents on a range of matters.

Attachments

Nil

9 Reports

9.1 Actions Register Update

Author: Jessica Kavanaugh, Team Leader Governance

Authoriser: Stephen Doran, Group Manager Corporate and Communications

Recommendation

That the Pleasant Point Community Board receives and notes the updates to the Actions Register.

Purpose of Report

- 1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Pleasant Point Community Board with an update on the status of the action requests raised by Community Board Members at previous meetings.

Assessment of Significance

- 2 This matter is assessed to be of low significance under the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy as there is no impact on the service provision, no decision to transfer ownership or control of a strategic asset to or from Council, and no deviation from the Long Term Plan.

Discussion

- 3 The actions register is a record of actions requested by Community Board Members. It includes a status and comments section to update the Community Board on the progress of each item.
- 4 There are currently seven items on the actions register.
- 5 Five items are marked as ongoing.
- 6 Two items are marked as completed and are proposed to be marked as removed at the next meeting.
- 7 No items are marked as removed to be taken off the list at the next meeting.

Attachments

1. Pleasant Point Community Board Actions Register  

Information Requested from Pleasant Point Community Board

Key ■ = Completed, for removal ■ = 60+ Days ■ = 90+ Days ■ = Removed

Information Requested	Review of Lighting at Manse Road Subdivision				
Date Raised:	16 April 2024			Status:	On going
Issue Owner	GM Infrastructure	Due Date:		Completed Date:	
<p>Background:</p> <p>The Pleasant Point Community Board requested the Group Manager of Infrastructure to look at the plan for the new street lights in Mase Road, where the new subdivision is that may require additional lighting and then to email the Community Board the information.</p> <p>Update: Waiting for pricing.</p> <p>Update February 2025: Pricing has been received from Contractors, estimated cost to extend the street lighting and footpath to service the new subdivisions is approx. \$90,000. This is programmed in for the 2025/26 Financial year. This will be dealt with in the annual plan process If there is a reduction in the Road Network Improvement budgets from the LTP, projects may be reprioritised, which could potentially lower the priority of the Manse Road project by a year or two.</p> <p>Update April 2025: No change. This will be dealt with in the annual plan process.</p>					

#1733916

Information Requested	Main Street Garden Bed Funding				
Date Raised:	1 October 2024			Status:	Ongoing
Issue Owner	GM Infrastructure	Due Date:		Completed Date:	
<p>Background:</p> <p>The Pleasant Point Community Board requested Council Officers seek approval from Council to find another solution to fund the \$5,000 p/a to maintain the existing Main Street Garden flower beds.</p> <p>Update: The parks unit replaced the bedding in the island plots with flowering shrubs late 2024. This matter is complete and can now be closed.</p> <p>11 February Community Board Meeting Update: It was agreed this action is not complete as no satisfactory solutions had been presented or consulted with the community board. This item is to remain on the action register, the Parks Manager and Land Transport Manager are to provide an update of options to the Community Board.</p> <p>Update March: This will be dealt with in the annual plan process. For background, the approved LTP budget for Rural Road Gardens (just Pleasant Point gardens) budget is \$2,000 for the year. Last financial year we spent \$30,900, this year we have made savings and we are still on track for an over expenditure, even with reducing the level of service, though this did include the replanting which has colour and has a lower maintenance cost. The total forecast is \$28,788. I have put forward \$35,000 in the annual plan, but unsure if this will be accepted. Noting that there is currently no NZTA subsidy available for this work.</p> <p>Update April: No change. This will be dealt with in the annual plan process</p> <p><u>Update from the PPCB meeting held 18 March 2025</u> - The PPCB remains dissatisfied with the main street garden beds. They have raised concerns about the costs detailed in the actions register and are seeking verification. Additionally, the current condition of the gardens does not meet the standards expected by the PPCB and the public.</p> <p><i>Action - The community board requests that someone from Parks meets with Raewyn Hessel and Michael Thomas to discuss these issues.</i></p> <p>Update May: TDC Officer met with Raewyn Hessel on Monday 5th May to discuss the Community Board concern about the planting. The edge planting has failed and the central planting is not vibrant as expected Parks Unit is going to review and come up with alternative plant selection to improve the situation.</p>					

#1733916

Information Requested	Report on the Properties owned by Council in the Pleasant Point Ward				
Date Raised:	11 February 2025			Status:	Complete
Issue Owner	Group Manager Property	Due Date:	18 March 2025	Completed Date:	28 February 2025
<p>Background: At the 11 February Pleasant Point Community Board meeting it was discussed during the Property Acquisition, Management and Disposal Policy consultation to provide the Community Board with a list of current council properties within the Pleasant Point Ward.</p> <p>Update: This briefing report is complete and will be presented on 18 March 2025.</p> <p>Update April 2025 – An update on the property list and any possible land or buildings for divestment will be brought to the 1 July 2025 meeting.</p> <p>Update from PPCB meeting 18 March 2025 - That this action remains open and that there be regular updates provided to the community board.</p>					

#1733916

Information Requested	Fencing around the village green				
Date Raised:	18 March 2025			Status:	Ongoing
Issue Owner	Infrastructure / Parks	Due Date:	ASAP	Completed Date:	
<p>Background: Reon Hatata (Cave Resident) -The fencing proposed to go in around the entire village green in Cave has not gone over well with the locals, it is now proposed to only fence a 10-meter perimeter the area around the playground allowing for visitors to picnic or local use the green area while protecting the playground from vehicles. PPCB would like to ensure TDC is working alongside Reon on this, and all factors have been considered before engaging in any works.</p> <p>Update May: Parks Unit are to refresh Before You Dig information online. Once that is complete, Parks will meet with Mr Hatata to confirm their proposal.</p>					

Information Requested	Trees overhanging the road in Cave area				
Date Raised:	18 March 2025			Status:	Ongoing
Issue Owner	Infrastructure / LTU	Due Date:	ASAP	Completed Date:	
<p>Background: A member of the public mentioned there are trees in the area over hanging the road that forces trucks over the white line and into the path of oncoming traffic. Can this be assessed by LTU for safety and maintenance please.</p> <p>Update May: An officer will check the overhanging trees in Cave and, if they're on the TDC managed network, we'll programme the necessary works. If the trees are located on Cave Hill, we'll pass the request on to Mackenzie District Council, as they manage that section of the network.</p>					

#1733916

Information Requested	Gravel Road Grading				
Date Raised:	18 March 2025			Status:	
Issue Owner	Infrastructure / LTU	Due Date:	ASAP	Completed Date:	
<p>Background: Many people swim in the local river, and this road, along with other areas in Cave, is frequently used. It has been requested that the grading of this roads be reviewed to increase the frequency of its maintenance given the number of users. Could the gravel roads get more regular grading done - Action to LTU to give feedback.</p> <p>Update May: Further information has been sought by the Land Transport Manager from the Chairperson regarding confirmation of the road in reference to the request.</p>					

Information Requested	Cave Domain land & Cave Church				
Date Raised:	18 March 2025			Status:	Complete
Issue Owner	Group Manager Property	Due Date:	ASAP	Completed Date:	24/04/2025
<p>Background: Cathy Kelly (public) mentioned the Cave Domain, for which they are currently paying rates due to the absence of a domain ward and inquired if TDC owns that land and is there support available from TDC towards those rates. The Group Manager Property will investigate this matter. Additionally, there is a church being financed by Cathy's family. The Group Manager Property has also agreed to look into the ownership and TDC's interests in this property and will report back to Kathy who is looking to transfer the financial responsibility to another entity.</p> <p>Update April: Confirming that the land is owned by the Cave Public Hall Society. TDC hold a lease with what was Rural Fire which is now FENZ. The Hall Society can make an application to the grants committee for any assistance with rates. Further, the Cave Public Hall Society should administer the lease arrangement directly with FENZ, the Property Department will arrange for the transfer of the lease to the Society. The Society is free to sell the land and building (not the FENZ building as that is owned by FENZ) should it no longer feel it's viable to continue as an entity. The Cave Church is privately owned and TDC has no interests in the property. All of this information has been communicated to Cathy and Officers recommend this action be closed by the Pleasant Point Community Board.</p>					

#1733916

9.2 Tabling of Annual Plan and Local Water Done Well Consultation Document**Author:** Stephen Doran, Group Manager Corporate and Communications**Authoriser:** Nigel Trainor, Chief Executive**Recommendation**

That the Pleasant Point Community Board:

1. Receive and note the Annual Plan Consultation Document and the Local Water Done Well Consultation Document.
2. Notes that the consultation period for the Annual Plan Closes at 5pm on Friday 23 May 2025.
3. Notes that the consultation period for Local Water Done Well close at 5pm on Friday 6 June 2025.

Purpose of Report

- 1 To table the consultation documents for the Annual Report and Local Water Done well to enable Community Board Submissions on both consultations.

Assessment of Significance

- 2 The Annual Plan is of medium to high significance under the Council's Significance and Engagement policy. All councils are required to adopt an Annual Plan each financial year under section 95 and Part 2 of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA).
- 3 Items in the Annual Plan can have high significance to the community. However, much of the Annual Plan 2025/26 represents Year 2 of the Long Term Plan 2024-34 (LTP), and was consulted on during the LTP development process. The significance focus is on the exceptions to Year 2 of the LTP. As a result, it is open to the Council to undertake some form of consultation with the community, but it does not require the special consultative procedure (SCP) to be followed.
- 4 While many of the projects in Year 2 of the Long-Term Plan (LTP) 2024-34 were consulted on during its development, there have been some changes since the LTP was adopted that has impacted on the overall position of Council and the status of these projects. Individual items in the Annual Plan can also have high significance to particular communities. The significance focus is on the exceptions to Year 2 of the LTP. As these changes are not considered significant or material, the special consultative procedure is not required. It is officers' recommendation to Council to undertake some form of consultation with the community on specific issues.
- 5 Changes to Council's water services delivery model is considered significant in regards to community interest, impact on Councils capability and capacity, cost to council and impact on ratepayers and potential changes to the control of a Strategic Asset.
- 6 The Significance and Engagement Policies of the Group of Councils and the requirements of the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024 and Bill 3, require

the water services delivery model options to be presented for community engagement and feedback.

Discussion

Annual Plan

- 7 The Local Government Act 2002 (section 95(5)) requires Council to prepare and adopt an Annual Plan each financial year, the purpose of which is to:
 - 7.1 Contain the proposed annual budget and funding impact statement for the year in question; and
 - 7.2 Identify any variations from the financial statements and funding impact statement contained in the local authority's long-term plan in respect of the year; and
 - 7.3 Provide integrated decision-making and co-ordination of the resources of the local authority; and
 - 7.4 Contribute to the accountability of the local authority to the community.
- 8 Council is required to prepare and adopt an Annual Plan in the intervening years between LTPs. The plan contains the information prescribed in Section 95 and Part 2 of Schedule 10 of the LGA. The Annual Plan is an exceptions-based document and must include (as a minimum):
 - 8.1 Financial Statements (Forecasts, Funding Impact Statement, and Reserves - see Attachments)
 - 8.2 Rating Base information
 - 8.3 Any variations from Year 2 of the LTP – such as new proposals, delays in projects or decisions not to proceed with projects
 - 8.4 Reference to information in the LTP (e.g. Activity Statements) and relevant Fees and Charges information.
- 9 The Annual Plan process is not about revisiting issues already decided in the LTP. If there are significant issues to be considered, these may be subject to an LTP amendment process or targeted towards the next Long Term Plan review process.
- 10 Council is undertaking an informal consultation on its Annual Plan 2025/26, the document for which is attached, with supplementary information available at timaru.govt.nz/annualplan
- 11 From a rates perspective the average rates increase has been set at 9%. This is the overall amount of rates that the council will collect.
- 12 The sample property of a residential property in Pleasant Point with a land value of \$205,000 shows an 8% rates increase.
- 13 There has also been a proposal to raise most fees and charges by 10% unless they are set by legislation.
- 14 There are no current proposals to amend the targeted rate for Pleasant Point Community Board, which is currently set at \$6.00.

Local Water Done Well

- 15 The Water Services Preliminary Arrangements Act 2024, enacted on 2 September 2024, sets out the new requirements for water services delivery in New Zealand and requires councils to submit a Water Services Delivery Plan (WSDP) to the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) by

3 September 2025. Each WSDP must define a financially sustainable delivery model with 10 years of financial information and undergo public consultation before formal adoption. The Government has introduced financial arrangements allowing CCOs to borrow up to 500% of their water revenue from the Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA).

- 16 On 10 December 2024, the Local Government (Water Services) Bill (Bill 3) was introduced to Parliament. The Bill sets out key details relating to the water services delivery system, the economic regulation and consumer protection regime for water services, and changes to the water quality regulatory framework and is expected to be enacted in June 2025.
- 17 Timaru District Council has been investigating various models to present for implementation, including an in-house model, a standalone CCO and a multi-council CCO with similar councils.
- 18 This developed further when the council was invited to investigate the options under the Southern Water Done Well collaboration with four southern provincial councils. Further investigation of this plan showed that the Timaru District and its water users would benefit more from collaborating with its immediate neighbour councils.
- 19 A formal project group of representatives from Mackenzie, Timaru and Waimate District council has been formed to investigate the option of a joint CCO for water provision.
- 20 Martin Jenkins Consultants were engaged to develop the options assessment and provided modelling of future costs associated with the options that have been included in the consultation document.
- 21 The options assessment considered in-house delivery, and two permutations of the joint WSO opportunity (being the 4 and 3 council options).
- 22 The options assessment was based on a 10-year outlook (FY34) but will comment on the longer-term challenges and opportunities beyond FY34.
 - 22.1 For the joint opportunity, the financial component of the analysis will be based on our prior work.
 - 22.2 The in-house option assessment will be based on the 10-year data supplied for whole of council as follows:
 - Timaru: DIA template information - 23 December 2024, TDC Infrastructure Strategy 2024-2054.
 - Mackenzie DC - data from the in-house model - 22 January 2025
 - Waimate DC - data supplied 16 October 2024.
- 23 This data has formed the basis of a consultation document which is attached to this report, with supporting information available at timaru.govt.nz/water

Attachments

1. **Annual Plan 25/26 Consultation Document** [!\[\]\(448bd415caa8b52d2aeb4d58499267b2_img.jpg\)](#) 
2. **Local Water Done Well Consultation Document** [!\[\]\(5dc449795a3a9c8d29c257423584cf78_img.jpg\)](#) 

ANNUAL PLAN 2025/26

Our plan to meet the challenges ahead



The coming year will be a challenging one for a number of reasons, but I'm confident that the plan we're proposing to adopt is the best option for us to find the balance between cost savings and investment in community infrastructure and facilities to create a growth enabling environment in the Timaru District.

While some of the dual headwinds of high inflation and high interest rates are beginning to subside, changes to central government priorities, major reforms of core council services and one of the most unstable global environments we have seen in years has meant we've had to take a serious look at everything we do.

The issue we're having to start to tackle in this Annual Plan is that we have an operational deficit, this is that our day to day expenses outstrip the income that we generate through rates, fees and charges.

While we could raise rates to a higher level to help close this gap, it is our view the community isn't in the position to support the rates rises this would require.

We've heard the community clearly that they feel we have to 'cut our cloth' so have been working hard to cut costs and increase efficiency to counter the increasing costs we've faced.

While people understandably look at the large projects with large price tags like the Stadium and Theatre, they have a far smaller effect on your rates bills as they are paid off over a long period of time. This means the ratepayers of today aren't stuck paying the full cost of something that generations will benefit from.

The real savings are made at a smaller day-to-day level. Council staff have been working hard to reduce these costs by cutting spending where they can and looking at more efficient ways of doing things. While you may not see a lot of these savings, I can assure you that no stone has been left unturned through the organisation.

For example, we have undertaken a project looking at all the surplus land we own and putting everything we can up for sale. We've also been looking at all the services we use from printers to electricity to IT equipment to see if we're getting the best deal. Another cost saving is looking to minimise the use of contractors and consultants

where we can, and bringing services in house where it makes sense from a financial or service perspective.

This work by council staff is having a positive effect on our bottom line, and due to this we are proposing to bring the 12% planned rates rise in our Long Term Plan down to 9%.

In this plan we also detail some other savings options we have at our disposal. However, these would be more noticeable through reductions in services such as mowing and weeding, shorter operational hours for some of our facilities, and dropping levels of community funding.

We're putting our ideas out there and really want to hear what you think about them. Unfortunately, the only other lever we have when it comes to reducing costs at the council is to reduce its salary costs, so at the moment we're consulting with staff on a significant restructuring of nearly every department. This is a really difficult process for all the staff of the organisation, but unfortunately it's required for the long term sustainability of the council.

As we plan the year ahead, it is with some significant uncertainties in mind, and in an environment of major reform being pursued by central government. We'll be talking about how water services as provided shortly, as well as the future of the resource management act and how we deliver building services.

Local Government is in a period of major change, so it's critical that everyone takes an active role in council processes. Over the next few pages we'll lay out the challenges we face and our suggested solutions to help Timaru District continue to be a great place to live, we really want to hear what you think about them and we welcome any ideas you may have.

Nigel Bowen
Mayor Koromātua

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- Council's plan for 2025/26 and how we are looking to balance progress with affordability
- An update on our major projects and key changes to Year 2 of the Long Term Plan
- Financial and Rates Information

TIMEFRAMES

- CONSULTATION
Opens 5pm Thursday
1 May 2025
- SUBMISSIONS
Close 5pm Friday
23 May 2025
- COUNCIL CONSIDERS SUBMISSIONS AT ANNUAL PLAN HEARING
Tuesday 27 May 2025 (if required)
- ANNUAL PLAN ADOPTED
Tuesday 24 June 2025

Have your say!

at timaru.govt.nz/annualplan



Our 2025/26 Annual Plan challenges

THE CHALLENGES EXPLAINED

While the local economy appears to be turning a corner with a reduction in both inflation and now interest rates, there is still significant uncertainty on a global scale which has an effect on the equipment and raw materials that we use every day.

Council's key challenge is delivering what was planned for 2025/26 while closing our operating deficit and keeping any required rates rise reasonable.

Under current forecasts, delivering our \$78.8M capital work programme, funding our operating costs and providing similar levels of service for the community, will still leave an operating deficit of **\$5.5 million**. Once you add in assets vested in the council, this will give us a small overall surplus of \$109,000.

Although this 'bottom line' looks better than the forecast \$4.8 million accounting deficit we were forecasting for 2025/26, helped by the operating cost saving initiatives we put in place throughout 2024/25, we still have a substantial forecast operating deficit for 2025/26.

WHAT IS AN OPERATING DEFICIT?

An operating deficit is a little different to how we normally report any accounting surplus or deficit at the end of a year.

When we refer to our accounting surplus or deficit, this also includes things like subsidies and grants (like the Government funding we will get for the Theatre and Museum Project) and vested assets that are given to council (like CPlay or water infrastructure from developers).

Our operating surplus/ deficit figures only shows how much operating revenue we get, minus the operating expenses we pay, without the addition of subsidies and grants and value of the vested assets.

Are we striking the right balance?

The combination of challenges outlined above has created a funding shortfall or deficit, which means we need for more money to invest in, maintain and operate our services and assets into the future or we need to reduce our spending and investment.

Given this funding shortfall, Council is seeking to strike a balance between:

- maintaining the agreed levels of service to our community
- keeping within financial debt limits agreed in the Long Term Plan
- providing a prudent contribution towards depreciation to cover the cost of replacing community assets.

This Annual Plan and budget is being prepared against an uncertain background with the government's local water done well reforms, which will lead to significant structural change for water services, even if they remain in house. This will impact Council finances, but we are at this point uncertain of the total impact of this in the term of this Annual Plan.

Council is proposing a 9% overall increase in rates. This increase in rates revenue will be used to:

- Fund planned work programmes in Year 2 of the LTP
- Meet the increased costs of inflation, operational cost for delivering our services and contract escalations to enable provision of Council services at current levels
- Postage costs increase to facilitate the Local Government election and rates mailouts
- Fund increased renewal requirements (depreciation) with around 66% of the new requirements funded in 2025/26 and the remainder by loan
- Cost escalations across the three waters activity due to additional requirements associated with the Local Water Done Well reform.
- Assist in closing the funding gap for the roading activity.

So if this goes ahead, my rates increase will be 9%?

Not necessarily, rates are complex.

Remember the 9% is in the overall increase in the Council's income on all rates, not from any individual. Your individual property increase may be larger, or smaller depending on

- Where you live
- The services you receive, such as bins or water
- The type and value of your property

FEES AND CHARGES CHANGES

To help close the gap, Council is also proposing increases to fees and charges within the limits of current Council policy.

Fees and charges are used where a group or individual benefits from a Council service more than all residents.

Without fee increases, more of the cost of providing services would fall on the general ratepayer, rather than the user of the service.

WHAT ABOUT COUNCIL DEBT?

We are forecasting our net debt to total \$233 million at the end of 2025/26, compared with \$314 million in the LTP. This reduction is due to some of our big projects, that are debt funded, being behind schedule.

In 2025/26 our debt will be used to:

- Fund part of the increased cost of replacing our assets in future years (in accounting terms this is called providing for depreciation), rather than using rates funding to do all of this in 2025/26
- Fund our capital expenditure

Using debt responsibly to pay for long life assets such as pipes and building new facilities means each generation pays a fair share towards them. However, using debt will not address the underlying operating cost challenges each year and merely postpones the need for a longer-term solution to the ongoing budget gap. Greater use of debt also increases future interest costs. It also reduces our debt headroom available to address any unexpected financial shocks or issues such as natural disasters.

Are there options to just save costs to keep the rates down?

We are already working to reduce our day-to-day expenses while not affecting public services greatly, but there are further options we can take.

These options include:

1.

REDUCING ROADING SPEND TO MORE CLOSELY MATCH GOVERNMENT FUNDING PRIORITIES

A major change announced after the Long Term Plan was adopted were the new funding priorities from Government delivered through their Transport Funding Policy.

The cost of most road works in the district are subsidised by around half through the National Land Transport Programme,

A new focus on pothole prevention and road maintenance meant that other areas of safety and maintenance work that were previously funded was no longer eligible for subsidy, and need more rates funding to continue at current levels

However, there is the option to save cost by aligning our maintenance plan more closely to the Government priorities by reducing funding for certain areas, primarily footpaths, bridges and garden beds and the things that make the streets look tidy.

In the community, this would mean things such as:

- Less maintenance of green spaces alongside roads, less mowing and spraying.
- Less graffiti removal.
- Less footpath maintenance, or footpaths going significantly longer before replacement.
- Less street light maintenance.
- Less snow clearance and ice gritting in rural areas.
- Less maintenance of bridges, mainly in rural areas.
- Fewer Christmas Decorations.

2.

REDUCING SERVICES

This could involve reduction of opening times for facilities, making seasons for summer pools or daily opening times shorter, reducing hours of customer services and increasing time to resolve enquiries.

3.

REDUCING THE AMOUNT OF FUNDING GIVEN OUT VIA VARIOUS FUNDING GRANTS

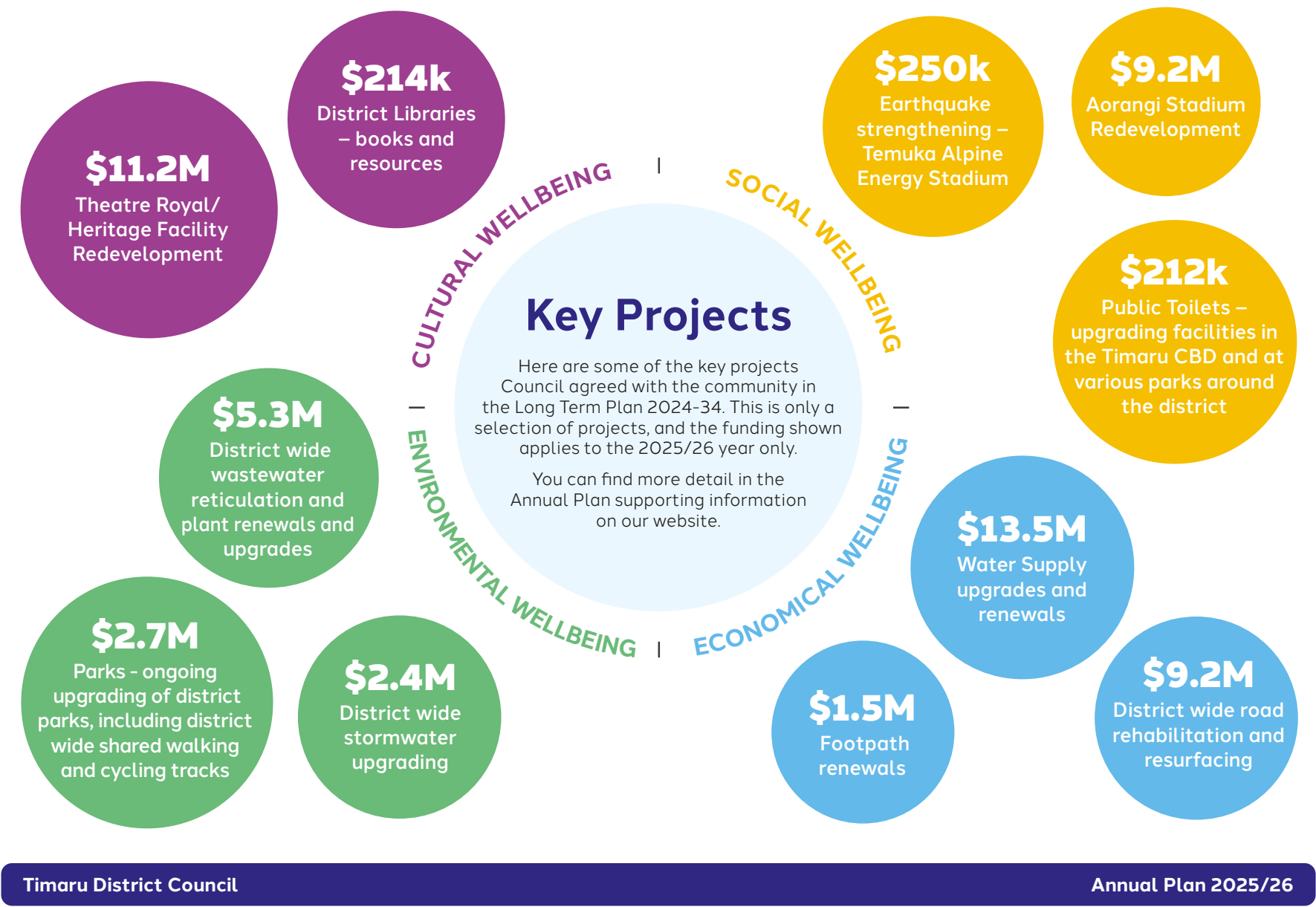
Each year we provide almost \$700,000 to community groups to support a range of activities from events to heritage and natural environmental protection, youth initiatives, support for traffic management and grants for cycleways.

A reduction in these would allow us to reduce our operating expenses each year but may affect the viability of a number of community events and organisations.

You can see a full list of these grants and their value at timaru.govt.nz/annualplan

Council welcomes your views on potential options it could use to reduce this impact for 2025/26 and in developing a longer term solution. Details of how to share your views are available on page 7 or online at timaru.govt.nz/annualplan

What’s planned for the 2025/26 year?



What’s changed

Key changes from Year 2 of LTP 2024-34

	Proposed 2025/26	Year 2 LTP
Capital projects programme (@100% delivery assumption)	\$78.8M	\$93.0M
Operating Costs	\$145.8M	\$150.8M

Changes to our capital programme

We’re changing some of our capital projects from what was published in the long term plan, this could be pushing some things back a little to the next financial year, reducing the cost or changing the scope. In most cases it doesn’t mean the project will cost less overall, just that some of the cost won’t arrive in this coming financial year.

These changes amount to a decrease of approximately \$14.1 million from \$93 million to \$78 million. While this this is a large amount, it doesn’t come

directly off the day to days cost of councils as capital projects are funded over a long time.

While changes in our capital programme have less of a direct effect on rates bills, better forecasting means we can more accurately calculate the interest and depreciation that’s funded through rates. This is why simply stopping any individual project doesn’t save the council the equivalent amount of money today.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE MAJOR CHANGES IN THE 2025/26 ANNUAL PLAN:

TIMARU THEATRE ROYAL AND MUSEUM (\$11.2 million ▼ \$13.4 million)

We’re moving some of the budget to the 2026/27 financial year to better reflect the staging of the project and when costs will be incurred. This reduces the amount of lending we’re forecasting to draw down.

TIMARU WATER TREATMENT UPGRADE – (2025/26) (\$6.8 Million ▲ \$250,000)

The multi-year Claremont Plant Renewal and Upgrades is a major project for the Timaru Urban water network and is planned to cost \$36.7M over 5 years. In 2025/26 we expect to finalise the design, undertake Geotechnical assessments, upgrade the sewer to the site, purchase the membrane installation and start site works which we are anticipating will cost \$6.8M.

GERALDINE WATER RENEWAL (\$200,000 ▼ \$3.8 million)

This has been rephased to a later year due to the additional consents required, and the time it will take to obtain these before physical works will begin.

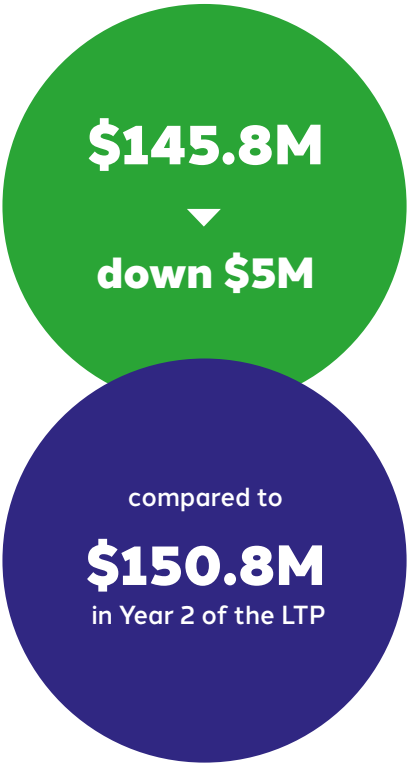
AORANGI PARK STADIUM UPGRADE (\$9.2 million ▼ \$1.8 million)

We’re moving some of the budget to the 2026/27 year to better reflect the staging of the project and when costs will be incurred.

IT SOFTWARE PURCHASE AND RENEWALS (\$2 million ▲ \$2 million)

This is the installation of an upgraded financial management system and associated council management tools to improve financial planning and reporting.

A full list of capital projects can be found at [Timaru.govt.nz/annualplan](https://timaru.govt.nz/annualplan)



Changes to Operating costs

Our operating budget provides for the day to day running of all the services council provides such as parks, swimming pools, libraries, waste management, finance functions, customer services, roading and footpaths and water services. It also includes financing costs such as interest rates and depreciation, and Council community funding grants.

These are the day-to-day costs that we meet directly from rates, this means that any increases or reductions that we make have a more significant impact on your rates bill.

- The most significant increases are:**

 - \$684k Timaru Stormwater monitoring and swale maintenance cost increase
 - \$401k District Plan Hearings carried forward into 2025/26
 - \$2.6M increase in provision for depreciation.
- The most significant savings we’ve made are:**

 - \$5M decrease in finance costs due to less borrowings for capital projects in 2024/25
 - \$1.4M savings in Theatre Royal operations due to the new facility not being open as planned
 - \$805k decrease in Parks contractor costs due to some maintenance now being done in-house
 - \$635k savings in the Roothing activity due to reduced maintenance spend on footpaths, bridges and vegetation control.

The Numbers – a summary

This is a summary of the key financial information for the proposed 2025/26 Annual Plan (based on Council’s preferred option of a 9% rates increase)

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE

(including depreciation) – What does Council spend

Activity	\$000’s	% of total
Democracy	\$4,575	3%
Community Services	\$ 12,024	8%
District Planning/ Environmental Services	\$10,413	7%
Recreation & Leisure	\$28,938	20%
Roading	\$36,468	25%
Waste Management	\$14,558	10%
Wastewater	\$12,209	8%
Stormwater	\$5,750	4%
Water	\$16,647	11%
Corporate	\$638	0%
Downlands	\$3,635	2%

*Percentages did not add up to 100% due to rounding.
You can see more details about what these activities cover in our Long Term Plan at [Timaru.govt.nz/ltp](https://timaru.govt.nz/ltp)

TOTAL OPERATING INCOME

- where does Council’s money come from?

Income type	\$000’s	% of total
Rates (excluding metered water supply rates)	\$ 88,688	60%
Fees, charges and metered water supply	\$ 25,558	18%
Subsidies and Grants	\$ 14,859	10%
Finance Revenue	\$ 3,752	3%
Other revenue (including dividend)	\$ 13,107	9%
Total	\$145,964	100%

Fees and Charges

While a substantial portion of our funding comes from rates, some funding comes from fees and charges for various services. In line with the community feedback to our long term plan, we have been working towards making these more ‘user pays’ rather than subsidised by all ratepayers.

Fees and charges are used for services where users directly benefit more than ratepayers as a whole (e.g. swimming pool charges, building and resource consents, waste disposal fees, dog registration fees, hall hire fees, lease charges

for fishing hut sites, and our social housing rents).

Council is proposing to increase some fees and charges where the cost of operating that activity has increased. If Council does not increase the fees and charges then the extra cost falls to the ratepayer and we need to increase the rates.

Most of the increase are around 10%, including things such as building consents and swimming pool charges. Some of the more significant

increases include halls and facility hire, and water, stormwater and wastewater connection fees.

Some of the fees associated with Council activities are set by legislation, a Bylaw, or require a special consultative procedure to amend them. Because of this some fees cannot increase in Annual Plan years and are amended during Long Term Plan every three years.

You can see a detailed list of the proposed fees and charges at timaru.govt.nz/annualplan



HOW DOES THIS ALL AFFECT RATES BILLS?

Rates are complex and every rates bill is different due to property valuation, location, and type of property. Due to this we can't give you an 'average' rates bill, but we can show you what a rates bill looks like for a typical property in our main centres.

The table below shows the proposed 2025/26 rates for a sample of typical residential properties in urban communities and sample rural and commercial/industrial properties. This is based on Council's preferred option of 9%.

What's the difference between UAGC, General Rates and Targeted Rates?

The **Uniform Annual General Charge** is a flat amount everyone pays (proposed to be \$1,170.52) and covers the cost of providing community amenities, such as libraries, roads, refuse disposal and footpaths.

General rates vary by your land value and property type and cover the things such as Public Responsibility, Arts and Community Amenities, Civil Defence, Environmental Health, Road and Street Landscapes, Economic Development and Promotion and Airport costs not covered by the UAGC.

Targeted rates pay for the services that individuals use, such as drinking water sewer and kerbside rubbish collection. If you don't get these services, you don't pay for them.

Why don't my rates go up by the amount you say?

When we say that we are putting rates up by 9%, this only refers to the overall amount of rates the council collects from everyone. When you split that out over all the different types of property, different land values and different services provided to each property some individual bills may be higher than 9%, some may be lower than 9%. Every rates bill is different.

Residential Property Samples

These samples are based on an individual property with a land value average for the town and that receives 'urban' levels of service such as wheelie bins, water, sewerage and stormwater. This is why the General Rates are similar to the targeted rates.

Land Value (2023 valuation)

General Rates (including UAGC)

Targeted Rates

Total Rates

Increase % over 25/26

Increase \$ over 25/26

Weekly Cost

Daily Cost

 Geraldine	 Pleasant Point	 Temuka	 Timaru
Residential	Residential	Residential	Residential
\$ 220,000 (average)	\$ 205,000 (average)	\$ 165,000 (average)	\$ 260,000 (average)
\$1,878.97	\$1,830.67	\$1,701.86	\$2,007.78
\$1,728.17	\$1,443.02	\$1,704.76	\$1,735.43
\$3,607.14	\$3,273.69	\$3,406.62	\$3,743.21
9%	8%	8%	4%
\$291.02	\$255.57	\$260.50	\$146.09
\$69.37	\$62.96	\$65.51	\$71.98
\$9.88	\$8.97	\$9.33	\$10.26

Rural and Commercial Samples

Rural and commercial properties are a lot more complex to give examples of due to the wide range of different types of property. As rural properties get less 'urban' services they often pay a smaller amount of targeted rates. Commercial, Industrial and Accommodation pay a 'differential' (see box) to reflect the commercial gain they make from council services. They often also receive services that attract a targeted rate.

No ratepayer is the same!

Land Value (2023 valuation)

General Rates (including UAGC)

Targeted Rates





Total Rates

Increase % over 25/26

Increase \$ over 25/26

Weekly Cost

Daily Cost

 Timaru	 Pleasant Point	 Rural	 Timaru
Primary	Primary	Primary	Commercial/Industrial Accom'n
\$ 510,000 (sample)	\$ 550,000 (sample)	\$ 2,270,000 (sample)	\$ 630,000 (sample)
\$2,272.52	\$2,358.95	\$6,075.48	\$9,979.20
\$1,352.57	\$35.06	\$134.93	\$3,073.51
\$3,625.09	\$2,394.01	\$6,210.41	\$13,052.71
5%	15%	16%	12%
\$173.09	\$308.01	\$838.41	\$1,412.63
\$69.71	\$46.04	\$119.43	\$251.01
\$9.93	\$6.56	\$17.01	\$35.76

What you pay in rates is worked out using a complex system. The key items that influence what you pay in rates are where you live, the services you receive, the property category you belong to and the land value of your property.

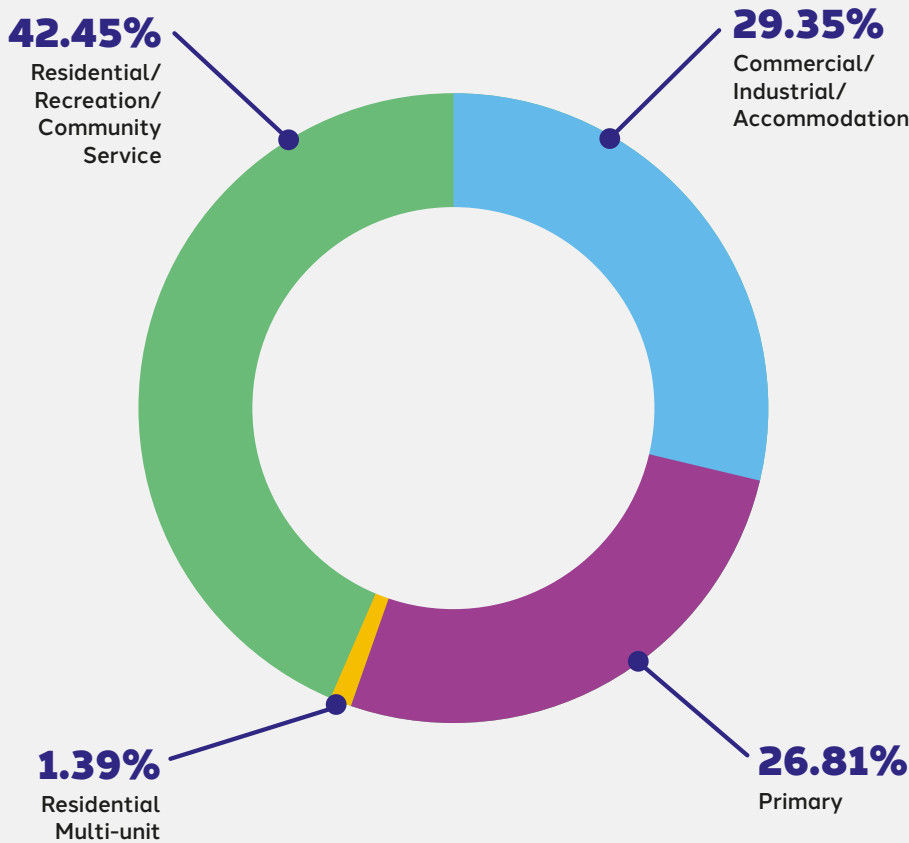
WHAT’S A DIFFERENTIAL?

Differentials are used to fairly allocate the General Rate to different property categories. Council’s policy is to ensure each property category pays about the same overall proportion of the General Rate every time a property revaluation occurs. Residential properties are the basis of these calculations, with different categories paying different multipliers of these.

The current differentials are:

<div></div> Residential 1	<div></div> Residential Multi Unit 1.93
<div></div> Commercial/Industrial/ Accommodation 4.35	<div></div> Primary 0.67

Using these multipliers splits the rates pie like this:



We want to know what you think

There are several ways you can have your say – it would be great if you could send your feedback online or by email as this means your views get to us quicker than via the post.

Go online

Go to www.timaru.govt.nz/annualplan and fill in the form.

Email

submission@timdc.govt.nz

Note: all email submissions must contain the submitters’ first name and surname.

Post or deliver

If you can’t do it online, please fill in the form at the back of this document and post it back to us for free!

FreePost Authority Number 95136

Annual Plan Submission
Timaru District Council
PO Box 522
TIMARU 7940

or drop it into the Council offices at 2 King George Place, Timaru or one of our Service Centres in Temuka or Geraldine.

Timetable

- **Consultation Opens**
9am Thursday 1 May 2025
- **Submissions Close**
5pm Friday 23 May 2025
- **Council considers submissions at Annual Plan Hearing**
Tuesday 27 May 2025 (if required)
- **Annual Plan adopted**
Tuesday 24 June 2025

We’ll email or phone you to confirm arrangements if you want to speak to your submission.

Even if you do not wish to speak at the Hearing, this is a public meeting, so you are welcome to attend. Details will be in the Courier and on our website.

REGIONAL RATES

We collect rates on behalf of Environment Canterbury so that you only have to pay one bill. They set their rates independently from Timaru District Council, so are not included here. For more details about their annual plan, visit ecan.govt.nz/annualplan

POLICY AMENDMENTS

Council is also seeking feedback on two proposed minor amendments to its Revenue and Financing Policy, which outlines how Council funds its activities and who pays for them.

The proposed changes are to clauses 6.7, 6.8 and 7.2, relating to how the proceeds of asset sales are utilised.

The full, current policy is available at www.timaru.govt.nz/policies. The full, proposed policy (highlighting changes from the current policy) is available on the Annual Plan consultation webpage on the Council website.

First change

The proposed changes to clauses 6.7 and 6.8 will give Council greater flexibility to reprioritise capital, as well as requiring reasoned decisions for any reprioritisation.

Currently, by default, the proceeds return to the activity associated with the asset. An example: if a road reserve is currently sold, the roading budget would likely receive the income. However, Council may consider that it would be a better use of the proceeds to invest that money in, for example, a water project or paying down debt. This decision will need to consider the decision-making requirements of the Local Government Act 2002.

Second change

The proposed change to clause 7.2 means that the proceeds of asset sales may not fund operational expenditure unless Council specifically resolves in each instance that it is prudent to do so.

The sale of assets to fund operational expenditure is not financially prudent and therefore requires a specific decision of Council to justify this departure. It is proposed that an \$80,000 threshold is set to distinguish between the use of proceeds from high value asset sales, for example property, and lower value asset sales, for example laptops.

Submission form

First name*

Surname*

Organisation (if applicable)

Phone (landline or mobile)

Email address*

Postal address*

.....

Do you want to speak to Council about your submission at the Council Hearing on 27 May 2025?

☐ Yes

☐ No

*If you do not indicate, we will assume you do not wish to speak
we require your name and email or postal address.

Submissions are public information

All submissions are public information and will be included on Council’s website and/or in public documents located at Council offices and Libraries/Service Centres. This will include your name and, if applicable, the organisation you represent.

The contact information (phone number and/or email address and/or postal address) that you provide will be accessible to and used by Council staff only for feedback administration purposes; it will not be made publicly available. However, the content of any attachments that you provide with your feedback – including any private and contact information – may not be redacted.

Please contact us via submission@timdc.govt.nz if you have any questions about this, before providing your feedback.

All information is held by Council in accordance with the Privacy Act 2020. You have the right to access and correct personal information.

Nothing in this Privacy Statement overrides, or will prevent Council meeting its obligations under, the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, or any other relevant legislation.

Q1.

What do you think about changing our roading programme to better match Government policies, rather than directly fund a higher level of service (2025/26)?

☐ Proceed with the planned roading programme and directly fund a higher level of service.

☐ Reduce Council funding to match Government priorities reducing maintenance of green spaces alongside roads, mowing and spraying, graffiti removal, footpath maintenance, maintenance of bridges, mainly in rural areas, and Christmas decorations.

Tell us more about your choices above. If you think Council should reduce subsidised or unsubsidised activities, tell us what you think could be reduced.

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Q2.

How much funding should Council allocate to the Community Events, SNA, Heritage Protection, Youth Initiatives, Temporary Traffic Management and Cycleways Grant Funds?

☐ Keep the funding at the levels budgeted (\$700k)

☐ Reduce the funding by \$130K across all of the grants

☐ Push pause on all of the Community Funding for 2025/26

Tell us more about your preferred choices

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Q3.

Should we reduce services across council facilities such as pools, libraries and customer services?

☐ Keep things the way they are.

☐ Reduce service levels to save money.

☐ Increase service levels and cost to provide more services.

Q4.

Are there any options you think Council should not consider at all?

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Q5.

Do you have any thoughts on the proposed changes to the Revenue and Financing Policy?

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Any other comments or feedback?

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Timaru District Council

Annual Plan 2025/26

Item 9.2 - Attachment 1

Page 32

**Have
your say!**

**15 May - 6 June
2025**

Our Water Done Well

Consulting with our community on the future
of water services in our district.

This guide explains what the Government's Local Water Done Well reforms require all councils in Aotearoa New Zealand to do, and it sets out the options that are available to our district.

No matter what we do and which option we choose, changes are coming and we want you to be a part of them.

Tell us what you think.



Timaru
District Council
Te Kaunihera a-rohe
O Te Tihi o Maru

timaru.govt.nz/water



What does the future of water services look like for our district?

It's time to have your say on water

Welcome to our consultation document on the long term future of how we deliver water services in the Timaru District, and possibly beyond.

This is one of the most important consultations that we'll undertake as it will have a critical and long lasting influence on how we deliver one of our core services.

Timaru was one of the lead campaigners against the original 'Three Waters' plan through Communities 4 Local Democracy, and we're pleased that through the Local Water Done Well policy that we are able to shape our own ideas for delivering sustainable water services that continue to be **locally owned and locally controlled**.

It's been a long road in enabling you to have a say in this matter, and I'm really pleased that you're now able to today.

While Timaru District is in a good position as far as water is concerned, we face long-term challenges for affordability and ensuring that water remains a priority in the face of many other competing services.

This is one of the reasons that we're proposing moving to a Council Controlled Water Services Organisation as part of this consultation.

In this scenario, we create a professionally run council owned organisation solely focused on delivering high quality and affordable water services for urban, rural, commercial and industrial customers. One that is led by a professional board, but still owned by and accountable to the community through your elected council.

Affordability is one of the key measures of the success of our proposal. Independent modelling has shown that in the long-term water rates will be less expensive if services come from a CCO, and even cheaper if we combine services with our neighbours.


This efficiency, and the ability to share scarce staffing resources, is the reason that we're proposing to work with neighbouring councils on a joint company that will provide services across the Central South Island region. I feel that together we're a lot stronger than the sum of our parts.

As you read through this document I hope you keep an open mind to the possibilities that it presents.

We're not proposing selling off any assets or removing local control. This isn't a pathway to privatisation or amalgamation. Our proposal is to create a council owned organisation that will be solely focused on benefiting our community and, hopefully, our neighbours as well.

Our councils have a history of working together well, whether that's through our existing arrangements on water through the Downlands Rural Scheme to smaller collaborations on waste, roads, liquor licencing and environmental health.

As a council we fought hard for communities all over the country to have their say, so please take the time to have a read of this document and then tell us what you think.



Mayor Nigel Bowen

Snapshot of the reforms

Local Water Done Well is a government initiative to help ensure that communities have safe, reliable, and resilient water services.

We will be required to make changes to how we manage drinking water, stormwater, and wastewater. But we have choices about how we make these changes, and we want you to take the opportunity to help shape those choices.

We've looked closely at the options the Government has provided to all councils, and we believe there are three options available to us that will work for our communities today and into the future.

Option 1

Keeping water services in-house and overseen by our Council, but with changes to ensure we meet new government requirements.

Option 2

Setting up our own separate water organisation, to be responsible for the day-to-day operation of water services but 100% owned by the Council.

Option 3

Joining with neighbouring councils to set up a new water organisation to manage our water services across three or four districts, based on what communities need and want, jointly owned by the partner councils.

Regardless of which option is chosen, water services will continue to be delivered to our community and water services and assets will continue to be owned by the Council or a group of councils, either directly, or via a council owned organisation.

We're asking you to tell us which option you think will best serve our community in the long run.

This is your chance to help influence real change.

Want to find out more?

This consultation booklet has the key information you need, but you can find more information, including technical reports and council reports, on our Council's Local Water Done Well webpage timaru.govt.nz/water

What is Local Water Done Well?

Water Services Policy and Legislation

What is financial sustainability?

Financial principles for water service providers

How did the Council arrive at its preferred option?

How would a water services organisation borrow?

Financing water services delivery through establishing new water council-controlled organisations

How to have your say

Have your say on the best option for our district

Please read through this consultation document carefully.

We'll also be holding information sessions where you can ask questions: keep on eye on timaru.govt.nz/water for more information.

Give us your feedback

You can read more information and have your say online. Scan the QR code or visit timaru.govt.nz/water

You can pick up a copy of this document, complete the form on the back page, and drop in a hard copy form to any of your libraries or service centres, or post to:

Freepost Authority number 95136

Water Consultation
Timaru District Council
PO Box 522
TIMARU 7940



What is Local Water Done Well?

Local Water Done Well is the Government’s plan to address long-standing problems it sees with water services.

This plan keeps water assets locally owned and recognises the importance of local decision making, so that communities and councils have the flexibility to choose the best way to deliver their water services.

The Government is putting a strong emphasis on keeping water services financially separate from other local services, and introducing economic regulation of water service providers to ensure they’re efficient and charging fair prices. It is also strongly emphasising environmental and water-quality requirements.

The Government has placed emphasis on meeting economic, environmental and water quality requirements. Some things will not change for our district, regardless of the way we move forward:

- Water services and assets will continue to be owned by the Council, either directly, or via a council owned organisation as the Local Water Done Well legislation prevents them being privatised.
- Our drinking water will be safe.
- The environment will be protected.
- Our community’s needs will be met.
- Work to adapt to climate change will continue.



What will change?

The Government has introduced new rules and strengthened some existing ones.

No matter which option we choose for delivering water services, we must make sure we:

- Meet legal requirements to keep drinking water safe and protect the environment.
- Manage our water services efficiently and effectively.
- Invest in maintaining and upgrading important infrastructure like pipes, pumps, and treatment plants, so they stay in good condition and can handle risks like natural disasters and climate change.

The Government will also be keeping an eye on prices and investment through a process called “economic regulation”. This is designed to protect customers by making sure that prices are fair and that enough money is invested to provide safe, reliable water services.

If councils choose to continue delivering water services themselves (instead of joining a new water organisation), there are extra requirements to make things more transparent.

Councils running in-house services must:

- Keep money for water services separate from other council funds (this is called “ring-fencing”), meaning money collected for water can only be used for water.
- Prepare separate plans and public reports on how water services are managed and funded.

We need to show the Government how we will deliver these changes

Like all councils across the country, we must prepare a **Water Services Delivery Plan** and submit it to the Government by **3 September 2025**.

The plan must set out:

- how we are currently delivering our water services
- how our preferred option will deliver water services in a financially sustainable way
- how we will meet future economic, health, and environmental regulations
- what we will need to do to meet regulatory requirements and address future growth

- where we will invest to meet service and regulatory requirements
- how we will finance these investments.

We also need to guarantee that the funds we allocate to our water services will be ring-fenced, as explained above. Depending on which option we choose, we can borrow more to invest in the infrastructure we need.

As we develop our **Water Services Delivery Plan**, we will also make sure we:

- Meet community expectations for water services
- Honour our Treaty of Waitangi commitments
- Continue providing the other council services our communities rely on.

You can find out more about the Government’s Local Water Done Well programme on the Department of Internal Affairs website:
dia.govt.nz/Water-Services-Policy-and-Legislation

What the changes will mean for you.

If the Council currently provides your water services:

- Your water services will continue to be safe and reliable.
- After the changes, you will have a better understanding of what it costs to provide water services as there will be specific reports on this from either the Council or the water organisation, if one is set up.
- Prices might need to increase over time, but you will have more information and independent checks on the quality and cost of your water services.

If you have a private supply:

- There will be no immediate changes to your arrangements.
- However, you will still have a stake in the choice of options, and your feedback on the options is still important, as you may need help from the water services provider (whether it’s the Council or a new water organisation) if there are any big problems in your supply in the future.



More information on the following pages...

Timeline and next steps

Thursday
MAY
15

Consultation opens

Friday
JUNE
06

Submissions close 5pm

JUNE-JULY

We will summarise submissions and draw out themes for our elected councillors to consider when they make their decisions, which is expected to happen in early July 2025.

Wednesday
SEPT
03

By 3 September 2025, the Council needs to provide a **Water Services Delivery Plan to the Government**. This Plan must identify the Council’s preferred model for delivering water services and should also include a plan for implementing this preferred approach.

2026 ONWARDS

2026 onward
The Council will implement its preferred approach.

Our water services

Water services delivery includes services for the “three waters” – water supply, wastewater, and stormwater. It includes the networks of pipes and other infrastructure that allow water to be treated, transported, and disposed of.



Water Supply

To provide safe, reliable and sustainable water supply to the district.



Wastewater

To provide services to collect, treat, and dispose of wastewater in a safe and sustainable way that protects public health and doesn't compromise ecosystems.



Stormwater

To protect people and property from the effects of flooding, and safeguard public health and the environment from the adverse effects of stormwater run-off.

\$1,500 per year

The average cost in 2025 of water services for connected properties paid through your rates.

Based on the Council's Long-term Plan, this was expected to reach about \$1,900 a year in 2034 as we invest to meet our needs.

How are we doing, and what lies ahead?

We expect to be able to meet the new financial sustainability test for our water services, but like many councils across the country, we face some longer-term challenges in meeting the new requirements.

We need to keep renewing our water infrastructure, as some of this will be coming to the end of its life in the next 30 years. Some of our treatment plants will need to have their consents renewed over the next 30 years, and new standards may mean we need to invest more. This could mean we need to make some bigger investments in the next few decades, and these will add up. We are currently expecting to invest nearly \$1 billion over the next 30 years.

- Climate change is putting pressure on our stormwater and wastewater networks – they need to be resilient against the effects of climate change such as sea-level rise and more frequent and severe weather events..
- Tougher requirements for water services need to be met to protect health and the environment – this includes our responsibility to help community suppliers if they have significant problems, and to report more on how we are performing.
- We have large industrial and commercial users – these users consume roughly 50% of our water supply, and we need to think about how we continue to support these users.
- We must also make sure that water continues to be affordable for our communities.

As a council we must also make sure we meet our Treaty commitments, and that changes to water services don't mean we stop providing other services such as parks, roads, and rubbish.



Things to think about

All options would meet the new requirements.

Any option would mean changes in the way we operate, to meet the new requirements from the Government. The differences between the options come down to differences in how much direct control our Council will have over water services, and whether we will have access to efficiencies through economies of scale, a dedicated focus on water services, and alternative ways of financing water services.

A water organisation would face similar borrowing costs to councils

Water services require big investments, which most councils fund through a combination of borrowing and rates.

As a council we can borrow relatively cheaply and affordably, through an organisation known as the Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA). New water organisations would be able to access the LGFA too, which would keep borrowing costs similar to ours. However, there are some differences in how a council borrows and how a water organisation would borrow.

- Councils have borrowing limits, based on rules set by the Local Government Funding Agency. The limits are expressed in terms of the ratio of a council's borrowing compared to its revenue. Our debt-to-revenue ratio under the LGFA rules is 280%, but our own rules also mean we keep debt below 250% to give us a buffer for a rainy day.

- Water organisations aren't like councils – they're more like utility companies (electricity lines companies for example) in that they would borrow in a different way. Most investment would be funded by debt rather than a combination of debt and water rates (which is how councils fund works). This means investment is paid back over a longer period, and by those who benefit from it.
- A water organisation would be able to borrow to much greater levels than councils, at around 5 times their income vs 2.8x for councils, while still being financially healthy and sustainable.

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Your options for water service delivery

The Government has provided councils across the country with five options for delivering water services in their districts.

None of the options would result in privatising water services. Councils have been evaluating the options to work out which is best for their communities. We have been looking closely at the options available to us, including discussing the options with our neighbouring councils and getting some expert advice. We think there are three viable options, all of which are expected to meet the Government's requirements.

It's important to note that under all the options considered below, the water assets remain in public ownership, either directly in the council or in a council owned organisation. The amounts quoted are estimates based on future costs and projected savings and efficiencies.

All figures below are estimates of residential water price in 2034 **and are not harmonised across districts**

Option 1

Keeping water services in-house and overseen by our Council

Water services would continue to be delivered through the Council, but with some changes to meet the Government's new requirements. We would probably set up an internal water services unit within the Council to help us meet these requirements.

\$1,900 per year

Option 2

Establishing our own separate water organisation

This new water organisation would be separate from our Council, but we would own 100% of it and appoint its directors. The new organisation would be fully responsible for all day-to-day operations, maintenance, planning for future water needs, and repaying any water-related debt.

\$1,860 per year

Option 3

Joining with neighbouring councils to set up a new water services organisation

The new joint organisation would own, operate, and maintain water services for all the shareholding councils. We would own part of this organisation with the partner councils. We would also give it direction through a special "Statement of Expectations", which the councils would develop jointly, and which the organisation would need to give effect to.

We've modelled two potential combinations:

3a.
Waimate, Mackenzie & Timaru districts.

\$1,670 per year

3b.
Waimate, Mackenzie, Timaru & Waitaki districts

\$1,640 per year

We think Option 3 would best support our community

Option 3 is our preferred option because it provides us with the best long-term benefits. We think it would enable more investment, better spread out fixed costs such as compliance, and joining with others would create efficiencies that would help to drive down prices.

There is potential for a different mix of councils to join in this water organisation, and we have outlined the two options that we think are more likely to happen. If we do continue with this option, who we work with will also depend on the outcomes of their consultation.

Other options considered

We also considered the option of establishing a consumer trust organisation, either partly owned by the Council and partly by a trust, or wholly owned by a trust.

We decided these options weren't right for us as the organisation would probably have to borrow money from banks, which would be more expensive than borrowing through the Local Government Funding Agency. Under these options, we would also have less control over critical decisions affecting water services compared with the other options.



More about our preferred option on the next page...



Our preferred option

Option 3

Joining with neighbouring councils to set up a new water services organisation

\$1,500

2025

\$1,670

2024

This is what ratepayers could expect to pay on average for water (drinking water, stormwater, wastewater) under the proposed option.¹

Our preferred option would see our Council join with others to form a new water services organisation. This organisation would handle water services across all participating districts and take on each council’s water-related assets and debt. The Company would be owned jointly by the partner councils.

A professional board of directors, appointed by the councils, would run the organisation day to day. While we and the other shareholding councils could guide the board and continue to make some key decisions, we wouldn’t control every aspect of the organisation’s work. Over time, we expect this new organisation would bill customers directly for its services, but in the meantime, we expect that councils would continue to collect water revenues through rates bills, similar to how we bill on behalf of Environment Canterbury.

How would it be setup?

Multi-council water organisation

Shareholders*
TDC WDC MDC

Shareholder council

WSO including WSO Board

Responsible for jointly setting shareholder expectations

Issues Statement of Expectations
Appoints / removes water organisation Board members

Responsible for water services, delivery including strategy

\$1,670

Indicative average cost per connection in today’s dollars

Jointly owned by councils

*A four council variation could include Waitaki District

¹This is an indicative average cost in today’s dollars, and has been calculated by excluding commercial supply and trade waste revenues to make it more representative of costs to a typical residential customer and rural ratepayer. There will be individual differences between communities as the cost is not harmonised.

How would our district have a say in a joint water organisation?

If we do decide to join up with others, we will still get to make decisions about how the arrangement could work.

There are ways for us to monitor and direct the organisation to make sure that your water services are being delivered well and that our district’s needs are being met. This would include:

- Appointing the board of directors, jointly with the other councils, so we can make sure the board has the skills and experience we want.
- Jointly issuing a Statement of Expectations, to set priorities for the organisation and specify how progress against them would be measured. The Statement would guide the organisation’s decisions and actions, and the organisation would need to give effect to the Statement and report against it.
- Requiring regular reporting from the water organisation on how it’s performing, including through an annual report on progress, service standards, and financial performance.
- Negotiating a number of additional protections to include in the organisation’s constitution, such as consulting with our community.

Key advantages

- Lower prices:** This option would probably be cheaper than if we continued to deliver water services on our own – potentially reducing the costs to customers by around \$230 a year by 2034.
- Specialist oversight:** A professional, expert board can make informed decisions and respond quickly to changing needs.
- Greater capacity:** A larger combined organisation can hire more specialised staff and manage assets and new projects more efficiently.
- Delivering our investment plans:** The organisation would probably adopt the Council’s current investment plans, which have been independently reviewed. These plans may need further investment over the next 10-30 years.
- Long-term efficiency:** By combining resources (such as maintenance services) across multiple councils, having a bigger investment need, the organisation can drive down costs over time.
- Efficient borrowing:** The organisation can borrow at similar rates to councils but takes a different borrowing approach that makes it easier to invest in the long term in infrastructure and maintain quality standards affordably.
- Better financial flexibility for the Council:** With significant water debt removed from its books, the Council can redirect its financial capacity to other priorities as needed.

Key disadvantages

- Less local control:** We would share decision-making and control with other councils. This decision-making may feel distant to residents in smaller communities.
- Transition challenges:** Establishing the new water organisation is a big task, and coordinating the transition of water services, staff and debt could be complicated. We would also need to manage any impact on other council activities (like planning or customer service).
- Stranded costs:** Some costs that are currently shared with water services may not be able to be transferred to the organisation meaning the Council could be left with some ongoing obligations.
- Risk of the council being less effective:** There is a risk that the transfer of waters staff and assets could weaken the Council’s ability to function effectively.

You can find out more about each Council’s consultation options on this issue on their own websites.

Waimate Council	waimatedc.govt.nz
Mackenzie Council	mackenzie.govt.nz
Waitaki Council	waitaki.govt.nz

Who could we partner with?

We can’t confirm which councils we would partner with as they need to make their decisions too, but we’d work alongside them to establish clear governance arrangements and a unified plan for delivering water services – so that all participating communities benefit in the long run.

If we decide to move forward with a new water services organisation, we’d join forces with one or more of our neighbouring councils. Two groupings we have been investigating include:

A four-council option,
Timaru District working together with Waimate, Mackenzie and Waitaki districts.

A three-council option,
Timaru District working together with Waimate and Mackenzie districts

Whichever option we proceed with, it will need to be a balanced arrangement that serves our district’s interests.



TIMARU
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Waimate
District Council



Mackenzie
DISTRICT COUNCIL



Waitaki
DISTRICT COUNCIL
TE KAUNIHERA O MATIHI O TE KAIHIA

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Alternative options

Option 1

Keeping water services in-house and overseen by our Council

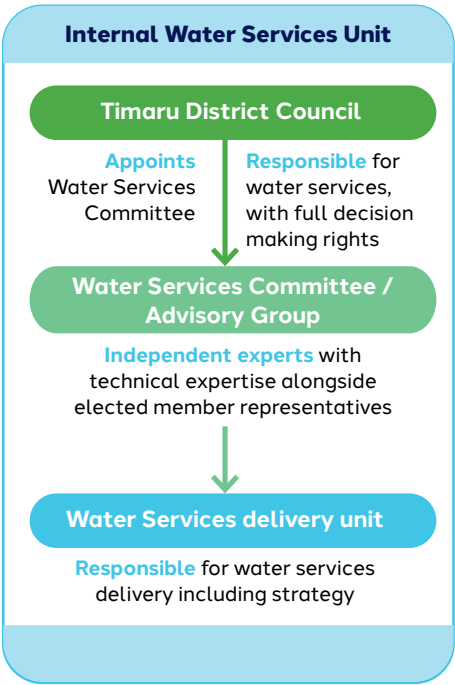
\$1,500
2025

This is what ratepayers could expect to pay on average for water (drinking water, stormwater, wastewater) under the proposed option.¹

\$1,900
2034

Under this option, we would continue to manage and deliver water services on our own, without partnering with other councils.

We would be fully responsible for all day-to-day operations, maintenance, planning for future water needs, and repaying any water-related debt. To help meet new government requirements, we would probably set up a dedicated water services delivery unit within the Council. We could share certain services with neighbouring councils or contract some operations to an external water services organisation. However, that would not provide the same cost savings as being part of a joint water services organisation.



Key advantages

- Local decision-making
Our Council, which is familiar with local conditions, would decide on services and investments.
- Seamless integration
Water services can be easily coordinated with our other responsibilities (such as district planning and transport).
- Community accountability
Communication with our community would continue to be straightforward, with us engaging directly with residents on water issues.
- Familiar structure
Day-to-day operations would continue largely as they are now, which can help minimise transition costs and confusion.

Key disadvantages

- Highest Cost Option
This option would probably be more expensive than if we joined a water services organisation – potentially costing customers an extra \$230 a year more.
- Longer-term challenges need to be funded
We would need to fund major water infrastructure investment over the next 15 to 30 years, and those costs are likely to become more expensive over time. Council debt is limited to 2.8 times its income, so substantial borrowing for water limit our ability to invest in other important areas like roads, parks, and playgrounds..
- Increasing requirements
We would need to meet tougher government regulations on our own, and this could lead to higher rates or more borrowing.
- Limited opportunity for efficiencies
We wouldn't benefit from economies of scale that might come from partnering with other councils, potentially increasing our long-term operating costs.
- Competition for staff and contractors

Option 2

Setting up our own separate water organisation

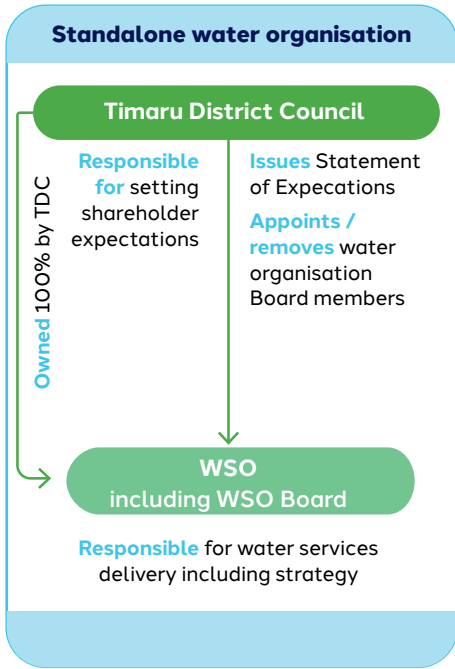
\$1,500
2025

This is what ratepayers could expect to pay on average for water (drinking water, stormwater, wastewater) under the proposed option.¹

\$1,860
2034

Under this option, we would set up our own water organisation, which would be separate from our Council, but 100% owned by us.

The organisation would be fully responsible for all day-to-day operations, maintenance, planning for future water needs, and repaying any water-related debt. We would be able to directly appoint the organisation's directors and issue a Statement of Expectations to guide the organisation.



Key advantages

- Local decision-making
The water organisation would be focused solely on our district.
- Seamless integration
The organisation would be able to easily coordinate with our Council and share services.
- Accountability to Timaru only
Reporting and accountability would be to the Council and to you as customers, through a combination of mechanisms.
- Easing of the Council's debt burden
Water-related debt would move to the water organisation. However, the same community would be responsible for this borrowing.

Key disadvantages

- More expensive option:
This option would probably be more expensive than if we joined a water services organisation – potentially increasing prices by around \$190 a year.
- Limited opportunity for efficiencies
We wouldn't benefit from economies of scale that might come from partnering with other councils, potentially increasing our long-term operating costs.
- Competition for staff and contractors
The organisation would need to compete with other larger water organisations for staff and contractors with expertise in water services.

Local
Water
Done Well

Tell us what you think! →

Tell us what you think!

What is your preferred option?

Please tick the drop next to the option that you prefer.

Option 1

Keeping water services in-house and overseen by our Council

Option 2

Establishing our own separate water organisation

Option 3

Joining with neighbouring councils to set up a new water services organisation (preferred option)

Tell us what’s important to you

We’d like to know which factors were the most important for you when you chose your preferred option. Please rank the following factors by putting a number, 1 to 4, in the circle next to each factor, with 1 being the most important and 4 the least important.

Affordability

Ensuring that water services are delivered safely and sustainably, while managing prices to consumers.

Community influence

Your ability to shape water services decisions.

Cultural input

Hapū and iwi input into water decisions.

Access to finance

More access to financing for water services and other Council activities.

Any other comments?

How to return this form

Complete the form, and drop in a hard copy to any of your libraries or service centres, or post to:

Freepost Authority number 95136

Water Consultation

Timaru District Council

PO Box 522

TIMARU 7940

Give us your feedback online

You can also read more information and have your say online.

Scan the QR code or visit

timaru.govt.nz/water



Common terms used in Local Water Done Well

Borrowing: Obtaining loans to pay for infrastructure upgrades or new facilities, with repayment spread over time. Because water infrastructure (such as pipelines and treatment plants) is very expensive but long-lived, it is often funded through debt that is paid back over decades out of rates or user charges. New Zealand councils typically borrow through the Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA), which gives councils access to loans at lower interest rates. Responsible borrowing allows current and future users to share the costs of big projects, a principle often called “intergenerational equity”.

Drinking water / potable water: Water that is safe to drink. Potable water has been treated or is naturally clean enough to meet drinking water standards. Our Council uses the term “potable water supply” to refer to the reticulated (piped) drinking water delivered to homes and businesses after treatment. Ensuring water is potable means treating the water to remove or kill harmful microbes and contaminants.

Drinking Water Standards: The official standards that set safe limits for drinking water across New Zealand. Issued by Taumata Arowai under the Water Services Act 2021, these standards specify the maximum allowable levels of contaminants (like bacteria, nitrates, and heavy metals) in drinking water. All registered drinking water suppliers must ensure the water they provide meets these standards. The official standards also specify how suppliers can show they are meeting the standards.

If water fails to meet a standard, suppliers must take action and notify the regulator and the public (for example, issuing a boil water notice).

Economic regulation: Oversight of the economic performance of water service providers to ensure they are efficient, financially prudent, and charging fair prices. Because water services are natural monopolies (consumers can’t choose another provider), an economic regulator steps in to protect consumers from unfair charges and poor service. New Zealand is setting up an economic regulation system for water that’s modelled on the system used for electricity lines and gas pipelines. This will be administered by the Commerce Commission. Economic regulation will probably include controls or monitoring of water pricing, requirements for transparent accounting, and service quality measures. The goal is to make sure water providers invest adequately in infrastructure and operate efficiently, delivering safe and reliable services at the lowest feasible cost to ratepayers.

Financial sustainability: This means ensuring the water system can cover its costs now and in the future. A financially sustainable water service has enough income (from rates or user charges) to pay for day-to-day operations, for maintenance, and for replacing or upgrading long-term assets.

Ring-fencing: A financial practice where funds are reserved for a specific purpose and cannot be used for other purposes. With water services, “ring-fencing” means that revenue from water rates or charges must be used only for water-related costs and investments.

Under the new economic regulation system for water, the Commerce Commission will monitor compliance with ring-fencing rules to guarantee that there is transparency and reinvestment in water infrastructure.

Price harmonisation / non-harmonisation: Price harmonisation means all customers served by a water services organisation would pay roughly the same rate for water services, regardless of which district they live in. Non-harmonisation means prices are different in each area, often reflecting the local cost of providing services.

Stormwater: Stormwater is rainfall run-off that is channelled through drains and pipes to prevent flooding. Stormwater picks up contaminants from roofs, roads, and land (like sediment, heavy metals, and oils) and often flows, untreated, into streams, rivers, or the ocean. Managing stormwater is part of the water services that councils provide. Good stormwater management includes networks of drains, culverts, and detention basins, as well as green infrastructure (like swales or wetlands) to slow and filter run-off. Unlike wastewater, stormwater is not usually treated, but stormwater systems must comply with environmental regulations to minimise pollution.

Taumata Arowai: A dedicated water services regulator, established by the Water Services Act 2021. Taumata Arowai took over the job of regulating drinking water from the Ministry of Health in late 2021, after some serious water safety failures (like the 2016 Havelock North outbreak). It sets and enforces the Drinking Water Standards and rules to ensure suppliers provide safe drinking water. Taumata Arowai also oversees environmental performance standards for wastewater and stormwater. In practice, this regulator monitors compliance (through audits and reporting), can issue directions or fines for breaches, and provides guidance to water suppliers.

Wastewater: Also known as sewage, this is used water that goes down drains from homes and businesses (from toilets, sinks, showers, and so on). Wastewater contains organic waste, microbes, and chemicals that must be treated before it is released back into the environment.

Under Local Water Done Well, a single national standard for wastewater environmental performance is being introduced, so that all discharges would meet a consistent high standard across New Zealand.



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timaru.govt.nz/water



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10 Consideration of Urgent Business Items**11 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters****12 Public Forum Issues Requiring Consideration****13 Exclusion of the Public****Recommendation**

That the public be excluded from—

- *(a)the whole of the proceedings of this meeting; or
- *(b)the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely,—

14.1 Public Excluded Minutes of the Pleasant Point Community Board Meeting held on 15 April 2025

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

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Plain English Reason
14.1 - Public Excluded Minutes of the Pleasant Point Community Board Meeting held on 15 April 2025 Matters dealt with in these minutes: 14.1 - Pleasant Point Community Board Targeted Rate Application: Pleasant Point Promotions Committee - Supporting Documentation	Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.	The public excluded minutes of the meeting held on 15 April 2025 are considered confidential pursuant to the provisions of the LGOIMA Act of 1987. The specific provisions of the Act that relate to these minutes can be found in the open minutes of the meeting held on 15 April 2025.

*I also move that [\[name of person or persons\]](#) be permitted to remain at this meeting, after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge of [\[specify\]](#). This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matter to be discussed, is relevant to that matter because [\[specify\]](#)

.

*Delete if inapplicable.

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Note

[Section 48\(4\)](#) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 provides as follows:

- “(4)Every resolution to exclude the public shall be put at a time when the meeting is open to the public, and the text of that resolution (or copies thereof)—
 - (a)shall be available to any member of the public who is present; and
 - (b)shall form part of the minutes of the local authority.”

14 Public Excluded Reports

15 Readmittance of the Public