

Otago Mayoral Forum

Friday 9 June 2023

9:00am-12:00pm, ORC Council Chamber
Level 2, Philip Laing House, 144 Rattray St, Dunedin

Chair: Mayor Gary Kircher

Time	Item	Paper
9:00	1 Welcome Apologies Agenda confirmation Minutes of the previous Otago Mayoral Forum on 17 March 2023	p. 3
9.10 [50']	2 Water Services Reform Programme An opportunity to progress ongoing discussions. Michael Brewster and Teresa Wooding of the National Transition Unit will join via Zoom from 9.30am.	
10.00 [30']	3 Regional Skills Leadership Group Laura Black, co-chair of the Otago Regional Skills Leadership Group (RSLG), will join the Forum to discuss workforce issues in Otago and the Group's current priorities and activities. Laura will be joined by Andy Kilsby, Regional Lead for the Otago RLSG.	
10.30	- Morning tea	
10.45 [15']	4 Annual Plans, Long-term Plans Reflection on Otago councils' annual planning processes for 2023/24, and early insights into Long-term Plans for 2025-2035.	
11.00 [45']	5 Te Whatu Ora, Te Aka Whai Ora and Localities Endine Dixon-Harris (Te Whatu Ora), Sharlaine Chee (Te Whatu Ora), Teei Kaiaruna (Te Aka Whai Ora and Te Whatu Ora) and Whaitiri Poutawa (Te Aka Whai Ora) will speak about localities and the national boundary determination process as it applies in Otago.	

11.45 [15']	6	<p>General Business and wrap up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mayoral Forum website design for review - Update on regional priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o planning for a regional approach to resource management; and o progress towards a regional waste coordinator - General business as arising 	
12.00	-	<p>Close <i>Lunch and Te Rōpū Taiao to follow</i></p>	



Minutes of a meeting of the Otago Mayoral Forum
held on Friday 17 March 2023 at 9.00am
in the Harbour Room, Otago Regional Council, and via Zoom

Membership

Mayor Tim Cadogan	Central Otago District Council
Mayor Bryan Cadogan	Clutha District Council
Mayor Jules Radich	Dunedin City Council
Cr Gretchen Robertson	Otago Regional Council
Mayor Glyn Lewers	Queenstown Lakes District Council
Mayor Gary Kircher	Waitaki District Council

Chief Executive Sanchia Jacobs	Central Otago District Council
Chief Executive Steve Hill	Clutha District Council
Chief Executive Sandy Graham	Dunedin City Council
Chief Executive Pim Borren	Otago Regional Council
Chief Executive Mike Theelen	Queenstown Lakes District Council
Chief Executive Alex Parmley	Waitaki District Council

In attendance

Marianna Brook	Mayoral Forum Secretariat
Kelly Taylor Covey	Otago Regional Council

1. WELCOME

Mike Theelen started the meeting with a karakia.

1.1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Sanchia Jacobs for absence and Steve Hill for lateness.

It was moved:

That the apologies be accepted.

Moved: Mayor Radich

Seconded: Mayor B Cadogan

CARRIED

1.2 Agenda confirmation

The agenda was confirmed. Sandy Graham raised an item of general business relating to Three Waters reform.

1.3 Minutes confirmation

It was moved:

That the minutes of the Otago Mayoral Forum meeting held on 9 December 2022 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Moved: Mayor T Cadogan

Seconded: Mayor Radich
CARRIED

2. TRIENNIAL AGREEMENT RATIFICATION PROCESS

An agenda paper confirmed councils' ratification of the Otago Local Authorities Triennial Agreement 2023-25 and sought decisions on two consequent matters.

Alex Parmley advised that conflicting legal advice had been received regarding the wording of the agreement, and suggested that CEs take time to consider that then come back to the Forum with recommendations on how to deal with it. It was agreed that decisions on this matter would be held over to the next meeting.

There was discussion about a Forum website and its content. Forum members will receive a link to the website before it goes live and have an opportunity to provide feedback.

Resolution

That the Otago Mayoral Forum:

- a. **Agree** to establish a Forum website to provide information about the Forum and its role.
- b. **Agree** that the Forum's website include full agendas and minutes from meetings unless redactions are required in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Moved: Mayor Radich
Seconded: Mayor T Cadogan
CARRIED

3. REGIONAL WELLBEING FRAMEWORK

James Adams, Senior Strategic Analyst, and Andrea Howard, Manager Strategy (Acting), from Otago Regional Council introduced a draft Regional Wellbeing Framework. The Framework takes the broad concept of wellbeing from the Local Government Act and makes it local and specific. Led by ORC, a working group comprising staff from all Otago councils, MSD, Aukaha and TAMI contributed to the work. There was a discussion about the value of the Framework and it was agreed that applying it to policy making and discussion will demonstrate its worth.

The Forum heard that DCC and QLDC have also developed frameworks and associated indicators to track wellbeing in their district/city. In particular, Sandy Graham requested that any public consultation on the Framework be coordinated with DCC's own consultation to ensure clear messages for the public. Marianna Brook noted that bringing the Regional Wellbeing Framework to the Forum's attention helps to draw links between related activities across Otago's local authorities.

4. REGIONAL PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSIONER STEPH VOIGHT

Steph Voight (Otago Regional Public Service Commissioner), Ginny Howden (Otago Regional Public Service Director) and Kerrie Young (Regional Director Kainga Ora) joined the Forum to provide an update on the Otago Regional Public Service work and to discuss social housing.

Ms Voight reminded Forum members of various structures for regional coordination under the Regional Public Service banner, including the Regional Leadership Group to which all Forum members belong. She also outlined several regional initiatives that the Otago Regional Public Service Team either leads or supports. On health localities, Mayor Tim Cadogan noted that discussions in Central Otago and Queenstown Lakes had stalled and asked Ms Voight to look into this if possible.

Kerrie Young then presented information on housing need and Kainga Ora's housing provision in Otago. Formal measures of housing need tend to be low in Otago, but this can be because people choose not to apply for the housing register – possibly because little social housing is available. Ms Young said the Forum could assist by encouraging eligible people to become registered. Gary Kircher asked how else the Forum could help the situation. It was agreed that the Public Service Commissioner Team and Mayoral Forum Secretariat should remain in contact.

5. SHARED PRIORITIES

An agenda paper outlined ongoing and upcoming council collaborations in Otago. The paper noted that some of this activity has been underway since 2019. The summary was intended to give new and existing members a broad picture of the work that has taken place. A key question for the Forum is when an activity should be formally tabled with Otago's councils for information or decision-making.

Mayor Gary Kircher asked members whether there were issues on which they would like to be more engaged. Mayor Glyn Lewers said that resource management reform will be a significant challenge and said councils will need to work closely together to implement what has been proposed. Mike Theelen noted that the Otago Chief Executives Forum had commissioned a terms of reference for a joint approach to some aspects of the reforms. The next Mayoral Forum meeting will include an update on progress.

Mr Theelen drew attention to the previous Forum's work on solid waste and recycling, noting that working together on waste requires long-term, strategic planning. Members discussed the region's landfills and their capacity, including the new Dunedin landfill still in the development stage. Ms Brook advised that a group of cross-council waste staff continues to explore regional opportunities to address waste, with further details likely to be discussed at a future Forum meeting.

Resolution

That the Otago Mayoral Forum:

- a. **Note** the activity outlined in the agenda paper.

Moved: Mayor T Cadogan

Seconded: Mayor Lewers

CARRIED

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

Sandy Graham drew attention to a newspaper article on Three Waters reform, [Local Government Minister Kieran McNulty to meet with mayors opposing Three Waters reform](#). There was general discussion, including how to ensure Otago is represented in the meeting referred to in the article, as well as any similar meetings. Mayor Kircher agreed to contact the Department of Internal Affairs to determine a way forward.

Mayor Jules Radich raised the Lake Onslow pumped hydro scheme and noted that the project was being progressed to a detailed business case. Ms Brook advised that the MBIE team responsible for the project were willing to come to the next meeting of the Forum if desired and it was felt that this would be worthwhile.

Gary Kircher gauged the interest of the group in a possible Otago Community board hui with a focus on professional development. It was agreed that the Forum members go away and think about this first.

It was noted that the venue for the meeting today had poor sound quality and it was requested that it not be used again.

Tim Cadogan advised that there will shortly be consent sought for a gold mine of significant size in Tarras, from an Australian gold mining company.

The meeting closed at 12.32pm



Chair Gary Kircher

9 June 2023

Date