



NOTICE OF MEETING

**Notice is hereby given of the Meeting of the
Invercargill City Council
to be held in the Council Chamber,
First Floor, Civic Administration Building,
101 Esk Street, Invercargill on
Tuesday 4 August 2015 at 4.00 pm**

His Worship the Mayor Mr T R Shadbolt JP
Cr D J Ludlow (Deputy Mayor)
Cr R L Abbott
Cr R R Amundsen
Cr K F Arnold
Cr N D Boniface
Cr A G Dennis
Cr I L Esler
Cr P W Kett
Cr G D Lewis
Cr I R Pottinger
Cr G J Sycamore
Cr L S Thomas

EIRWEN HARRIS
MANAGER, SECRETARIAL SERVICES

A G E N D A

	Page
1. APOLOGIES	
2. PUBLIC FORUM	
3. THE FRIENDLY BRAND	7
4. REPORT OF THE INVERCARGILL YOUTH COUNCIL	
4.1 LEADERSHIP WEEK	9
5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 16 JUNE 2015	11
6. MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 30 JUNE 2015	23
7. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BLUFF COMMUNITY BOARD HELD ON 6 JUNE 2015	25
8. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES	
8.1 COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE 13 JULY 2015	31
8.2 REGULATORY SERVICES COMMITTEE 14 JULY 2015	35
8.3 INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES COMMITTEE 27 JULY 2015	41
8.4 FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE 28 JULY 2015	47
9. REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE	
9.1 VENTURE SOUTHLAND UFB2, RB12 AND MOBILE BLACKSPOT FUND BID	51
Appendix 1	57
Appendix 2	69

10.	REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES	
10.1	REPRESENTATION REVIEW	71
	Appendix 1	85
	Appendix 2	101
	Appendix 3	103
	Appendix 4 – Circulated separately	
11.	MAYOR’S REPORT	
	To be tabled.	
12.	COUNCILLOR KAREN ARNOLD – COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE FOR NORMAN JONES FOUNDATION	105
13.	URGENT BUSINESS	
14.	PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION	
	Moved, seconded that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting; namely	
	(a) <i>Confirming of Minutes of the Public Excluded Session of Council 16 June 2015</i>	
	(b) <i>Confirming of Minutes of the Public Excluded Session of the Infrastructure and Services Committee 27 July 2015</i>	
	(c) <i>Confirming of Minutes of the Public Excluded Session of the Finance and Policy Committee 28 July 2015</i>	
	(d) <i>Report of the Director of Works and Services</i>	
	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)(d) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:	

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
(a) Confirming of Minutes – Council 16 June 2015	To enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	Section 7(2)(i)
(b) Confirming of Minutes – Infrastructure and Services Committee 27 July 2015	To enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	Section 7(2)(i)
(c) Confirming of Minutes – Finance and Policy Committee 28 July 2015	To enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	Section 7(2)(i)
(d) Contract 738 – Rockdale Road Rehabilitation and Intersection Improvement	To enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	Section 7(2)(i)

TO: COUNCIL
FROM: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
MEETING DATE: TUESDAY 4 AUGUST 2015

THE FRIENDLY BRAND

Report Prepared by: Mary Napper, Community Development Manager

SUMMARY

The “friendly” brand continues to be adopted by businesses and programme providers in the city.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the report be received.

IMPLICATIONS

1.	<i>Has this been provided for in the Long Term Plan/Annual Plan?</i> N/A
2.	<i>Is a budget amendment required?</i> N/A
3.	<i>Is this matter significant in terms of Council’s Policy on Significance?</i> N/A
4.	<i>Implications in terms of other Council Strategic Documents or Council Policy?</i> N/A
5.	<i>Have the views of affected or interested persons been obtained and is any further public consultation required?</i> N/A

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

FRIENDLY BRAND

In 2012 the Invercargill City Council agreed to adopt the friendly Brand. Deputy Mayor, Darren Ludlow is leading the roll out of the brand across the city.

The brand acknowledges that families are the centre of all communities, the building blocks of our city. Families need an environment where they can learn and develop the skills to become strong, motivated members of the city. The Invercargill City Council has listened to what the community has said about the needs of children, youth and their families and is proud to be taking a leadership role in the Southland Region by developing the Child, Youth and Family Friendly Policy and the associated brand.

A further business has completed the requirements to be branded as “friendly”. Carol Swale and Andy Ding representing the Don Street Toy Library will be present at the meeting to receive Council’s congratulations and their certificate.

TO: COUNCIL
FROM: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MEETING DATE: TUESDAY 4 AUGUST 2015

INVERCARGILL YOUTH COUNCIL

Report Prepared by: Mary Napper, Community Development Manager

SUMMARY

Members of the Invercargill Youth Council have organised a Youth Leadership Forum in Invercargill.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the report be received.

IMPLICATIONS

1.	<i>Has this been provided for in the Long Term Plan/Annual Plan?</i> N/A
2.	<i>Is a budget amendment required?</i> N/A
3.	<i>Is this matter significant in terms of Council's Policy on Significance?</i> N/A
4.	<i>Implications in terms of other Council Strategic Documents or Council Policy?</i> N/A
5.	<i>Have the views of affected or interested persons been obtained and is any further public consultation required?</i> N/A

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

LEADERSHIP WEEK

On 1 July the Invercargill Youth Council hosted a youth forum at the Invercargill Working Men's Club. The forum was attended by 58 young people nominated by Invercargill secondary schools and training providers and the Gore and Southland District Youth Councils. The Forum included three guest speakers on leadership and how they had become leaders. Members of the Youth Council also facilitated some leadership activities.

Amy Strang, Jennifer Paterson and Gabby McLeay will present on the leadership forum at the Council meeting.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE INVERCARGILL CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, FIRST FLOOR, CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 101 ESK STREET, INVERCARGILL, ON TUESDAY 16 JUNE 2015 AT 4.00 PM

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor Mr T R Shadbolt
Cr D J Ludlow – Deputy Mayor
Cr R L Abbott
Cr R R Amundsen
Cr K F Arnold
Cr N D Boniface
Cr A G Dennis
Cr I L Esler
Cr P W Kett
Cr G D Lewis
Cr I R Pottinger
Cr G J Sycamore
Cr L S Thomas

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr R W King – Chief Executive
Mr C A McIntosh – Director of Works and Services
Mrs P M Gare – Director of Environmental and Planning Services
Mr D J Johnston – Director of Finance and Corporate Services
Mr D Booth – Financial Services Manager
Mr P Horner – Assets and Museum Manager
Mrs M Short – Manager Strategy and Policy
Mrs K Graber – Policy and Planning Analyst
Ms M Napper – Community Development Manager
Mr P Casson – Chief Executive Officer - Venture Southland
Ms L Kuresa – Committee Secretary

1. **APOLOGIES**

Nil.

2. **REPORT OF THE INVERCARGILL YOUTH COUNCIL**

The report had been circulated.

2.1 **The UN Youth Aotearoa Leadership Forum**

Representatives from the Youth Council took the meeting through a PowerPoint Presentation on this Item.

Moved Cr Thomas, seconded Cr Esler and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

3.1 Department of Conservation

Deidre Vercoe from the Department of Conservation was in attendance to speak to this Item.

Ms Vercoe took the meeting through a presentation on the Kakapo Recovery Programme. She invited Andrew Digby, Scientist for the Kakapo Recovery Programme, Daryl Eason, Technical Advisor Officer for the Kakapo Recovery Programme and Jo Ledington, Senior Ranger for the Kakapo Team, to answer questions for further clarification.

In response to questions, the following answers were given:

1. One of the main reasons we want the facilities separate to the aviaries within Queens Park is so there's no transfer of disease from other birds. The only way to overcome the spread of disease is that the Kakapo will not be in direct contact with people so they will be viewed from behind enclosed areas such as glass. They will be well protected against the spread of diseases.
2. We also have some fancy feeding equipment. An ambassador you may know called Sirocco travels the country and one way we manage any diseases is he walks into a small lunch box through a cat door, so all of his feeding is contained and he's not having any cross contamination from any birds that may happen to fly over. We have methods of preventing disease from wild flying birds as well and there are disease screening protocols that we follow. We work closely with the vets at Auckland Zoo and they provide us with disease screening protocols before any birds are returned to the Island.
3. At the moment the programme is fully funded by the Department. We don't have a need from a species recovery point of view to make it a public display but we see real potential there for the city. We can only do this in a warehouse type situation so that it's fit for purpose and we are very successful at it. For people to really engage is outstanding. We do not have the funds to go to that next level and it's not essential for us in terms of recovering the species.
4. We feel that it's such a shame to keep it all hidden behind closed doors and the people that we do sneak in occasionally for a look, leave the facilities feeling very happy. This is something that Invercargill could stand up and be proud about if the chicks and young birds were on public display.
5. That's where linking it with the Museum exhibit is the key. The Museum exhibit that is present all year round, whether or not chicks are there. You get a great feeling of life to it, if it's done appropriately and I know there are skills there to really make it hum. The Kiwi Encounter in Rotorua for example, much of the year there is nothing there but you walk in, they have tours through the site and you get a sense of life, a sense of work taking place whether or not the chicks are present. I think we have the ability to create that here with the powerful story behind Kakapo. The history and the work that we are doing, we have some amazing technology in the programme that is very interactive. There's a huge ability to tell the story and for us to view the chicks present is a bonus to that story that will draw huge attention periodically every two or three years.
6. The chicks will be available from early April through to early July. If we carry on and do the full outdoor enclosure as well, attached to the internal display area, it could be extended until early August before the birds need to be released on islands.

7. We could have Sirocco in Invercargill once a year, for a period of up to a month to six weeks.
8. At the moment we have one proven ambassador bird and that's Sirocco and he has a busy schedule. He's on display about two months every year. We do have a second bird, Ruapuki, and anybody who was lucky enough to be at Waitangi Day celebration at the Bluff Marae may have met Ruapuki. That was his first public outing since he's been released out into the wild. We have high hopes that we may have a second bird to back up Sirocco's good work.
9. The Smelter hasn't officially pulled out its funding for this programme. We are still hopeful that they may put in part, or all of the sponsorship agreement. We are waiting on more information from them and we are in discussions with other potential partners if the Smelter takes away its sponsorship. I imagine it's around their own financial viability.

In response to a question by Cr Amundsen, as to whether the costs of the static exhibition was included in the \$1.9 million, Mr King said those costs could be accommodated in the \$1.9 million if it was done as a design build concept. The Heads of Agreement with the Department of Conservation was that Department of Conservation staff would manage the facility and run it as they saw fit and Council would provide the infrastructure.

In response to a question by His Worship the Mayor, as to whether Council was now awaiting costings to be done on the infrastructure, Mr King said Council would need to consult on the whole concept alternative before the work started.

His Worship the Mayor thanked Ms Vercoe and her team for taking the time to present to Council.

4. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 5 MAY 2015**

Moved Cr Ludlow, seconded Cr Abbott that the minutes be approved.

Cr Thomas said Mr Johnston had an update on this matter.

Mr Johnston said the \$20,000 for Breathing Space Trust was still in the budget but the funds had not been transferred yet.

Cr Arnold asked for an update on the report that Mr King was to bring back to Council in relation to the resolution in Item 8.1.

Mr King said this interacted with the decision of the Finance and Policy Committee. At the previous meeting there was a recommendation to Council and he had not proceeded any further until that Council determined that issue. He said it would involve another legal opinion. The timeline was available, which would be distributed under Public Excluded Session.

Cr Lewis said with regard to Item 11.1, he was pleased to say that the work at South City had progressed further after the matter was raised at the previous Council meeting, thanks to Mr Pearson.

The motion, now being put, was **RESOLVED** in the **affirmative**.

5. **MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL TO HEAR SUBMISSIONS ON THE LONG TERM PLAN HELD ON THURSDAY 28 MAY 2015**

Moved Cr Boniface, seconded Cr Ludlow and **RESOLVED** that the minutes be approved.

6. **MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 28 MAY 2015**

Moved Cr Thomas, seconded Cr Boniface that the minutes be approved.

Cr Arnold said she was not present at the meeting, but she noticed that there was a note saying that Cr Abbott voted against the recommendation and he was not on that Committee.

Mr King said where a Committee meeting had a hearing, any Councillor who attended and listened to submissions were entitled to vote on the matter under the Governance Statements. The Committee had delegated authority to determine that hearing and all Councillors were invited to attend with voting rights.

The motion, now being put was **RESOLVED** in the **affirmative**.

7. **MINUTES OF THE RECONVENED EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL TO HEAR SUBMISSIONS ON THE LONG TERM PLAN HELD ON FRIDAY 29 MAY 2015**

Moved Cr Thomas, seconded Cr Pottinger that the minutes be approved.

Cr Pottinger said there was a correction under "Apologies", where it said he was an apology for lateness but he did not attend the meeting at all. His name should also be taken off the "Present" list.

The motion, now being put was **RESOLVED** in the **affirmative** with amendment.

8. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10 JUNE 2015**

The minutes were tabled.

Moved Cr Ludlow, seconded Cr Abbott and **RESOLVED** that the minutes be approved.

9. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BLUFF COMMUNITY BOARD HELD ON 10 JUNE 2015**

Moved Cr Esler, seconded Cr Boniface and **RESOLVED** that the minutes be received.

10. **MINUTES OF COMMITTEES**

10.1 **Community Services Committee 2 June 2015**

Moved Cr Abbott, seconded Cr Kett and **RESOLVED** that the minutes be approved.

10.2 **Regulatory Services Committee 3 June 2015**

Moved Cr Ludlow, seconded Cr Amundsen and **RESOLVED** that the minutes be approved.

10.3 **Infrastructure and Services Committee 8 June 2015**

Moved Cr Thomas, seconded Cr Abbott that the minutes be approved.

Cr Arnold said with regard to Item 5.1.4, there was a submission about parking meters being installed in Forth Street to assist people wanting to get easy access to Age Concern. At the time the Committee was presented with a report that Age Concern had asked for this but she felt the Committee did not have a good discussion about some of the alternatives. She said she was happy to go with the resolution that was passed by the Committee but if anybody around the table felt it was something that Council should revisit, she would be happy to do that as well. She said Council was taking ten free parking spaces out of the central city that workers used now and replacing them with parking meters and thought that maybe it could be less than ten.

Cr Thomas said Mr Pearson had given some options but he felt that it was a request from Age Concern for their elderly people who could not park right at the front of Age Concern to carry out their volunteer work. Mr Pearson had explained it well and Cr Kett would back that up as Vice President of Age Concern. Council was looking at the issue at the front of Age Concern building and they are ten parks that would involve. He said there was ample free parking along Forth Street and this was a good solution for the elderly people at Age Concern.

Cr Kett said Mr Pearson had mentioned putting parking meters in Forth Street in February, well before the submission by Age Concern. He had no idea this request was coming to Council and he was pleased with this request because it backed up what he had reported earlier.

The motion, now being put was **RESOLVED** in the **affirmative**.

10.4 **Finance and Policy Committee 9 June 2015**

Moved Cr Boniface, seconded Cr Sycamore that the minutes be approved with the amendment that the \$30,000 set out in the minutes should be \$3,000.

Cr Pottinger asked about the \$30,000 amount with regard to Item 5.1.1, and Cr Boniface said the amount need to be amended as \$3,000.

In response to a question by Cr Pottinger, to a breakdown of the \$38,000 outlined in the report, Cr Boniface said it was the balance of the legal costs relating to the legal opinion on the uncalled capital.

Mr Johnston said around \$42,000 was spend on legal fees of which around \$3,000 was spent on a legal opinion on the Outdoor Stadium and the balance was for a legal opinion on uncalled capital. The Outdoor Stadium may have been miscoded at the time to the wrong area, which would need to be tidied up.

Cr Pottinger said obviously the legal advice was in relation to the Simpson Grierson advice and he wanted to move that it be brought into the public domain for discussion. If not then Council should adjourn this discussion to be continued in Public Excluded Session because it was a confidential document.

Cr Boniface said this was not about legal advice. It was about protocols and correct procedures. He understood that there was a vote to get legal advice at full Council and the Councillors who raised issues at that meeting were concerned about the budget item and the amount of money spent on getting legal advice but also the fact that only Council could authorise that. He said if Councillors were not happy with that legal advice then it needed to come back to Council to vote for continuation of further legal advice. It had nothing to do with the legal advice itself, this was a budget item and expenditure protocols. Cr Boniface said that was what the debate was about and nothing else. The legal advice Council had received was privileged and should be in Public Excluded Session and had nothing to do with this Item.

Cr Pottinger said the way he saw it was that Council approved to get a legal opinion on 5 May and as a result of that legal opinion, questions were raised in the report. He and Cr Arnold raised their concerns with Mr King and Mr Cambridge. They did not ask for another legal opinion and there was a copy of a letter that was under Public Excluded Session in relation to this matter. He said Mr King had said previously that current work that had been undertaken had been stopped by Cr Ludlow who moved that recommendation and seconded Cr Thomas who abstained from voting that put the request in motion. He asked how Councillors who abstained from voting to get this report done, suddenly passed a resolution that stopped the work from progressing.

Cr Boniface said the Council had a Policy that said that the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors could not ask for individual legal opinion on matters, only Council could ask for a legal opinion. Council had done that and that legal opinion should be tabled and if Councillors were not happy with any aspect of it, the Council would then decide to get further legal advice. It could not be at the whim of one or two Councillors. He said that was Council Policy and the resolution was endorsing existing Council Policy.

Cr Pottinger said the recommendation opened up discussions on the advice and that was why he wanted to continue it under Public Excluded Session.

Cr Abbott asked if the legal advice had been tabled and His Worship the Mayor said it had not been tabled. He said notice had been given by Cr Pottinger that he wished to table the legal advice, which would be tabled under Public Excluded Session.

Cr Sycamore said regardless of the legal opinion that Cr Pottinger was referring to, it was totally irrelevant to this issue. Cr Boniface had clearly said that this was a policy matter about procedure. The correct procedure was that Council received the legal opinion, it should be tabled for all Councillors to debate and if the majority of the Council said it needed another opinion, then that decision was made. He said it could not be done in any other way in a properly run organisation.

Cr Arnold said she understood what the Council Policy was and she supported it but she was curious as to why Mr King indicated that the report he was to bring back to Council was on hold because of this matter. This matter only related to the legal opinion and this Council resolved to have a report presented by Mr King of which the legal opinion may have factored into but the request was for a timeline of events. She said she was curious that in the past week she had always thought that Simpson Grierson was acting on behalf of the City but she had found out that they were Invercargill City Holdings Limited's solicitor and had been for several months. She said when Mr Salter was here giving advice, she was not sure if that was on behalf of the City or Invercargill City Holdings Limited.

Mr King said Mr Cambridge acted for both Invercargill City Holdings Limited and Council and where he perceived a conflict, a peer review was carried out by Simpson Grierson.

Mr Johnston said Simpson Grierson acted on behalf of Invercargill City Holdings Limited but Preston Russell is the law firm of Invercargill City Holdings Limited. He said Preston Russell does get peer reviewed by Simpson Grierson but Preston Russell was the engaged law firm of Invercargill City Holdings Limited.

In response to a question by Cr Arnold as to who paid for the peer review, Mr Johnston said for work that Invercargill City Holdings Limited commissioned Invercargill City Holdings Limited paid the legal fees and work carried out all the way through. This work all related to Council and it was requested by Council. Simpson Grierson was acting on behalf of Council and not Invercargill City Holdings Limited, so the bill was sent to Council.

Cr Boniface said it seemed that Council was discussing financials and Councillors were getting up and down all the time to speak, which meant Council was breaking Standing Orders. He said the reality was that this item was simply about a budget item and the resolution endorsing Council's existing policy. He said Council could discuss the issues raised by Cr Pottinger later in the meeting.

His Worship the Mayor said he had allowed free flow discussion because he saw them more as questions for clarification but if any Councillor raised a Point of Order, he needed to uphold it.

Cr Pottinger asked whether discussions on the Simpson Grierson report could be continued under Public Excluded Session.

Cr Sycamore raised a Point of Order and said it had nothing to do with the Simpson Grierson report. It was simply a matter of Council Policy. The meeting was getting off the item at hand, which was to adopt the minutes.

His Worship the Mayor asked where Cr Pottinger's report was that he wanted to present to Council and Cr Pottinger said the report he was tabling under Public Excluded Session was relevant to saying that, "two Councillors have requested further legal opinion". He and Cr Arnold did not request a legal opinion. They provided information to Mr King and Mr Cambridge.

His Worship the Mayor advised that Cr Pottinger could raise his report under Urgent Business for discussion under Public Excluded Session.

The motion, now being put was **RESOLVED** in the **affirmative** with the amendment as discussed.

11. **REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

The report had been circulated.

11.1 **Venture Southland Projects and Activities Report April/May**

Mr Casson took the meeting through the report.

Moved Cr Arnold, seconded Cr Abbott and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

12. **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND PLANNING SERVICES**

12.1 **Gambling Policy Review**

The report had been circulated and Mr Ludlow took the meeting through it.

Moved Cr Ludlow, seconded Cr Arnold and **RESOLVED** that the draft Gambling Policies be adopted for public consultation beginning 18 June 2015.

12.2 **Dog Control Policy and Bylaw**

Moved Cr Ludlow, seconded Cr Amundsen and **RESOLVED** that the Dog Control Policy and Bylaw 2015/1 be adopted by Council.

13. **REPORT OF COUNCILLOR IAN POTTINGER**

The report had been circulated.

13.1 **Invercargill City Holdings Limited – Statement of Intent**

Note: Councillors Thomas, Sycamore and Dennis declared a conflict of interest and refrained from commenting or voting.

Cr Pottinger took the meeting through the report.

His Worship the Mayor said he preferred free flow discussion on all issues but a Point of Order had already been raised and Council did not work like that. He said in this case and looking at Cr Pottinger's resolution, it was covered by Section 3.9.15 of Standing Orders, under "Revocation or Alteration of Resolutions", and if he wished to alter or revoke a resolution he would need to have it signed by not less than one third of fellow Councillors of a local authority. He said Cr Pottinger would need to go through that process at the next Council meeting.

Mr King said with this resolution it was altering a resolution that Council passed on Uncalled Capital. By putting the restrictions on how the Company could operate, Cr Pottinger was altering a previous Council resolution and as pointed out by His Worship the Mayor, under Section 3.9.15 of Standing Orders, Cr Pottinger would need to go through the procedure of getting five signatures to alter the previous resolution.

The second thing was that under the Company's Constitution it had a discretionary power to invest up to 10% of the asset value of Invercargill City Holdings Limited Group and Cr Pottinger would also be altering that Constitution. In order for Invercargill City Holdings Limited to invest in anything, its security was currently Uncalled Capital.

In response to a question by Cr Arnold, given that the original resolution was passed on 2 December by eight Councillors, because five Councillors declared a conflict of interest and did not take part in discussions, would it only be the Members who voted on that resolution who would need to be canvassed by Cr Pottinger. Mr King said the legal advice that he had received today was that Invercargill City Holdings Directors needed to declare a conflict of interest and Electricity Invercargill Directors could take part in discussions.

Cr Boniface said he agreed with His Worship the Mayor's opinion but having said that, Council had a debate on a letter that was received from Invercargill City Holdings Limited asking for advice on dividend flow for the future. Council instructed him to write a letter, which he did on behalf of Council, which said that Council wished to improve the communication with its Holding Company. Like Cr Amundsen said Council wants to improve its communication with the Holding Company and the best way to do that was with the Statement of Intent. The Statement of Intent would be brought to Council at the end of this month so Cr Pottinger would have the opportunity regardless of whether he wanted to get five Councillors to sign a change of Council of resolution. There would be discussions and a dialogue with Invercargill City Holdings Limited and trying to improve the trust and communications between both parties, Council and Invercargill City Holdings Limited was one in the same.

Cr Pottinger said considering that his resolution was not progressing, with regard to Section 5 of Schedule 8(1), it said, "Despite any other provision of the Act or of the constitution of any council-controlled organisation", that did not override anything that the alteration of the Statement of Intent could do. He said whatever was in Invercargill City Holdings Limited's Constitution, he believed it was irrelevant to what Council may want to do, otherwise the Council Controlled Organisation could make a Constitution that stopped any questioning. This was the Local Government Act, it was statutory law and that was what he had based his request on. The fact that Council passed a resolution on 2 December 2014, did not include the fact that Council had put tags on it that Mr King had said were restrictions. He would have expected Council to receive advice that the resolutions were rock solid and did not mean anything as far as restricting Invercargill City Holdings Limited in any way. He said reading Option 2, any member of the public or any lay person would say that Invercargill City Holdings Limited had a buffer and that was all it could be used for but that was not true. He asked if Council should receive advice saying that back on 2 December 2015 the resolution was passed but for it to work, Council needed to alter Invercargill City Holdings Limited's Statement of Intent. This needed to be done now because if you tried to do it later somebody was giving you a rule book saying that you needed to go and canvass people because you were undoing a resolution. He said he had carried out the work on his own time to try and sort things out but should Council not receive advice that the resolutions were not binding. He was bewildered at the fact that he had put forward a straight forward request and it could not be actioned because it was not done on 2 December 2014. He said he would follow the actions that he had been told to take and get a document signed by five Councillors.

14. **REPORT OF HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR**

The report was tabled and His Worship the Mayor took the meeting through it.

Moved His Worship the Mayor, seconded Cr Esler and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

15. **URGENT BUSINESS**

Moved Cr Pottinger, seconded Cr Arnold and **RESOLVED** that the tabled report by Councillor Ian Pottinger be taken under Public Excluded Session.

16. **COUNCIL IN PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION**

Moved His Worship the Mayor, seconded Cr Arnold and **RESOLVED** that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

- (a) *Confirming of Minutes of the Public Excluded Session of Council 5 May 2015*
- (b) *Receiving of Minutes of the Public Excluded Session of the Infrastructure and Services Committee 8 June 2015*
- (c) *Confirming of Minutes of the Public Excluded Session of the Finance and Policy Committee 9 June 2015*
- (d) *Report by Councillor Ian Pottinger*

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)(d) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
(a) Confirming of Minutes – Council 5 May 2015	Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	Section 7(2)(i)
(b) Confirming of Minutes – Infrastructure and Services Committee 8 June 2015	Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	Section 7(2)(i)

- | | | |
|---|---|------------------------|
| (c) Confirming of Minutes – Finance and Policy Committee
9 June 2015 | Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations) | Section 7(2)(i) |
| (d) Uncalled Share Capital | Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations) | Section 7(2)(i) |

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE INVERCARGILL CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, FIRST FLOOR, CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 101 ESK STREET, INVERCARGILL ON TUESDAY 30 JUNE 2015 AT 4.00 PM

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor Mr T R Shadbolt
Cr D J Ludlow (Deputy Mayor)
Cr R L Abbott
Cr R R Amundsen
Cr K F Arnold
Cr A G Dennis
Cr I L Esler
Cr P W Kett
Cr G D Lewis
Cr I R Pottinger
Cr G J Sycamore
Cr L S Thomas

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr R W King – Chief Executive
Mr C A McIntosh – Director of Works and Services
Mrs P M Gare – Director of Environmental and Planning Services
Mr D J Johnston – Director of Finance and Corporate Services
Mr D Booth – Manager Financial Services
Mrs M Short – Manager Strategy and Policy
Ms L Kuresa – Committee Secretary

1. **APOLOGIES**

Cr B D Boniface.

Moved Cr Ludlow, seconded Cr Abbott and **RESOLVED** that the apology be accepted.

2. **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF WORKS AND SERVICES**

The report had been circulated

2.1 **Draft Rural Fire – Statement of Intent**

Moved His Worship the Mayor, seconded Cr Ludlow and **RESOLVED** that Council endorse the Southern Rural Fire Statement of Intent for the three year period 2015 – 2018.

3. **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES**

The report had been circulated and a copy of the changes to the Long Term Plan was tabled.

3.1 **Adoption of Long Term Plan**

Moved His Worship the Mayor, seconded Cr Ludlow that the Long Term Plan 2015 - 2025 be adopted;

AND THAT

The Revenue and Financing Policy contained within the Long Term Plan be adopted.

Cr Ludlow thanked Mrs Short, Mr Booth, Mrs Montgomery, Mrs Chapman, Miss Powell and all staff involved in getting this document completed. There had been a shift in responsibility and accountability and how it needed to tie in with Asset Management Plans this year and there were requirements around the documentation, and the staff had done a great job. Engagement with ratepayers had been different this time around, where Council went to the public which was a success, with public comments being constructive and helpful. The timeline was not a success and Council was now aware on where it needed to sharpen up in going forward. There was a need to work together and not put pressures on each other and he wanted to acknowledge staff involved and their families for their support.

Note: Cr Arnold and Cr Lewis abstained from voting.

The motion, now being put, was **RESOLVED** in the **affirmative**.

3.2 **2015/2016 Rates Resolution**

The report had been circulated and the Auditors report was tabled. Mrs Short took the meeting through it.

Moved His Worship the Mayor, seconded Cr Ludlow and **RESOLVED** that Council adopts the 2015/2016 Rates Resolution.

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 4.12 pm.

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BLUFF COMMUNITY BOARD HELD IN THE BLUFF
MUNICIPAL CHAMBERS, GORE STREET, BLUFF ON MONDAY 6 JULY 2015
AT 7.00 PM**

PRESENT: Mr R Fife (Chair)
Mrs W Glassey
Mrs G Henderson
Mr G A Laidlaw
Mrs P Young
Cr I L Esler

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs N Allan – Service Centre Manager
Mr L Beer – Bluff Publicity/Promotions Officer
Ms L Kuresa – Committee Secretary

1. **APOLOGY**

Nil.

2. **PUBLIC FORUM**

Nil.

3. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25 MAY 2015**

Moved G Laidlaw, seconded W Glassey and **RESOLVED** that the minutes be accepted as a true and correct record.

4. **MATTERS ARISING**

4.1 **Historic Buildings**

Cr Esler said he had spoken to Mrs Gare and she had started the process in moving this matter forward. He said it would add kudos to the town with there being some historic buildings.

4.2 **Rat Infested Derelict House**

The Chairman said he had spoken to Simon Tonkin on this issue and he had advised that the owner had been given an extension to the end of July to carry out necessary repairs. Mr Tonkin seemed to think that the repairs would not be undertaken and if he had not heard back from the owners, he would start proceedings to have the building demolished. The Chairman said he had contacted Paul Young and updated him on this matter and he was happy with the outcome.

4.3 **The Bluff Oyster and Seafood Festival**

The Chairman took the meeting through a letter on behalf of the Board thanking the Bluff Oyster and Seafood Festival Committee for an excellent facility that was built for the Festival and community. The Board also thanked the Committee for a wonderful and well-run Bluff Oyster and Seafood Festival and offered the Board's support where needed, going forward.

4.4 **Bluff 2024 Rejuvenation Group**

The Chairman took the meeting through a letter on behalf of the Board thanking the Group for their work undertaken in and around Bluff.

5. **REPORT OF THE BLUFF PUBLICITY/PROMOTIONS OFFICER**

The report had been circulated and Mr Beer took the meeting through it.

5.1 **Bluff Oyster and Food Festival – 21 May 2016**

5.2 **Healthy Families Initiative**

5.3 **Miscellaneous**

Moved G Henderson, seconded Cr Esler that the report be received.

Mr Beer informed the meeting of a possible media story that he had been working on, which had been given to The Southland Times. The story was about Steven Mitchell who had moved to Bluff and then the rest of his family had followed. He said there were a lot of negative stories about people moving north and this was a good story that The Southland Times was happy to take on. It was on The Southland Times website as well as the newspaper. It was also on The Southland Times Facebook page as well as Stuff nationwide page this morning. It had collected good comments and it had been a good positive story for Bluff.

Mrs Young took the meeting through an explanation of what the Healthy Families Initiative was. She said it was another good support mechanism, which was good for Bluff.

In response to a question by R Fife as to what the next event was for Bluff, Mr Beer said this time of year was reasonably quiet and they were aiming for the Bluff Grunt to be held in November.

Mrs Glassey informed the meeting that the Bluff Santa Parade Committee had its first meeting and confirmed that the Santa Parade would be held on 13 December, which was exciting.

Mrs Henderson said Rosie Coil was organising to bring three or four bands into the Oyster Festival site for Labour Weekend to raise funds for Nepal.

The motion, now being put, was **RESOLVED** in the **affirmative**.

6. **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF WORKS AND SERVICES**

The report had been circulated and Appendix 1 of the report, (Action sheet), was tabled.

6.1 **Bluff Tour of Inspection**

The Board went through the Action Sheet together and discussed matters that needed to be followed up or had been completed.

Moved G Henderson, seconded G Laidlaw and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

Moved G Henderson, seconded W Glassey and **RESOLVED** that the report on the Bluff Water Reticulation Upgrade Project be taken under the Report of the Director of Works and Services.

6.2 **Bluff Water Reticulation Upgrade Project**

The report was tabled and Mr Fife took the meeting through it.

Moved W Glassey, seconded P Young and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

7. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The report was tabled and the Chairman took the meeting through it.

7.1 **Representation Review**

The Chairman said he was attending a Workshop discussion tomorrow at the Invercargill Library from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm on this matter. He said Board Members were welcome to attend.

The Chairman tabled a copy of the Bluff Community Board submission and took the meeting through it.

Moved P Young, seconded G Henderson and **RESOLVED** that the Board's submission to the Representation Review be endorsed.

7.2 **46 Degrees South Group – Argyll Park**

The Chairman said he had spoken to Mr Pagan with regard to transferring the Deed of Argyll Park to the 46 Degrees South Group and took the meeting through the process under the 241b Reserves Act and what the Group would need to go through.

7.3 **New Zealand Aluminium Smelter**

The Chairman said he received a sustainable development report from the Smelter and took the meeting through it. He said the Board would be watching closely on what the developments were with regard to the Smelter because it would impact Bluff in a big way. The Smelter was aware of the impact it had on Bluff and that was the reason why they were keeping the Board up to date with what was happening. He had spoken to Andrea Carson regarding the Annual Smelter visit and they were looking at early September.

7.4 **New Bluff Signage**

The Chairman said he received an email from Mrs Glassey with regard to a resident from Bluff who was concerned with the new Bluff signage.

Mrs Glassey said the resident contacted her and said that he had been approached by several truck drivers who were concerned that on several occasions, tourists were parking their cars in the middle of the lane and taking photographs of the Bluff signage. This meant that trucks travelling at 90 kilometres had to take evasive action to stop suddenly. She said because the signage had been approved by the New Zealand Land Transport Authority, they now had to do something about the dangers of people who parked in the middle of the lane to take photographs. She suggested that maybe there could be a bay that people could pull into and take photographs or have a 70 kilometre sign put there.

The Board discussed the matter and agreed that Mr Pearson and a representative from the New Zealand Transport Authority needed to attend the next Board meeting to discuss this issue as well as other roading issues.

7.5 **Invercargill City Council Long Term Plan and District Plan**

The Chairman said he spoke to the Board's submission on the Invercargill City Council Long Term Plan and said he would follow up on what the outcome was.

G Laidlaw had attended Council and spoken to the Board's submission with regard to the District Plan.

7.7 **Letter from Children's Commissioner – Child Poverty**

The Chairman tabled a letter from the Children's Commissioner with regard to child poverty and took the meeting through it.

The Board discussed this matter and agreed that child poverty was a huge issue. The Chairman said he would scan the letter and email it to all Board Members and the matter would be discussed at a future meeting to get ideas on some sort of plan or community events where the children were involved. The Board agreed there was a weakness in this area.

Moved R Fife, seconded W Glassey and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

8. **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The report had been circulated.

Moved Cr Esler, seconded G Laidlaw and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

9. **URGENT BUSINESS**

9.1 **Pot Holes on Bluff Road**

G Laidlaw said he had concerns about Bluff Road. He asked if Mr Pearson could provide the Board with the report from OPUS as there seemed to be a lot of pot holes along Bluff Road. He also said that there were cracks on the main road in Bluff that needed urgent attention. Last week it was published that \$250 million would be spent on Southland roads but there was nothing targeted for Bluff, which was disappointing.

After discussions, the Board agreed that the Board's concerns would be referred to Mr Pearson and that the matter be discussed at the next Board meeting.

9.2 **Roading Issues**

G Laidlaw said a resident got a ticket on Foyle Street for parking on the footpath. If the resident had parked on the street, the road was very narrow and there was not enough room for passing traffic, especially trucks. A Chorus van was parked on the street over a week ago and it got side swiped because there was not enough room for passing traffic.

The Board discussed the matter and agreed it was against the law to park on the footpath and if you were caught parking on the footpath, you would get ticketed. There was an issue with narrow roads in Bluff but care needed to be taken when driving on narrow roads where cars were parked along the street. It was agreed that the concern would be referred to Mr Pearson, Roothing Manager to elaborate further but the only area that some leeway was allowed was Lagan Street.

9.3 **Empty Sections Funding**

G Laidlaw said with regard to all the sections that were tidied up last year with the \$70,000 funding, he wanted to know if the money that was paid back went back into the \$70,000 Funding or did it go to Council. He said that the money should be spent on the empty sections that nobody owned.

The Board agreed to invite Mrs Gare to the next meeting to answer the Board's questions on this matter as well as the historic buildings matter.

9.4 **Omaui Track**

Cr Esler said most of the funding for the Omaui Track had been received and Phillip and Joan Fluerty had been contracted to carry out the work on the track at the end of this month. They would be staying in Bluff while they were carrying out the work, which was a few weeks work.

9.5 **Windfarm**

G Henderson informed the meeting that the official opening for the windfarm project would be held at the end of August.

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 8.18 pm.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, FIRST FLOOR, CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 101 ESK STREET, INVERCARGILL ON MONDAY 13 JULY 2015 AT 4.00 PM

PRESENT: Cr P W Kett (Deputy Chair)
Cr N D Boniface
Cr G D Lewis
Cr R Currie – Environment Southland

IN ATTENDANCE: Cr L S Thomas
Mr C A McIntosh – Director of Works and Services
Mr R Pearson – Manager Rooding
Mr P Thompson – Aquatic Services
Mr S Ridden – Manager Corporate Services
Ms M Napper – Community Development Manager
Mrs M Foster – Manager Library and Archives
Ms L Kuresa – Committee Secretary

1. **APOLOGIES**

His Worship the Mayor, Cr R R Amundsen, Cr I L Esler and Cr R L Abbott.

Moved Cr Boniface, seconded Cr Kett and **RESOLVED** that the apologies be accepted.

2. **PUBLIC FORUM**

Nil.

3. **MONITORING OF SERVICE PERFORMANCE**

The report had been circulated.

3.1 **Levels of Service**

3.1.1 ***Community Development***

3.1.2 ***Passenger Transport***

3.1.3 ***Pools***

3.1.4 ***Libraries and Archives***

3.1.5 ***Housing Care Services***

Moved Cr Lewis, seconded Cr Kett that the report be received.

In response to questions, the following answers were given:

- In terms of money with regard to Passenger Transport, we are running according to budget. Our biggest issue identified is that we are losing our adult fare paying customers and unfortunately they are the ones that support the farebox recovery the most because we get \$2.80 per adult rather than Super Gold customers where we get 91 cents for example. It's quite a dramatic change over the last year and previous years. We haven't identified any specific factors with regard to route or time, those areas remain static. In terms of farebox recovery, we have continued to increase fares by 20 cents per year so that's why we are meeting budgets. It's across all the bus smart routes and not just in one area but I will have more details at the next meeting. Our Super Gold customers have increased slightly which is positive and the school bus numbers are down a little bit but not as much as the adults.
- We need to think about how we can target the marketing of the buses in a different way and get some fresh new marketing initiatives happening. It's time to perhaps use social media or we may need to market on the back of the buses and change it around a bit.
- We now have Saniya Yusipova on board working on the Neighbourhood Support Programme and it's quite surprising that we have a very successful Neighbourhood Support Group in Fox Street a couple of week ago. We ended up with two new groups in Fox Street, one for either side of the street, so it is a busy time for Neighbourhood Support.
- The increase in power bills at this time of the year is something we look at on an individual basis. Mrs Little has been out over the last couple of months where people have condensation issues and you'll appreciate, there's a lot of heat going in and if you don't open the door to let some air in, it accumulates and builds up. As for the individual power contracts between the tenant and the supplier, I don't know how you change the invisible energy. With what's been introduced last week with regard to insulation, all our units have been insulated. We spent around \$188,000 in total for insulation, which was subsidised by the Government. Next is to look at how we might heat those units differently.

The motion, now being put, was **RESOLVED** in the **affirmative**.

4. **MONITORING OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

The report had been circulated.

4.1 **Community Development**

4.2 **Passenger Transport**

4.3 **Pools**

4.4 **Library and Archives**

4.5 **Housing Care**

4.6 **Financial Summary**

Moved Cr Lewis, seconded Cr Kett and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

5. **OTHER BUSINESS**

5.1 **Report of the Chief Executive**

5.1.1 ***Community Development Projects***

The report had been circulated and Ms Napper took the meeting through it.

Moved Cr Boniface, seconded Cr Lewis and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

6. **URGENT BUSINESS**

Nil.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.18 pm.

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE REGULATORY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD IN
THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, FIRST FLOOR, CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING,
101 ESK STREET INVERCARGILL ON TUESDAY 14 JULY 2015 AT 4.00 PM**

PRESENT: Cr D J Ludlow – Chairperson
Cr K F Arnold – Deputy Chairperson
Cr A G Dennis
Cr I R Pottinger

IN ATTENDANCE: Cr N D Boniface
Cr I L Esler
Mrs P M Gare – Director of Environmental and Planning Services
Mr T Boylan – Manager Planning
Mr J Youngson – Manager Environmental Health and Compliance
Ms L Kuresa – Committee Secretary

1. APOLOGIES

His Worship the Mayor, Cr G J Sycamore and Cr R R Amundsen.

Moved Cr Arnold, seconded Cr Pottinger and **RESOLVED** that the apologies be accepted.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

Nil.

3. MONITORING OF SERVICE PERFORMANCE

3.1 Levels of Service

3.1.1 *Animal Control*

3.1.2 *Building Consents*

3.1.3 *Compliance*

3.1.4 *Environmental Health*

3.1.5 *Resource Management*

3.1.6 *Valuation*

Moved Cr Ludlow, seconded Cr Arnold that the report be received.

In response to questions, the following answers were given:

- This is the first period that we've seen the changes coming through on Animal Control figures with regard to dogs. The dog registrations have increased by 600 and our impounded dogs have increased compared to last year's figures.

This is the first time we've also seen complaint numbers decrease compared to last year so all the things that we've put in place are starting to show positive results.

- The number of tickets being waived is an area that Mrs Gare and I are working on because these are tickets issued but the report doesn't show how many tickets have been waived. We need that information because that is the total number of tickets issued and out of that some people would have written a letter in to try and get their ticket waived. That is an area that will be a new KPI and target, but overall again, the numbers are looking good.
- We originally had an after hour Noise Control Contract service but this last financial year we changed it to a 24 hour contract service because our staff were placed in quite dangerous situations and other councils have contracted their Noise Control service out to a 24 hour service. We have also tightened up on issuing infringement notices and seizing stereos. As a result of that our aim is to try and respond 95% of the time within an hour. As you can see the numbers are starting to decrease with the new system. That was an area where it was increasing every year so the cost to ratepayers has definitely dropped and income from infringements is making the budget look better than it used to.
- Paul Horner looks after graffiti issues under Building Assets and I am aware that he has a contractor that takes care of the graffiti within 24 hours of it being reported.

The motion, now being put, was **RESOLVED** in the **affirmative**.

4. **MONITORING OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

4.1 **Directorate Overview**

4.1.1 **Administration**

4.1.2 **Animal Control**

4.1.3 **Environmental Health**

4.1.4 **Alcohol (Liquor Licensing)**

4.1.5 **Compliance (Parking)**

4.1.6 **Building**

4.1.7 **Resource Management**

4.1.8 **Valuation**

4.1.9 **District Licensing Committee**

4.1.10 **Financial Summary**

Moved Cr Ludlow, seconded Cr Arnold that the report be received.

In response to questions, the following answers were given:

- On page 16 it gives you the financial summary for the Directorate. I would like to think that we will end up around even but we have been using significant amounts of consultants for the District Plan, so we know there will be an overspend in that area. We are hoping that the other areas will even it out.
- The Alcohol Licensing is one that Mr Boylan and Mr Youngson have a staff member involved in Liquor Licensing, so there will be some transfers of income between the two. The expenditure in Building is under because we've had fewer applications but not to quite the same extent. The difficulty is that our biggest expense is wages and it takes a lot to resource staff and train them.
- We are trying to work with the Police and Public Health to redefine what each one will do to try and reduce the costs with respect to alcohol. With alcohol inspections, the staff member will also take on a promotional food control plan so that the cost of alcohol service will reduce next year. By the end of August we are bringing in a Transition Plan on food and hygiene for the new food regulations and a presentation will be done at the next meeting on that.
- Each year, the District Licensing Committee has to manually report to ARLA but I can request ARLA for a range of reports from other Councils so that we can compare this Council to other Councils and the resource that's allocated.
- When Inspector Olaf Jensen was here he wanted clarity on the different alcohol roles but he's gone to Queenstown now so that lost the momentum. We are not driven by the Police or Public Health, we drive them. For example we go out at night now but do we need to go out every night? We are going to be tightening up on what our role is, what Public Health's role is and what the Police role is. The only thing we do is go out on CPOs with them, but do we need to do that is the question that we are going to be asking. The LAP requires data to be gathered by the agencies and reported to Council and we need to get underway with how it will be presented at TA level.

The motion, now being put, was **RESOLVED** in the **affirmative**.

5. **ACTIVITY PLAN REVIEW**

N/A.

6. **DEVELOPING OF POLICIES/BYLAWS**

N/A.

7. **ACTION SHEET**

N/A.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Report of the Director of Environmental and Planning Services

8.1.1 *Proposed District Plan – Extension of Timeframes*

The report had been circulated and Mr Boylan took the meeting through it.

Moved Cr Arnold, seconded Cr Pottinger and **RESOLVED** that:

1. In accordance with Section 37 of the Resource Management Act 1991, the Council grants approval to an extension of the timeframes for giving its decision on the provisions and the matters raised by submissions on the Proposed District Plan to 30 June 2016.
2. This extension be communicated to requiring authorities, submitters and further submitters by letter.
3. This extension be communicated by a press release and information on the Council's website.

8.1.2 *Building (Earthquake-Prone Buildings) Amendment Bill*

The report had been circulated and a Joint Southern Council Feedback on the Interim Report of the Local Government and Environment Select Committee was tabled and Mrs Gare took the meeting through it.

In response to questions, the following answers were given:

- The regulations will state how the building assessments are to be undertaken. I would be surprised if we would say to somebody that we think an assessment was wrong because we will have to prove it's wrong.
- Given that you've got this length of time and the key issues for the city centre if it's a 25 year timeframe then we will be onto our next revamp for the city centre upgrade. We initially thought there could be significant changes within five to ten years and that's not the indication of what's in this report. I still think it's a good idea to have some incentives and the next item talks about the success of Dunedin, so well targeted incentives could make a difference.

Moved Cr Ludlow, seconded Cr Arnold and **RESOLVED** that the submission on the Building (Earthquake-Prone Buildings) Amendment Bills be adopted and forwarded to the Local Government and Environment Committee by 16 July 2015.

8.1.3 *Earthquake Strengthening – A Tool for Regeneration*

The report had been circulated.

In response to a question by Cr Ludlow as to what Mrs Gare's expectation was on this matter going forward, Mrs Gare said this was a report that she would like to give to the CBD Rejuvenation Committee. Once the Act for the Bill became an Act, there would be a need to start discussions around this table and the CBD Rejuvenation Committee as to whether the project should be carried out one block at a time or whether it should be one precinct at a time and where the project should start. She said her initial reaction would be to carry it out in bite size chunks because there was a limit to the number of engineers that had the capability to undertake assessments so there was a need to prioritise where the project should start.

Cr Boniface said the budgets would be done much earlier this year than previous years so if Council was to put in rates relief, which he supported, Council would need to start thinking about incentives and may be develop recommendations after the CBD Rejuvenation Committee had seen this report.

Moved Cr Ludlow, seconded Cr Arnold and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

9. **URGENT BUSINESS**

Nil.

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 4.32 pm.

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, FIRST FLOOR, CIVIC ADMINISTRATION
BUILDING, 101 ESK STREET, INVERCARGILL ON MONDAY 27 JULY 2015 AT 4.00 PM**

PRESENT: Cr L S Thomas– Chairperson
Cr I R Pottinger – Deputy Chairperson
Cr K F Arnold
Cr A G Dennis
Cr I L Esler
Cr P W Kett

IN ATTENDANCE: Cr N D Boniface
Mr R Pearson – Roading Manager
Mr R Pagan – Parks Manager
Mr P Horner – Building Assets Manager
Mr A Murray – Water Manager
Mr R Keen – Manager 3 Waters Operations
Mrs M Short – Manager Strategy and Policy
Ms L Kuresa – Committee Secretary

1. APOLOGIES

His Worship the Mayor Mr T R Shadbolt.

Moved Cr Kett, seconded Cr Dennis and **RESOLVED** that the apology be accepted.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

Nil.

3. MONITORING OF SERVICE PERFORMANCE

The report had been circulated.

3.1 Levels of Service

3.1.1 *Parks and Reserves*

3.1.2 *Public Toilets*

3.1.3 *Roading*

3.1.4 *Sewerage*

3.1.5 *Solid Waste Management*

3.1.6 *Stormwater*

3.1.7 *Water Supply Activity*

In response to questions, the following answers were given:

- With regards to traffic signs and maps on Page 6, that relates to the contractors data recording. What we noticed during the year is that the data hadn't been recorded very well. In some of the early reports you would have seen that a drop occurred (through March/April) but for the last period they had 22 of 25 responses. What we are seeing is that the contractor is doing the work but when they get to the site they haven't recorded that they are on site. We are working with them to improve this and we have systems within our contract database to capture it but it's still very reliant on the contractor recording the data. It's the same with traffic systems where the contractor gets there to carry out the work but they sometimes forget to record that they have carried out the work. We recognise it's an issue we do need to rectify.
- The response time to stormwater blockages on Page 19 is based on completing the task but the problem is when we have storm events the people are out doing it and they go to the most urgent jobs first. They are out there but during rain events they get that many requests and we just can't get to them at one time. They get round to them but they go to the highest priority ones first.
- The commentary means that the majority of our footpaths that we planned to do are completed. Earlier in the year you will see quite a few of them in the green status and then they move to red as being completed.

Moved Cr Kett, seconded Esler and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

4. **MONITORIN OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

4.1 **Drainage**

4.2 **Parks**

4.3 **Roading**

4.4 **Solid Waste**

4.5 **Water**

4.6 **Financial Summary**

In response to questions, the following answers were given:

- The external work with regard to horticulture within Parks Operation is very close to target. The external work has not been as extensive as in previous years so the expenditure is down. Overall the business unit is going to come very close to target with the figures that have come out in the last couple of days.
- Within the operations areas there are four small units within the cemeteries and Queens Park with the grounds maintenance and within those. There have been some ups and downs this year and some of it relates to works in some areas and less in others. Staff are being rotated around to make better use of where the work is.
- At the end of the financial year Engineering Services normally have a number of final accounts coming through. The last time I looked, which was a couple of months ago, it was okay but it's normally quite close budget.

- The majority of costs with regard to the crematorium and cemeteries relates to burials to keep costs to a minimum but we are still somewhere between \$7,000 and \$8,000.
- The fluctuation in the burials compared to cremations relates to when we do a budget where we estimate on trends what we think the income is going to be. We also have a full service on delivery where the majority of cremations are deliveries, sometimes they are delivery and committal, sometimes delivery, committal and full use of the chapel but the majority of them are deliveries and the needs are taken care of by funeral homes and churches. We charge extra if the chapel is used so we offer a whole range depending what the circumstances are.
- With regard to the operational expenditure on Page 38, we are finding some very large maintenance issues occurring in places like the Museum where there's four compressors in the heat pump and three of those failed during the year so that's been quite expensive to repair. The pool has been an ongoing programme of overhaul and replacement of pumps, filters and so on which has gone over our estimate for the year. A lot of those things are longer term maintenance issues so we have some reserves to smooth that funding out. This year we will be drawing out of the reserves to fund some of those larger items.
- The budget is mainly based on what we expect to see coming out of our Asset Management Plan and looking at what we've had in the past to try and get some balance of how much we are going to spend each year. There can be things that go wrong and we just have to fix them.
- The parking continues to track consistently with that previously reported. Off street carparks are slightly ahead of budget so the end of year result for parking will be close to \$100,000 (below budget), which is in line with the submission that was put into the Long Term Plan. It's also a reflection that less people are putting money in the meters.

Moved Cr Thomas, seconded Cr Esler and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

5. **OTHER BUSINESS**

5.1 **Report of the Director of Works and Services**

5.1.1 ***Procurement Approach for Branxholme Upgrade Project***

The report had been circulated and Mr Keen took the meeting through it.

In response to a question by Cr Thomas as to how many local contractors were capable of carrying out this work, Mr Keen said there was one or two and some contractors outside of Invercargill were expected to come down because it was a major project. He said there were specialised contractors throughout New Zealand that will be needed for this project.

Moved Cr Pottinger, seconded Cr Esler and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

5.1.2

Draft Invercargill City Council Walking and Cycling Strategies

The report had been circulated and Mr Pagan and Mr Pearson took the meeting through it.

In response to questions, the following answers were given:

- There is a need to define some tracks, which are solely walking tracks and those that are multi-use to make it better known that the trails through our forestry area are available for walking a dog off lead. The thorn and surface track are the ones that you won't expect a dog running off a lead. We might have to redefine the tracks so that it's easy to see with a symbol or colour code that it's a multi-use track.
- One of the things we've been working with NZTA is to develop a strategy for Invercargill and we are trying to encourage NZTA to include the state highways into that programme. On North Road there has been a number of opportunities looked at on whether we can do things that are similar to what we've done in Elles Road by providing an adjacent street to have full cycle facilities and encourage cyclists to use it. One of the issues that North Road faces is that you can have cycle facilities but you end up with one lane in each direction and it's a balance between traffic and sharing the road, so that's part of the challenge they face. We want to highlight that as an issue and then develop a strategy to deal with that issue and it may well be that providing facilities for those people travelling the north/south route is to get them off the state highway. The real issue is to ensure that the cyclist wants to use the cycle facilities.
- We will need to put a hierarchy on those, for instance if we want cyclists in Queens Drive to come off the road we have to provide them with tracks and paths that will deliver it. At the same time, if you're using the track to Oreti Beach then the gravel track is more appropriate so we have to structure tracks to bring cyclists to the places you want them. It's trying to find that balance and give cyclists access across the whole of Southland because it's an impossibility to have off-road cycle tracks everywhere and sometimes you have to balance that and link in with parks where it's appropriate and tie up some of those hard bits at the end.
- When we complete the Strategy, the idea is to include it on Council's website so that people can access it. The other thing that we do is to include QA codes on each of the signs so that if somebody comes along with a Smartphone they can hook onto it and have access to the Council website. We are working towards that and there are quite a few other Apps becoming available that might be worth looking at in future. Getting that information out there for people who are carrying a device is important.
- We have to take the implementation at a pace that we can afford to maintain the tracks in the long term. The other thing that is recommended is the linking of the three waterways across the east of Invercargill. It would be nice to do it tomorrow but I don't think it's affordable at this stage because we don't have land available in that area. I know that with the Invercargill to Bluff cycleway they estimated that it will cost \$50,000 per year to maintain it and with our suggestion in the Walking Strategy to improve the linkage through some parks, we've already got some paths there but they need to be improved slightly so that you can cycle and walk through them. If we encourage more people to use the paths it will improve the safety of the parks but we do have to pace ourselves instead of rushing ahead and not been able to maintain them in the future.

Moved Cr Dennis, seconded Cr Kett and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

5.1.3 **Anderson Park House Retrofit to 34% NBS**

The report had been circulated and Mr Pagan took the meeting through it.

In response to questions, the following answers were given:

- Council needs to discuss Anderson's Park future use because there have been so many anomalies with the Earthquake Policy and the changes around it. It's a difficult process.
- Until we lodge a consent we won't know what the costs are involved. As part of the original work on Andersons Park an architect was consulted on in relation to reproducing some of the retrofit that needs to be done once the strengthening is done. It may be an indication back from them on what the cost for the building consent and what the costs are.
- The important aspect of the report highlights two things. We know there's not a lot of difference between 67% and 34% in the actual cost but the thing we don't know is does it trigger other building code requirements. That's part of that key element and once you've got that information we can move forward and as part of the building consent process it will be a necessity to ensure that we don't have a change of use in there.
- It's a Category 1 historic based building so removing the walls would be difficult to get approval on. You would have to look at an activity that utilises the size of the rooms and structures that are there now.

Moved Cr Dennis, seconded Cr Arnold and **RESOLVED** that it be **RECOMMENDED** to Council that Council proceed with a building consent application for upgrade to meet the 67% NBS and bring back to Council the final costings for approval, subject to finance being available.

5.1.4 **Contract 738 – Rockdale Road Rehabilitation and Intersection Improvement**

The report had been circulated and Mr Pearson took the meeting through it.

Moved Cr Kett, seconded Cr Esler and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

6. **URGENT BUSINESS**

Nil.

7. **PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION**

Moved Cr Thomas, seconded Cr Kett and **RESOLVED** that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

(a) Report of the Director Works and Services

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Contract 736 – Chipsealing of Streets and Roads 2015-2016	Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	Section 7(2)(i)
Contract 737 – Asphalting of Streets 2015-2016	Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	Section 7(2)(i)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, FIRST FLOOR, CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 101 ESK STREET, INVERCARGILL, ON TUESDAY 28 JULY 2015 AT 4.00 PM

PRESENT: Cr N D Boniface – Chairman
Cr R L Abbott
Cr G D Lewis
Cr D J Ludlow
Cr L S Thomas

IN ATTENDANCE: Cr R R Amundsen
Cr I R Pottinger
Cr A G Dennis
Cr K F Arnold (from 4.13 pm)
Mr D J Johnston – Director of Finance and Corporate Services
Mr D Booth – Manager Financial Services
Mrs M Short – Manager Strategy and Policy
Ms L Kuresa - Committee Secretary

1. **APOLOGY**

His Worship the Mayor Mr T R Shadbolt and Cr G J Sycamore.

Moved Cr Ludlow, seconded Cr Thomas and **RESOLVED** that the apologies be accepted.

2. **PUBLIC FORUM**

Nil.

3. **MONITORING OF SERVICE PERFORMANCE**

3.1 **Levels of Service 1 July 2014 to 31 May 2015**

Moved Cr Abbott, seconded Cr Thomas and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

4. **MONITORING OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

4.1 **Report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Services**

4.1.1 ***Financials 31 May 2015***

Cr Boniface said he had taken the liberty of speaking to Mr Horner due to the fact that Council was the major stakeholder and funder of the Museum and it used to get a report from the Museum. He said it would be nice to get a quarterly report from Mr Horner and Cr Ludlow, Chairman of Museum.

Cr Ludlow agreed with Cr Boniface and said that a report would be brought back to this Committee to fit in with the six weekly cycle.

Cr Boniface said Council was a major funder of the Indoor Stadium and there had been no report to Council for the last three years from the Indoor Stadium Committee. Cr Dennis agreed and said he would put the request into action.

Cr Lewis said with regard to the Indoor Stadium, he was a member of one of the Committee's there but it had not been ratified because of the insurance claim, which was why he had not been invited to the meetings.

In response to a question by Cr Thomas with regard to the Operation budget for the Museum being \$117,000 over budget, Mr Horner said this was the result to the end of May and the latest report was available to the end of June, which was the full financial year. The variances was \$43,604 so it was still an overspend but not in the order of \$117,000. He said this was for the operation of the Museum and the comments about heat pumps applied to the capital operational budget for the building.

Moved Cr Boniface, seconded Cr Abbott and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

5. **ACTIVITY PLAN REVIEW**

N/A.

6. **DEVELOPMENT OF POLICIES/BYLAWS**

6.1 **Financial Policies**

The report had been circulated and Mr Johnston and Mrs Short answered questions on this matter for further clarification.

Moved Cr Boniface, seconded Cr Lewis and **RESOLVED** that it be **RECOMMENDED** to Council that the Debtors Policy, the Fraud Policy and the Protected Disclosure Policy be adopted and come into force on 5 August 2015.

7. **ACTION SHEET**

Nil.

8. **OTHER BUSINESS**

8.1 **Report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Services**

8.1.1 ***Council Controlled Organisations***

Cr Boniface said even though there was technically no conflict of interest, he would prefer it if the Trustees, Councillors Ludlow, Sycamore and Lewis were not part of this discussion.

In response to a question by Cr Pottinger as to whether the Invercargill City Charitable Trust had taken over ownership of Rugby Park, Mr Johnston said at this stage the Trust had not taken over ownership of Rugby Park. The process was still to be completed and once that was completed there would be a need to create a Statement of Intent.

Moved Cr Abbott, seconded Cr Thomas and **RESOLVED** that it be **RECOMMENDED** to Council that Invercargill Recreation and Sport Trust and the Invercargill City Charitable Trust be exempted from being a Council Controlled Organisation pursuant to Section 7(3) and 7(5) of the Local Government Act 2002.

Note: Cr Arnold joined the meeting at 4.13 pm.

8.1.2 ***Statement of Intent – Invercargill Venue and Events Management***

In response to a question by Cr Pottinger as to who was managing Rugby Park, Cr Boniface said Invercargill Venue and Events Management was managing it at present, but there was no written agreement between the owners, which was either Council or the Charitable Trust. He said staff were doing a good job of managing Rugby Park and he hoped the ownership issues would be finalised in the next few weeks. All the work was done but they were waiting for the final audited accounts up to March this year to be completed.

Note: Councillors Boniface and Abbott declared a conflict of interest and refrained from further comment and voting.

Cr Thomas Chaired this part of the meeting.

Cr Thomas said this report was with regard to the Statement of Intent and not ownership of Rugby Park.

Moved Cr Thomas, seconded Cr Ludlow and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

9. **URGENT BUSINESS**

Nil.

10. **COUNCIL IN PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION**

Moved Cr Boniface, seconded Cr Thomas and **RESOLVED** that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting with the exception of Mr McCulloch, Chairman Invercargill City Holdings Limited, namely:

- (a) *Report of the Chief Executive*
- (b) *Report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Services*

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)(d) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
(a) Venture Southland Director Fees	Protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons	Section 7(2)(a)
(b) Purchase Offer – 19 Boyne Street, Bluff	To enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	Section 7(2)(i)
Statement of Intent – Invercargill City Holdings Limited	To enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	Section 7(2)(i)
Invercargill City Holdings Limited – Director Fees	To enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	Section 7(2)(i)
Invercargill City Council Funding	To enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	Section 7(2)(i)

TO: INVERCARGILL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FROM: STEPHEN CANNY
MEETING DATE: 4 AUGUST 2015

VENTURE SOUTHLAND UFB2, RBI2 AND MOBILE BLACKSPOT FUND BID

Recommendation: That the report be received.

At its meeting on Monday, 20 July 2015, Venture Southland Joint Committee endorsed the following recommendations:

- a) That the report be received.
- b) That the Venture Southland Joint Committee endorses the need to update and review the current operative Southland Digital Strategy to reflect the feedback received as part of the preparation of the Registration of Interest for the Ultrafast Broadband 2, Rural Broadband 2 and Mobile Blackspot Fund.
- c) That the Venture Southland Joint Committee endorses the formation of a regional Steering Group to provide oversight of the project once the future process and timelines have been confirmed by MBIE.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

Venture Southland prepared and submitted on 10 July 2015 a response to the Government's Request for Proposal for the Rural Broadband (RBI) 2, Ultrafast Broadband (UFB) 2 and Mobile Blackspot Fund (MBSF). The report provides an overview of the state of internet and mobile telecommunications revealed through the consultation process and the two bids submitted.

REPORT

MBIE has asked for Registration of Interest from all Local Authorities for the second stage of Ultrafast Broadband (UFB2), the second stage of the Rural Broadband Initiative (RBI2) and the new Mobile Blackspot Fund, to be submitted 10 July 2015.

The Government has set aside the following funds for this project:

- UFB2 - \$152 million to \$210 million
- RB1 - \$100 million
- Mobile Blackspot Fund - \$50 million

The Mayors and Chief Executives of Invercargill City Council, Southland District Council and Gore District Council have all agreed that a joint Southland bid is an appropriate response and asked Venture Southland to coordinate this bid. All three Councils have agreed to support the project by facilitating public awareness, access to Infrastructure planning and Consent information.

Internet and Mobile Services in Southland

An overview of the consultation process is outlined in the Preamble to the Compliant Bid and the key findings are outlined in the Executive Summary of the Compliant Bid, both of which are appended below.

There are significant technical and operational issues which need to be addressed in Southland:

- Basic phone services are failing in some areas with serious health and safety issues where 111 cannot be reached. In some areas like the Wyndham vicinity landlines are failing due to copper degradation; at the same time there is no mobile coverage so residents are being left without any way to communicate in the event of an emergency.
- Mobile coverage across Southland's State Highway network, as measured in early May by Opus, does not reflect official network coverage reports provided by the Telecommunication companies. Many areas are without service. Business travellers and tourists are frequently left without service even in areas where coverage is available due to the lack of provision for roaming across networks.
- Take up of Ultrafast Broadband where it is available in Invercargill is low in part due to confusion over how to access services – 75% are aware of UFB; 45% would like to access fibre but don't know how. This is compounded by reports from businesses and others of long delays before connection and poor service which appears to be linked to the complex relationship between Spark, Vodafone, Chorus and their sub-contractors.
- Rural satisfaction with Internet is low – 39% of people in rural areas believe their internet is slow or unreliable. Satisfaction with RBI is even lower – only 4% of people have noticed any improvement in their service. This is not surprising when the service requirements laid out in the contract Vodafone has with Central Government are considered. The basic requirement is only 40 – 45 kbps average speed within a 15 minute period. This speed is only a little faster than dial up. User comments report experiences in line with this, with some saying that dial up was more reliable.
- There is widespread frustration due to poor information provided to customers. Many in rural areas know that schools have received fibre or that fibre has been laid down highway adjacent to their property and do not understand why they cannot access this service. The way in which cable was laid means that this is not possible. Customers in both rural and urban areas report that they cannot get response to faults or are experiencing poor service, with providers such as Spark and Vodafone giving feedback that the issue is with Chorus. Chorus does not respond to retail customer queries; indeed it is nearly impossible to find a number on which to contact them.
- It is Venture Southland's conclusion that there is a need for a strategic plan and unified advocacy to improve services in the Southland region which includes:
 - Critical appraisal of the future network architectures and network development strategy that are being proposed for the region and funded via the 'UFB2/ RBI2/ MOBILE BLACKSPOT FUND'
 - Adoption of contemporary (2015) network performance standards
 - Independent verification of network coverage and performance
 - Deployment of wireless and mobile technologies which are contemporary 'standards based' and support a future proofed technology migration and integration pathways
 - Mandated roaming across Mobile networks
 - Completion of RBI1 and UFB1 commitments to 2015 standards
 - Review and update of existing service contracts to reflect the points raised in items 1 – 5 above.

Registrations of Interest

Comprehensive Registrations of Interest (ROI) were completed on 8 July. The ROI was made up of two main parts; a 600 page Compliant Bid and a 100 page Alternative Bid which was submitted as a companion document.

Key defining features of the Compliant Bid and the Alternative Bid is as follows:

- **The Compliant Bid:** focuses on a commitment to improving services in Southland as well as development of new Fibre optic cable services, Wireless Broadband and additional Mobile services within a central government lead framework and process.
- **The Alternative Bid:** focuses on a regionally lead deployment of services focused on a strategic investment in the enduring elements of the broadband and mobile infrastructure. It promotes the continual deployment of region-wide fibre optic cable; to replace the aging copper network and investment in hilltop towers; both of which are 50year plus pieces of infrastructure. This approach will provide an enduring infrastructure platform for the future which will not require further investment for many decades.

Both bids promote seamless mobile service roaming in the rural areas of Southland as well as a priority commitment to the completion of the Rural Broadband Initiative and Urban Fibre Network deployment as part of Phase 1 deployment commitment announced in 2013. The ROI bids also promote improvement in services in the areas shown below.

Investment is proposed for the following sites (Please refer to the location map on the following page):

Urban Fibre UFB2:

1. Otatara
2. Te Anau
3. Winton

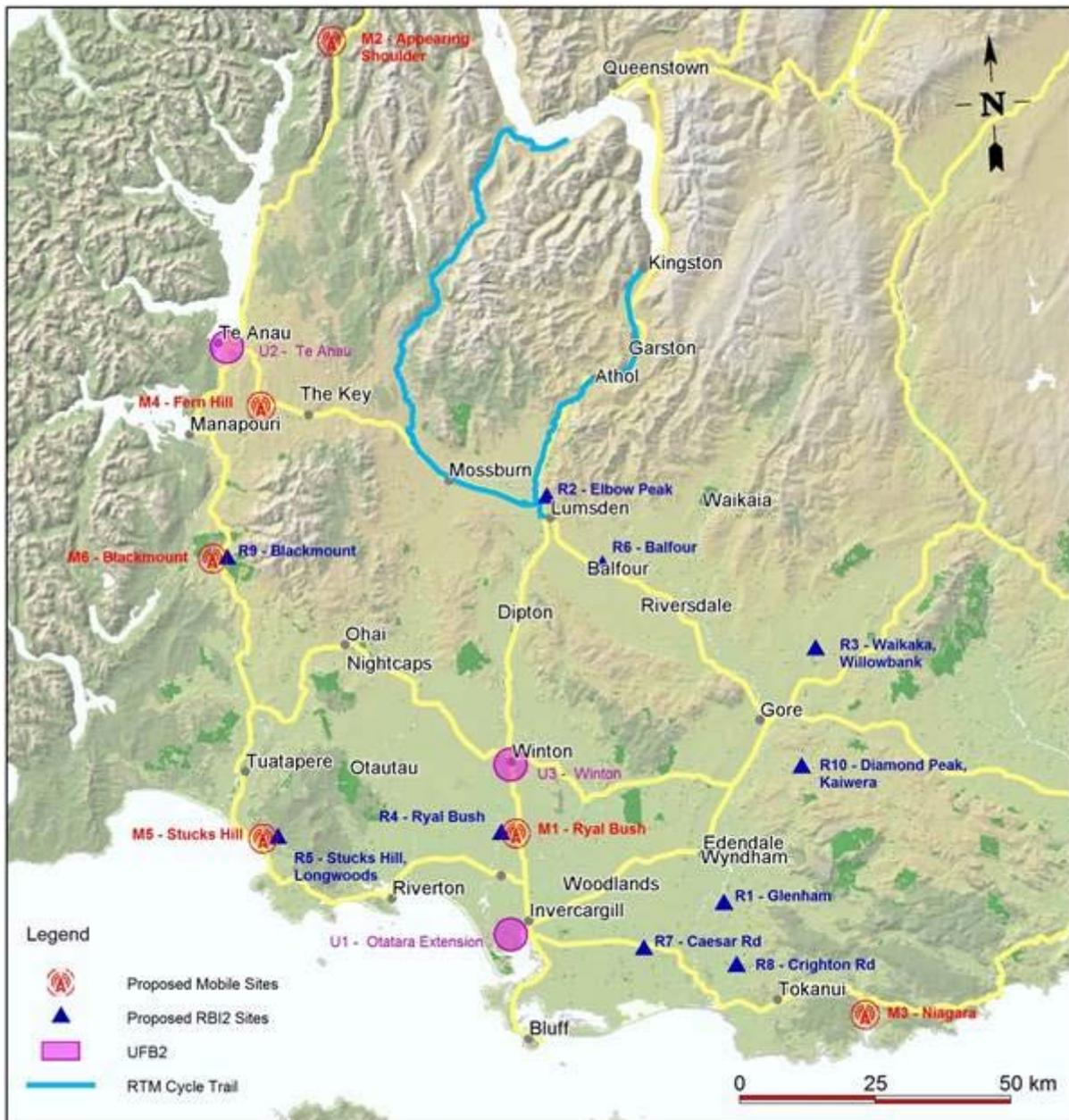
Rural Broadband RBI2:

1. Glenham (Catlins)
2. Elbow Peak (Lumsden)
3. Waikaka
4. Ryal Bush
5. Stucks Road (Longwoods)
6. Balfour

7. Caesar Road (Kapuka)
8. Crighton Road (Catlins)
9. Blackmount
10. Diamond Peak (Kaiwera)

Mobile Black Spots MBSF:

1. Ryal Bush (State Highway 6)
2. Appearing Shoulder (Milford Road, State Highway 94)
3. Niagara (Southern Scenic Route)
4. Fern Hill (State Highway 94)
5. Stucks Road (State Highway 99)
6. Blackmount (State Highway 99)



Letters of support were provided by the following:

- SDC – Gary Tong (Mayor), Steve Ruru (CEO)
- ICC – Tim Shadbolt (Mayor), Richard King (CEO)
- GDC – Tracy Hicks (Mayor), Stephen Parry (CEO)
- Sarah Dowie – Member of Parliament for Invercargill
- Todd Barclay - Member of Parliament for Clutha-Southland
- Ria Bond – NZ First List Member of Parliament based in Invercargill

Community Support Letters:

Over 90 letters of support were received from residents and businesses throughout the region.

Venture Southland staff wish to acknowledge the tremendous support and the positive collaboration that has been received from local politicians, businesses, residents, land owners and Councils towards the preparation of the Registration of Interest and it is hoped that this region-wide effort and the quality of the technical submission is recognised by the MBIE review team.

Venture Southland is currently reviewing and updating the operative Southland Digital Strategy to reflect the feedback that has been received from the ROI consultation and digital survey processes. It is expected that this review work will be completed by the 28th of August 2015.

It is suggested that Venture Southland convene a Regional Steering Group made up of Council, community and business representatives, to oversee the further development of the project once the overall process and timeframes are known. The proposed make-up of the Steering Group; if supported would be the subject of a future report to the Joint Committee.

Further updates will be provided as the bid evaluation process advances.

Appendix 1

Southland ROI – Support UFB2, RBI2, MBSF

Preamble

Southland is a geographically diverse region, encompassing 12% of New Zealand's landmass. With 2.4% of the population, Southland Industry produces 15% of New Zealand's tradable exports. The region's productive capacity rests on the land and value-added production; farmers and other rural businesses need access to fast and reliable internet and mobile services in order to continue to grow productivity and retain competitiveness within a fast changing global economy. In 2013-2014 Southland's economy grew by 11%, the highest rise in GDP within New Zealand, representing an addition of \$550 million to the local economy and cementing its position as a leading export region. Southland has the highest employment and participation rates in the country and an aging workforce. To retain our young people and attract skilled workers to Southland, connectivity to global culture and family and friends around the world is essential.

Venture Southland, in its role of promoting economic and community development for the Southland region, has prepared this Registration of Interest on behalf of Southland District Council, Invercargill City Council and Gore District Council.

Venture Southland has been involved in telecommunications work since the design of the Whole of Community Broadband initiative in 2000 which led to the rollout of 32 transmission towers across the region as part of a public-private partnership. This provided a lifeline to rural residents and business people giving them access to what was at the time leading edge technology. However as data demands have grown the existing options are no longer serving the needs of the community. In preparing the ROI we have consulted widely with the local community:

- The three Territorial Local Authorities through Mayoral forums, Shared Services, Emergency Management and Venture Southland's Joint Committee
- Consultation with local communities at proposed sites through Venture Southland's Community Team. Letters of support are included within the supporting documentation for each site
- The Southland Mobile and Internet Survey 2015 which was open to all residents of Southland. 720 businesses and residents responses were analysed and informed the bid. Many of their comments are included within the supporting documentation
- Over 80 businesses were consulted at a Digital Enablement Workshop organised by Venture Southland in partnership with NZTE.

We have also drawn on the technical knowledge which Venture Southland has developed through managing a range of other contracts and projects in the communications sector, including the initial scoping and design for the Invercargill Urban Fibre Network and the management of contracts with the European Space Agency, Planet Labs and Rocket Labs for Space Tracking Services from the Awarua Ground Station.

Venture Southland has longstanding relationships with many organisations with a role to play in ensuring that community provision of broadband is a success. We have commitment of support from Woosh to allow the use of any of their sites which are useful to the rollout of RBI2. Southland can benefit from this infrastructure which was initially installed to provide good coverage across our rural communities and can be used to site new technology. Teamtalk has also provided support for the Southland ROI. PowerNet will support use of power pole infrastructure of UFB2 should this be the preferred solution.^[1]

^[1] All commercial agreements in principle and subject to contract negotiation.

Venture Southland believes that we have presented site proposals which represent both good solutions for our communities and value for money.

Further technical expertise has been contracted from Tony van Horik of Advanced Technology Solutions Ltd who undertook a review of Southland's current broadband infrastructure. His findings reinforce the feedback we have had from residents in many rural areas who are reporting that RBI1 has had significant limitations. Only 4% of respondents to the Southland Internet and Mobile Services say they have seen any improvement in service from RBI1. The contractual obligations on Vodafone for the delivery of RBI1 only require a very basic level of service which is no longer keeping pace with technological development and the requirements of today's business environment. While this is of concern to a wide range of community members it is of particular concern to the many rural businesses which report that none of the options available to them (Xtra Dial up, Woosh or Farmside satellite) are meeting their needs. They are struggling to keep pace even with basic administration and cannot make use of the opportunities for efficiency and innovation gains presented by agricultural software designed to support herd health, effluent and shed management all of which require live data upload. Southland has over 900 dairy farms and business efficiency is ever more important as the industry manages the fluctuation in commodity prices.

Mapping of the service coverage on Southland's State Highways on both the Vodafone and Spark networks was undertaken on Venture Southland's behalf by Opus consultants. This data reveals many blackspots and poor signal areas and has informed our selection of proposed sites for inclusion under the Mobile Blackspot Fund. We propose that roaming between the mobile networks should be mandated as this would be more capital efficient and would eliminate many of the coverage challenges and needs to be implemented as a priority, alongside investment in new infrastructure. It is not efficient that so many business people have to carry phones on both major networks and that local people and tourists alike have to weigh up which network is most likely to meet their needs.

The research we have undertaken and commissioned as part of the preparation for this ROI has given a much clearer picture of the state of services across the region. As a result we have prepared this ROI but also an alternative proposal for a technological solution which we believe will deliver a more satisfactory future proofed option that builds on existing infrastructure.

Having consulted widely Venture Southland is of the opinion that RBI1 has failed to drive effective improvement in the delivery of rural broadband services which, many customers have been told, has been capped to limit the number of customers to 100. The Vodafone contract stipulates minimum performance speeds which are equivalent to those expected from a 2000 dial up service. It is therefore not surprising to see these concerns being reflected in the customer feedback.

The other issue that is being clearly articulated is that the incumbent (pre RBI) broadband network investors in Southland are of the opinion that the RBI as well as not being effective has seriously undermined both the previous private sector and Government sector funding and has been a disincentive for applying new capital to network improvements.

Whatever the outcome of the proposed RBI2, UFB2 and MBSF project, Venture Southland recommends that serious consideration be given to:

1. The critical appraisal of the proposed network architecture and network development strategy
2. The adoption of 2015 network performance standards
3. That network coverage and performance be independently verified as part of site acceptance testing
4. That the wireless and mobile technologies being deployed are contemporary standards based and support a future proofed technology integration pathway
5. That roaming across Mobile networks be mandated
6. That the existing service contracts be reviewed and updated to reflect the points raised in items 1 – 5 above.

Venture Southland's long commitment to the promotion of world standard telecommunications services for the region is reflected in the 2008 Digital Strategy which was prepared for the region. This strategy is currently being reviewed and updated and will be submitted as part of this ROI process by the September deadline. In our role as NZTE and Callaghan Innovation Regional Business Partner we have been supporting businesses with their challenges in connecting to fibre and have organised training events to help up skill businesses in the latest use of cloud, apps and other online software. This work dovetails with our successful business efficiency, productivity and skill development programmes which are highly dependent on businesses being able to take advantage of the opportunities presented by world class telecommunications technology. All three TLAs and Venture Southland are committed to continuing to raise awareness of the benefits of broadband to encourage both uptake of new service offerings and how to maximise the benefits these services offer to communities and businesses.

The following registration of interest has been developed under the terms of the MBIE call for registrations of interest and has been formulated following an extensive evaluation of the opportunity. In addition to the work contained within this ROI, Venture Southland and regional stakeholders have also evaluated the long term needs of the region and these are articulated as a separate proposal in a companion document.

Executive Summary

Investment is proposed for the following sites (Please refer to the location map on the following page):

UFB2:

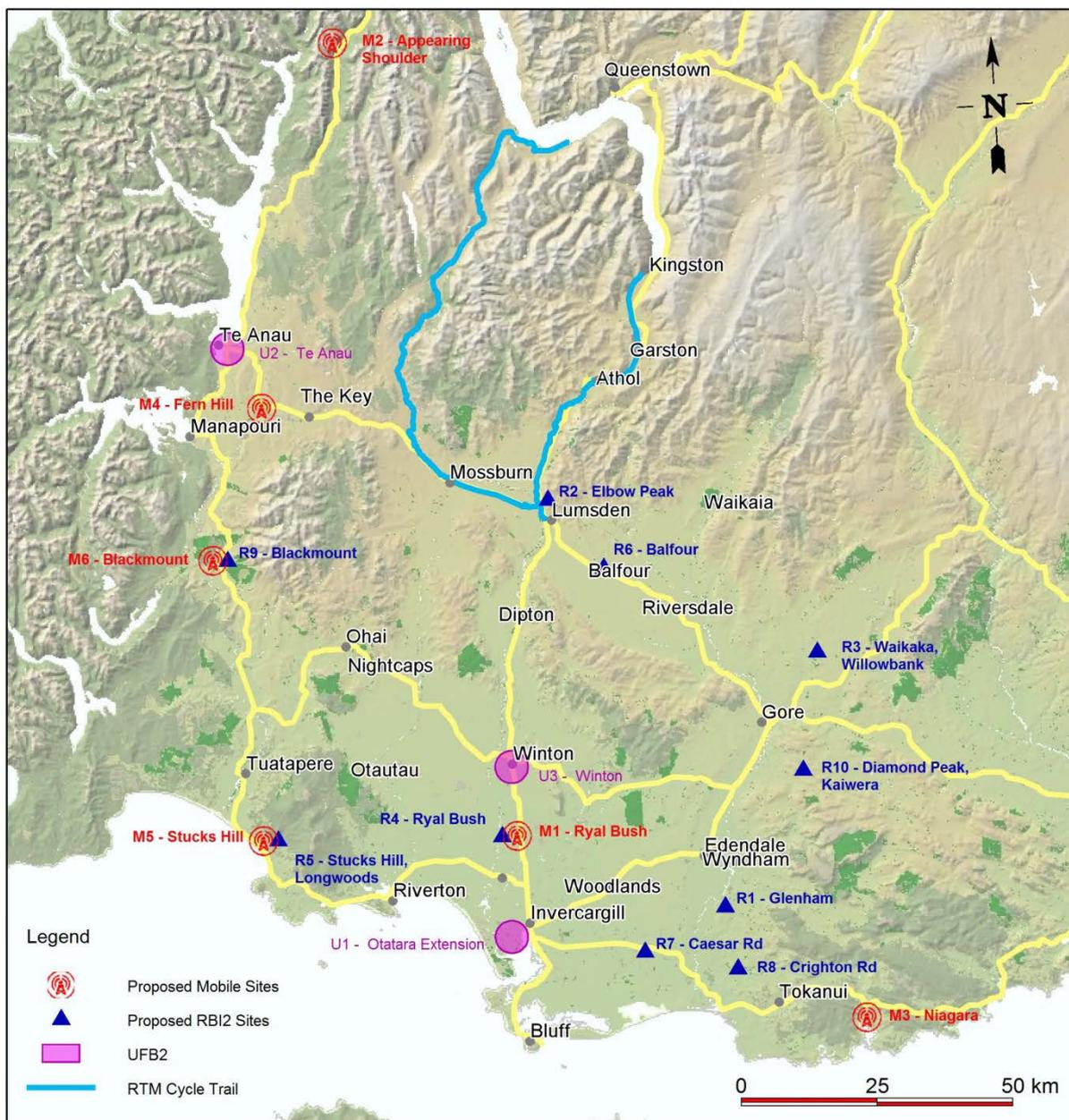
1. Otatara
2. Te Anau
3. Winton

MBSF:

1. Ryal Bush (State Highway 6)
2. Appearing Shoulder (Milford Road, State Highway 94)
3. Niagara (Southern Scenic Route)
4. Fern Hill (State Highway 94)
5. Stucks Road (State Highway 99)

RBI2:

1. Glenham (Catlins)
2. Elbow Peak (Lumsden)
3. Waikaka
4. Ryal Bush
5. Stucks Road (Longwoods)
6. Balfour
7. Caesar Road (Kapuka)
8. Crighton Road (Catlins)
9. Blackmount
10. Diamond Peak (Kaiwera)



Location Map

These sites have been selected after undertaking detailed field analysis, community consultation and review of the impact of RBI and UFB on the region, the key findings of which are outlined below.

Venture Southland commissioned Advanced Technology Solutions Ltd to complete the Southland Region Broadband Review. The conclusions and recommendations of this report, produced by internationally recognised telecommunications expert, Tony van Horik, are outlined below.

Conclusions:

1. Southland has historically been above the New Zealand average for the take up of broadband services and (barring current UFB) this trend is continuing -especially in the rural areas. It is clear, however, that with the increased availability of, and dependency on internet based services, customer expectations are rapidly increasing and survey results show that more than 40% of users are dissatisfied with the performance of their service. A large proportion of users claim that the service is "unusable" during peak times. This is true for rural areas in particular.
2. While the uptake of mobile technology (internet and mobile phones) is at least on par with the rest of New Zealand, it is evident that the quality of the services provided throughout Southland is significantly below requirements with close to 50% of users regularly experiencing problems that impact their business and personal lives.
3. With the opening up of telecommunication competition that included infrastructure, the Government has created an environment where markets with perceived low returns, such as Southland, are being largely ignored for major investment. In the past 20 years, any significant investment in telecommunications infrastructure has only come about as a direct result of subsidies, lobbying, and intervention from local and central government. Without this continued intervention, the quality of telecommunication services in Southland will continue to fall behind the rest of the country and growth opportunities will be hindered..
4. Over the past 10 years, Venture Southland has proven itself to be a worthy partner with central government and telecommunications providers for the enhancement of services in Southland. (No other Territorial Authority has been as successful in this). This organisation has a good understanding of the needs of the region and has been a worthy advocate for the people and industries of Southland. A partnership with this organisation is essential for extracting the most benefit from any further investment by both central government and service providers.
5. Southland continues to be a powerhouse for agriculture and tourism and there are significant indirect economic benefits to New Zealand to further grow these industries through the availability of ubiquitous, fit for purposes, telecommunications services. For this reason, the strategy by central government for attending to high population areas first must be modified to benefit these highly productive industries. A more targeted approach is therefore required to gain maximum benefit for any further infrastructure investments.

Mobile Voice Services

1. While less than 1% of Southland residences do not have a mobile phone, 47% rural residents and 39% urban residents regularly experience mobile coverage problems which significantly impacts their lives. This clearly indicates that while mobile phone penetration is high, the coverage provided is significantly below requirements.
2. With only minor exceptions, much of the existing mobile network infrastructure and subsequent coverage areas are duplicated in Southland. The proliferation of duplicate/overlapping mobile network infrastructure by Vodafone and Spark in low population density areas needs to be reassessed with a view to sharing of that infrastructure, especially where that infrastructure is being subsidised by government. Competition requiring duplication of infrastructure does not appear to be serving the Southland region well in low population density areas and creates a disincentive for suppliers to invest. With more revenue on offer through roaming arrangements, there will be a greater incentive to invest in marginal areas.

3. It is clear that large areas of Southland have little to no mobile phone coverage. With limited funds, a targeted approach is required to achieve the greatest impact (economic and social benefit) for key industry sectors. Any further builds of infrastructure should therefore be undertaken in consultation with the local economic development agency. Venture Southland has identified three high priority areas for the expansion on mobile services which cover main arterial routes, tourist areas and farms.

Rural Broadband Programme

1. Without a quantitative analysis of end user performance, it is difficult to determine whether or not a supplier has met its contractual service provision obligation under the RBI programme. The Venture Southland survey however, does create sufficient concern for further investigation regarding the performance and capacity of the this network. Vodafone states that the network performance is "managed carefully", but much more transparency is required as to how this is done and what the results are.
2. The cellular network (including data) is by its nature a contestable network and there are no guaranteed performance levels. It is not possible to prioritise data services to fixed mobile RBI customers and the loading on a cell site will vary greatly during the course of a day and over the peak tourist season. This appears to contradict the Government's requirements under the RBI contract.
3. Irrespective of whether or not the RBI contractual connection performance has been achieved, the fixed cellular connection specification for minimum throughput needs to be reviewed as it currently appears inadequate to cope with modern Internet services and customer expectations.
4. There are reports that in some locations cell sites have reached their capacity for fixed Internet connections under the RBI programme. While this has been stated by some Vodafone resellers and installers, it has not been stated by Vodafone and its position is that there is no hard limit on the number of RBI connections to its sites.
5. Venture Southland is planning to undertake a co-ordinated Internet speed test survey in various areas to get quantitative data on service quality. The results of these tests should be used to check against service provider obligations where government contracts are in place and inform further investment.
6. Vodafone has plans to upgrade its RBI sites to LTE (no dates given) but this is again will only service as a stop-gap measure for high end non-mobile users and have limited geographic coverage. A modem change will be required for RBI connections to make use of this higher performing LTE service.

Ultra Fast Broadband Programme

1. The current UFB programme will result in nearly 17,300 residences being able to access fibre broadband services in Invercargill, Gore and Mataura by June 2016 (Gore doesn't start until August 2017). To date, around 13,000 residences in Invercargill have access with around 1,300 connections made.
2. The take-up rate of 10.4% is below the national average of 12.8%. This lower than average uptake is seen as the result of; (1) fewer retailers in the region selling the service, and (2) lack of public awareness, promotion and information regarding the services on offer. There has also been feedback from some businesses of difficulty and delays in getting fibre installed.

Recommendations

1. Preparation of a joint Long Term Strategic Plan for the Development of Telecommunication Services in Southland - to be undertaken jointly by central and local government with assistance from key suppliers (include cost estimates). This should provide a roadmap to a

point where capacity and coverage become non-issues and ensure efficient investment to achieve the greatest benefit for the region in the shortest time possible.

2. Establish a closer relationship and Statement of Works between local councils and suppliers in order to: (1) efficiently overcome council consent requirements; (2) better target infrastructure development for the community priorities; (3) stimulate demand for services; and (4) ensure any new buildings and building sites include telecommunications infrastructure consistent with the Long Term Strategic Plan.
3. That mobile networks be extended into remote areas (where subsidies may be required) by building an "open" single network infrastructure which accepts connections from all national service providers through a "transparent" national roaming agreement (Note: Vodafone already has a selective roaming agreement with 2degrees).
4. It is clear that because of the high level of customer dissatisfaction, expectations of the fixed broadband services are not being met in many areas. Networks are not maintaining pace with the ever increasing demand for Internet based services - especially in the rural areas where dependency on these services is high. Ultimately, therefore, fibre optic cables must be extended further into remote locations and innovative ways of funding and achieving this must be explored by local government with supplier input.
5. It is understood from Vodafone that recent changes have made it possible for emergency services calls ("111") to roam between networks should the handset's home network not be visible. As this is a key issue for road and farm safety and more clarification is required as to the network conditions under which this occurs.
6. With customer service expectation ever increasing, the minimum performance standard for the rural broadband service must be revised. The current "minimum peak" standard has set the minimum performance (average throughput of 45kbps over a 15 minute period) standard too low and is not being actively monitored.
7. An open and transparent method of testing network performance should be established. Network providers must be encouraged to be more open regarding performance issues such that a realistic cost versus performance equation can be established and external assistance provided where appropriate. The involvement of an independent body such as the Telecommunications Commissioner is recommended. Minimum standards must also be revised on a bi-annual basis.
8. Provide further encouragement for private wireless internet providers to share the fibre cable to rural schools in order to upgrade and extend internet access to the local community near the school. (Yrless and VelocityNet in Southland are implementing a small number of projects based on distributed Wi-Fi networks around schools to provide community broadband).
9. Make greater use of the already established remote Woosh Wireless sites to provide higher performance broadband access should be considered.

Venture Southland consulted widely with the community, including through the Southland Internet and Mobile Survey which received responses from 720 residents and businesses from all over the region between March and May 2015.

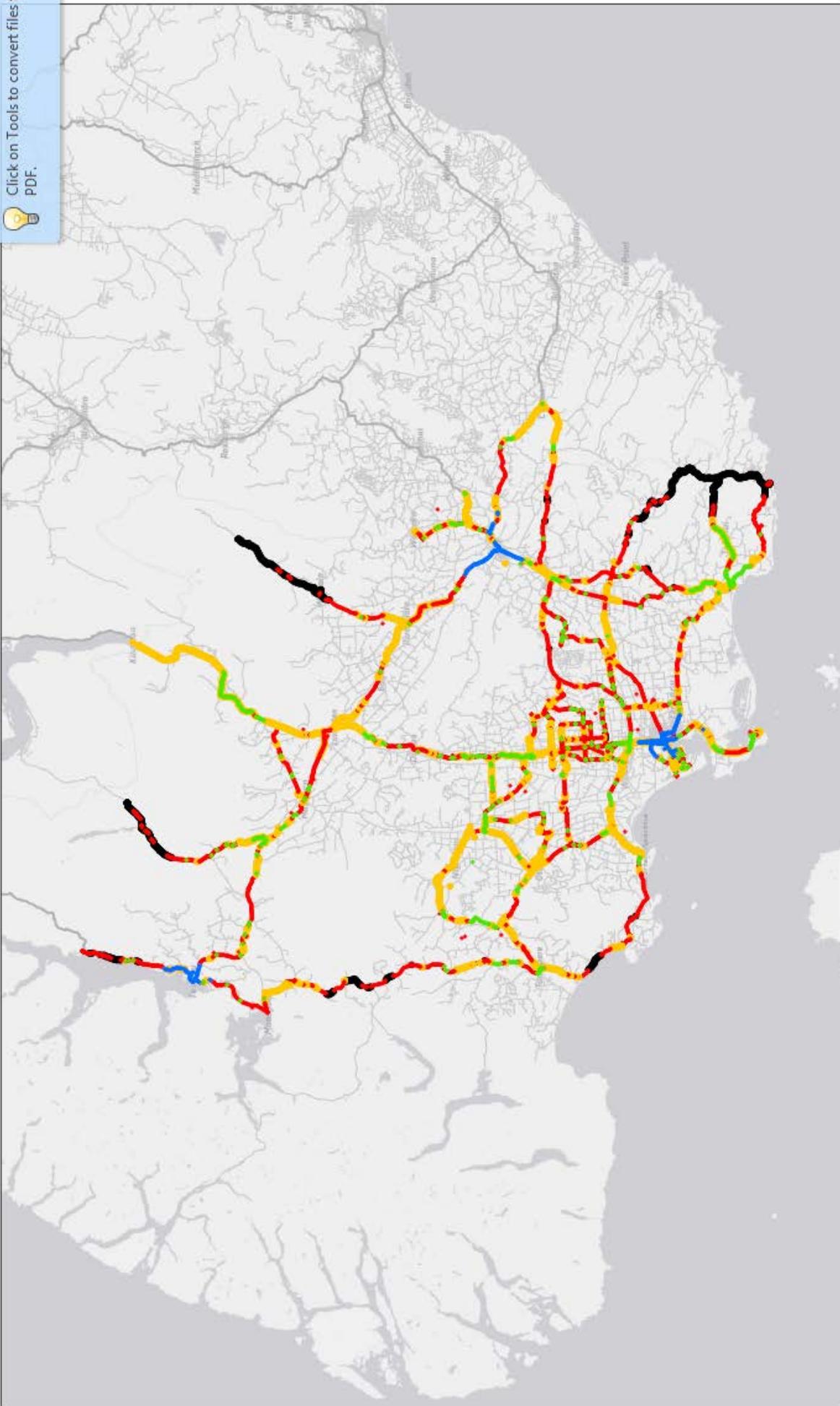
Southland Internet and Mobile Survey Key Findings:

- 47% of rural respondents and 39% of urban respondents report that they or their family regularly experience problems with their mobile coverage which significantly impact on their lives.
- Less than half (48%) of people in rural areas can use their mobile phone in their home, compared to 73% of people in urban areas.
- In rural areas, 50% have heard of the Rural Broadband Initiative but most are unaware of any impact on their service. 4% have noticed any improvement; the same proportion believes their service has actually grown worse.

- Only a third (34%) of people working in agriculture can use their phone at home or work.
- 71% of respondents use their mobile phone to access the internet.
- 39% of people in rural areas and 21% of people in urban areas believe their internet service is slow or unreliable.
- 40% of people in rural areas and 27% of people in urban areas would like to be able to stream video or TV but are unable to.
- 75% of urban respondents are aware of the Ultrafast Broadband Initiative. 45% report that they would like to access the service but don't know how to.
- 83% of businesses are using their home internet connection to run their business: of these, 32% have a very or impossibly slow internet connection.
- 24% of rural businesses and 9% of urban businesses say that the quality of their internet and mobile services is affecting their ability to attract staff.
- 41% of rural businesses and 15% of urban businesses say that their internet service does not meet their needs. An additional 38% of urban businesses and 10% of rural businesses forecast that their internet service will no longer meet their needs at some point within the next two years.

In the first week of May Opus International Consultants undertook field tests of the strength of signal of both the Spark and Vodafone networks on Southland's State Highways and other key transport routes using the latest Samsung S5 handset. The full size A3 maps have been included as a separate attachment to the ROI. Below are images of the overview for the region as a whole showing the widespread black-spots and poor signal areas experienced across the region. The first map shows the Spark Network and the second Vodafone. Black areas indicate no signal, red areas signal so weak that holding a call is challenging. Full size maps and close ups are included in the appendices.

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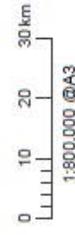


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Project No: 6-VQ420.82

Spark Measured Cellular Region Signal Strength: Southland

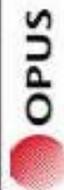
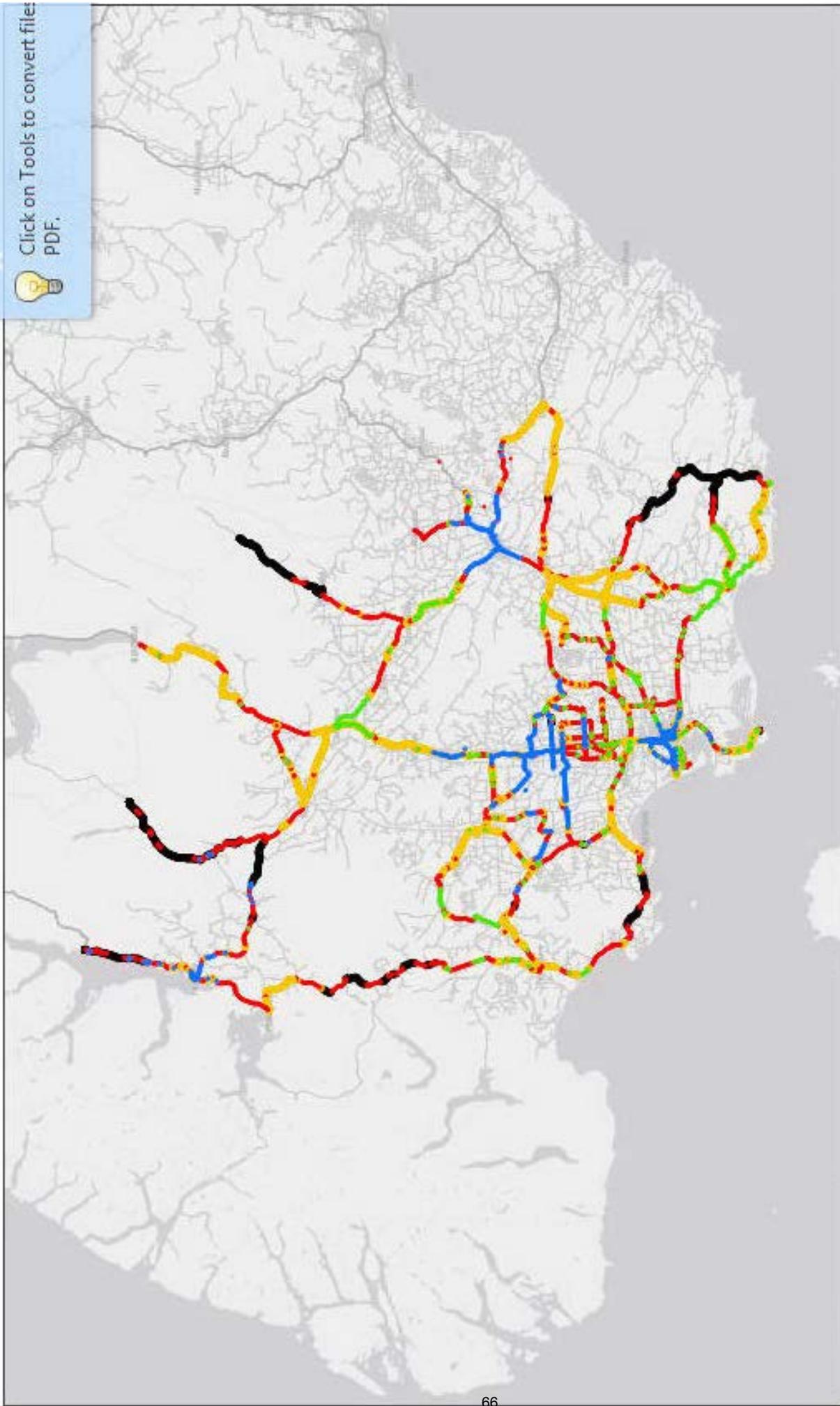
Legend
Spark
dBm

- 50 to -80 (Good)
- 89 to -80 (OK outside)
- 99 to -120 (Unable to hold call)
- LTE 4G
- No Connection
- State Highway
- Local Road



Projection:
NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator
Date: 15/05/2015 | Revision: 4 |

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Project No: E-V0430.82

Vodafone Measured Cellular Region Signal Strength: Southland

Legend
Vodafone
dBm
-50 to -60 (Good)
-65 to -80 (OK outside)
-85 to -100 (Unable to hold call)

● LTE 4G
● No Connection

— State Highway
— Local Road



Projection:
NZSD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator
| Date: 15/05/2015 | Revision: 5 |

About the Southland ROI for the UGB2, RBI2 and MBSF Funds

This document contains analysis for each of the sites where we propose investment. Each section follows the following format:

- Overview of the site, including whether it is a proposed UFB2, RBI2, MBSF or combined RBI/MBSF site.
- Community need and business case for investment
- Technical information about the site, including modelled coverage and existing infrastructure
- Community letters of support for the site

The full text of letters of support, research reports, strategies and other key documents which have informed the development of the ROI can be found in the appendices.

Proposal for Whole of Community Telecommunications in Southland

Registration of Interest - Support, for the Provision of Integrated Telecommunications Solutions in the Southland Region under the RBI2, UFB2 and MBSF funds

**THIS IS AN ALTERNATIVE REGISTRATION OF INTEREST AND SHOULD BE
CONSIDERED SUBSERVIENT TO VENTURE SOUTHLAND'S COMPLIANT
REGISTRATION OF INTEREST THAT HAS BEEN LODGED SEPARATELY.**

Executive Summary

This proposal strongly recommends a locally managed core telecommunications network investment and programme, focused on the enduring and future-proofed components of those networks. To this end, Southland stakeholders, through Venture Southland, propose the establishment of a pilot programme to deliver an integrated approach to deploying universal and affordable broadband and cellular telecommunications throughout rural Southland with long term benefits. This proposal is consistent with the *Southland Digital Strategy*.

Efforts to modernise New Zealand's telecommunications networks have so far been successful in the cities and largest towns where UFB and commercial fibre-optic cable access will soon be available to all, and 3G – and soon 4G - mobile cellular coverage is nearly complete. The same cannot be said for rural New Zealand, where RBI and private sector investment has, with few exceptions, been successful only in providing fibre-optic cable access to schools and, in Southland, unhelpfully overbuilding an existing 3G broadband wireless network.

The RBI investment has not proven to be useful in Southland primarily because there is no long-term, agreed goal for broadband and cellular service in rural New Zealand. Accordingly, there is no agreed technology roadmap and as a direct consequence it has not been possible to identify the best strategic investment decisions, nor to determine a long term budget commitment.

It is considered that the current separate investment models for UFB, RBI and MBSF are fundamentally flawed as they do not provide an integrated solution with a strategic investment pathway. Despite good intentions, these initiatives have not harnessed local expertise and knowledge to best advantage. At worst, they have seriously undermined existing investment in telecommunications infrastructure, as is now explained.

In Southland, the first round of RBI funding only served to overbuild the Woosh Wireless network that had been completed in 2007 under the Southland Whole of Community Broadband initiative. The Woosh Wireless network provided affordable 3G coverage, allowing some 95% of Southland dwellings to have 1Mbps or better Internet access. As a result of the RBI contract being awarded to subsidise Chorus and, in particular, Vodafone's network expansion, the business case for the planned upgrade of Woosh Wireless' 3G technology to 4G was completely undermined, leaving a \$10M investment by ratepayers, government and private enterprise stranded. Worse, the RBI produced no tangible improvement in broadband service in Southland: a survey with 95% confidence level found that Southlanders could identify no real improvement in their broadband service over the last five years. Analysis of the Vodafone – MBIE RBI contract reveals an absence of meaningful technical metrics for network performance, allowing no contractual remedy to improve the situation.

Venture Southland has had some difficulty in preparing a conforming Registration of Interest for the RBI2, UFB2 and MBSF initiatives as these initiatives ignore voice and data convergence, and the

need to establish network architecture that delivers enduring benefits and a robust forward digital pathway at a time when demands for greater bandwidth is rapidly accelerating.

Any forward planning by telcos has had to be second-guessed. It has also been difficult identifying coverage black-spots as it has become apparent that stated wireless RBI performance is overly optimistic and claimed wireless and cellular coverage in many cases is not supported by field testing.

If Southland is to remain an economic powerhouse of New Zealand, fibre-optic broadband access to every farm and dwelling in Southland is required and, simultaneously, ubiquitous LTE mobile telephony and Internet access. An annual network investment of between \$5.5M to \$7.7M over the next 15 years is required to build the networks to provide such service.

Venture Southland proposes a pilot programme to deliver an integrated solution that will deliver marked improvement to Southland broadband and cell phone access through an innovative application of the RBI, UFB and MBSF funding allocations due to Southland. In essence, it is proposed that Venture Southland act as a bulk funder to manage a roll-out of terrestrial Internet and cellular services in the region.

This proposal requires:

- Commitment to the dual objectives of 'Fibre Everywhere' and 'LTE Everywhere' at an affordable price to customers,
- Agreement that a 15 year staged strategic approach is necessary for telecommunications network investment in New Zealand,
- That Venture Southland work in partnership with MBIE and telecommunications network providers to develop an agreed, fully-costed, and integrated technology roadmap,
- That Venture Southland work in partnership with MBIE and telecommunications network providers to award funds to UFB2, RBI2 and MBSF projects in Southland, and oversee their deployment and acceptance testing,
- That the Telecommunication Development Levy is substantially increased, recognising that low-cost urban customers have a duty and reciprocal interest to ensure that more expensive rural customer connections are provided,
- The Telecommunications Development Levy and Government contributions to RBI and UFB awarded to Southland must encourage a network investment of at least \$6M per year, particularly in light of the age of the existing copper network,
- All mobile cellular operators to provide mandatory no-surcharge roaming across their competitors' networks where their own network does not provide good coverage,
- That the delivery of service in Southland be overseen by a local statutory entity and governance group responsible for the oversight of deployment programmes, establishing priorities and providing local accountability,
- That priority be given towards co-investment into the enduring elements of the networks such as towers and fibre-optic deployment as these are effectively 50 years assets and provide long term benefits to local communities,
- That tenders be let regionally for delivery of the services specified.

There is some real urgency in adopting this proposal: the existing underground copper telecommunications network in Southland is starting to reach the end of its design life and given the timescale available to deploy its replacement, work needs to be embarked upon in the near future.

The areas Venture Southland has identified for immediate network augmentation are identified in Venture Southland's complying RoI under the UFB2, RBI2 and MBSF initiative.

TO: COUNCIL
FROM: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
MEETING DATE: TUESDAY 4 AUGUST 2015

REPRESENTATION REVIEW REPORT

Report Prepared by: Kari Graber– Planning and Reporting Analyst

SUMMARY

This is a report detailing the residents' wishes for representation through an engagement process, run by staff and the use of an independent panel. The views expressed in this report are from both the public and the Independent Panel. It is broken into separate sections to reflect the key areas of review and additional areas that the Panel thought would be beneficial to add.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The report be received;

AND

That Council adopt the recommendations within this report as follows:

That Council maintains the At Large voting system, where members are elected by electors of the district as a whole;

AND

That the number of Councillors remains at 12;

AND

That Council determines that the Bluff Community is the only community of interest in terms of the Local Electoral Act and that Bluff Community Board remains, with its existing boundaries and with five elected representatives and one Councillor appointment;

AND

That these representation arrangements will provide for effective representation of communities of interest within the district;

AND

That Council publicly notify the above resolutions as its "initial proposal" and invite submissions until 8 September 2015.

AND

That Council develop an engagement strategy that allows for more effective consultation and engagement using some of the tools utilised in this review to improve effective representation amongst groups identified in the report.

IMPLICATIONS

1.	<i>Has this been provided for in the Long Term Plan/Annual Plan?</i> Yes.
2.	<i>Is a budget amendment required?</i> No.
3.	<i>Is this matter significant in terms of Council's Policy on Significance and Engagement Policy?</i> Yes
4.	<i>Implications in terms of other Council Strategic Documents or Council Policy?</i> Yes
5.	<i>Have the views of affected or interested persons been obtained and is any further public consultation required?</i> Yes

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

BACKGROUND

The Representation Review is a legislative process required to be undertaken by all Local Authorities every 6 years. The review is a requirement under the Local Electoral Act 2001(LEA) and must cover the following subjects:

- Basis of election (at large, wards, or a mix of both)
- The establishment of community boards and review of communities of interest
- Number of Councillors on the Council

The above subjects must be reviewed by the Local Government Commission (the Commission) and Council is required to submit an official report on its resolution deciding these matters. The Commission, as an overarching authority on these decisions, can require changes based on a right of appeal.

Other aspects of the Representation Review were conducted in 2014 and included, the electoral voting systems, first past the post voting system vs single transferable voting and the establishment of Maori ward/constituencies. The Council resolved to maintain the first past the post voting system and, after consultation with an iwi representative and visits to multiple Maori groups, the Council also resolved to not add a Maori seat on the Council. Both of these consultations and resolutions are not applicable to review by the Commission.

REPRESENTATION REVIEW PROCESS

In May 2015 an independent panel of six individuals and one Councillor were appointed to educate and inform residents about the Representation Review. The Panel was also charged with getting feedback from the community and helping form the recommendations included in this report. Each Panel member has provided a report expressing their recommendations (*Appendix 1*).

The Panel had two initial meetings before starting the information/feedback process. In these meetings the Panel discussed what a Representation Review was, how the information should be distributed to the public and the content of the informational booklet. The Panel also spent time deciding the best way to ask relevant questions for the review and other aspects of the electoral system that were current and relative to elections.

The Panel worked through the best ways to interact with people to get as much contact and engagement as possible, ensuring this report was as robust in opinions as possible. It is a constant challenge for Council to find the best ways to engage and consult with the public; therefore the Panel and Council used a variety of tactics that resulted in the Council receiving feedback from 191 individuals. 55 of these were received through the use of survey monkey and 135 were returned through a feedback form removed from the back of the booklet distributed by Council, we also received written feedback and emails directly from the public and interest groups.

ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

The public was reached in a multitude of formats, some that had never been used by the Council before, with good results. Using literature from the 2009 Representation Review and the motto Voice Your Choice, staff built a new informational booklet, with content constructed with Council and panel member suggestions.

Residents were made aware of the Representation Review through the following mediums: The informational booklets were made available from Invercargill City Council marked boxes placed at New World stores in North and South Invercargill, Countdown stores in Waikiwi and Tay Street and Splash Palace. An information video was posted on YouTube using ICC TV, which gave information on the Representation Review and how people could provide feedback.

The Council website promoted the review and listed all engagement events. Council's Facebook page promoted any meeting held by the Panel, and helped promote caravan outings and public workshops. Council's Community News ran an article on the Representation Review published in the Southland Express, and the review also featured in the Noticeboard printed in the Southland Times.

In order to engage with communities that were identified as a possible "community of interest" we used other methods of connecting. Bulk mailings of the Representation Review booklet were sent to Myross Bush. A meeting at the community hall in Kennington was held, this meeting was informed through letters sent directly to residents. Maori engagement was facilitated through staff attending meetings with the Iwi Representative on the Panel at the Maori Women's Welfare League, Nga Hau e Wha Society Inc. and the Nga Kete Matauranga Pounamu Charitable Trust.

Council staff used the new caravan to engage in Bluff, setting up in the Four Square parking lot both during the week and on the weekend. The caravan travelled to Glengarry, Splash Palace, the Feldwick gates at Queens Park and Windsor. Each of the caravan consultations were done in very central locations so that the maximum amount of foot traffic could be captured.

A table was set up at the Annual Rotary Book Fair. This engagement gave staff and panel members a plethora of opportunities to inform and educate residents about the Review. The book fair is one of the best attended events across Invercargill and the diversity of people that attend made it easy to reach a large cross section of the population.

Engagement was also done through a series of meetings that were arranged through the Council or independently by Panel members. These meetings included presentations at four local Rotary groups, the Grey Power AGM, the Bluff 2024 Rejuvenation Group, Bluff Promotions, the Otatara Community Group and South Alive Board. Staff organised two workshops at the Invercargill Public Library. These were notified through personal letters sent to people that had made submissions in the past, a Facebook post on the Council website, and a public notice in the newspaper.

By utilising such a broad range of communication forms, staff were able to reach an extremely large cross section of the population from which to draw conclusions. This personal contact made a huge difference in the number of attendees and helped greatly in determining what residents' preferred options were for the representation system. The basis for the engagement process was to go out to the public rather than waiting for them to come to us. It is the effort of staff and Panel members that made this review a real success in terms of the amount of feedback we received.

WORKSHOPS

Another aspect of our consultation process and in an effort to try new forms of engagement, the Council held two Representation Review Workshops, one on Wednesday 1 July at 3.00 pm - 5.00 pm and the other on Tuesday 7 July at 8.00 pm. The times were designed to allow for people to attend at times that would suit them best.

Council sent out personal letters inviting anyone who had submitted on the Long Term Plan as well as a few other people that are known to make regular submissions. The workshops were also publicly advertised in the Newspaper and on the Council Facebook page and on the Council website. The idea in writing directly to submitters was to capture people that already have an interest in what the Council is doing. This meant that we could further engage and draw out residents that are fairly informed about the City Council. The first workshop had 33 people attend and the second one about 25. These are great numbers for any consultation.

The workshops included a short presentation covering the representation review information provided in the booklet. Each participant was given a copy of the booklet. They were seated at tables of 5 to 6 people and provided with paper and pens. Following the presentation the participants were given a question to discuss in their table groups and were asked to write notes. Each group was then asked to let the wider group know what stood out in their discussion. People were then asked to move to different tables and given another question. In total the following questions / subjects were asked:

- Identify and discuss communities of interest.
- Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the at large, ward and mixed systems.
- Whatever system we use how can we achieve more effective representation?
- What can the community do?
- What can Council do?
- Number of councillors?
- Random or alphabetical ballot?
- Do we need an online voting option?

The groups identified and discussed communities of interest at length. Bluff was identified as a community by everyone. Other potential groups identified include South City, Otatara and the rural areas. None of the communities of interest listed were identified as groups that needed community board representation.

There was a lot of good discussion around the establishment of wards and the advantages and disadvantages. The majority of groups concluded that the at large system was their preferred option with a few individual people saying they felt mixed was better. Comments in support of the At-Large system included: *“we can go to anyone for help; we can live in Waikiwi, have kids at Middle, Interest in pool, sports, get full say, paying full rates; Seems to be working well; Supports the range of socio-economic groups; can move anywhere in the city to support what they believe; 12 councillors to help; covers all city areas/community of interest; can go to someone you know, currently councillors are spread, if it ain't broke why fix it? can have community boards; councillors represent whole city can approach anyone; an area may not have any councillor living in an area”*

These meetings were a perfect opportunity for us to discuss what effective representation is and what Council and the community can do to improve this area. When asked about what participants think, most feedback indicated that although people prefer the current system, they did not always feel that Council effectively represented them.

In regards to what Council needed to do to create more effective representation people stated the following:

- Talk to key people in the community and community groups
- More things like this review
- Booklet sent out helped me with making a submission
- Communities need to be educated about how to make submissions – time at library, someone on tap to help
- Have community groups formed not around demographics but more of a community focus
- Advertise – ICC TV, Email group
- Support representation review process – different ways of engaging
- Continue with print media – noticeboard, newspaper, letter box drop, notices with rates, calendar
- Website, Facebook, YouTube
- Being more available
- Acknowledging respectfully that people are trying to engage
- Having forums on topics of interest
- Using the Consultation Caravan
- Advertise that ICC has a website for any service (feature in the paper)
- Education process for councillors communicating with public
- Have open night/days for public
- Workshop/communication evening (like tonight)
- Needs to listen to what's being said – need to see how residents views feed in to decision making process
- Discussion groups

In regards to what the Community needed to do to create more effective representation people stated the following:

- Vote
- Interest groups register with the council and councillors take ownership of so many each
- Public should become more interested
- Need to advise council when they are not performing
- Community groups need to advertise their area of interest to attract people – actions, Facebook, advertising, word of mouth
- Interest groups – South Alive etc.
- Need to take responsibility / ownership to drive change in their own neighbourhood

There was no one that wanted to change the existing number of Councillors and most thought random name ordering on the ballot would make for better voting. Online voting was highly supported as long as postal was still available for those that lacked computer access.

At the end of the workshop participants were asked for feedback on the workshop itself. Staff wanted to know if the workshop was worthwhile and would people attend something like this in future. All the participants that responded said yes. Comments included: "Yes, very worthwhile; yes if we are heard..... and it's not just council ticking boxes; great idea to be able to have some input and hear others view, well done council; think about a focus on involving those that are not participating in the electoral processes; Interesting!; A good way to be introduced a little bit about how council works and why. Like the information and also how the whole night was run, effective and to the point; tea/coffee and sandwiches is a nice bonus too."

EFFECTIVE REPRESENTATION

The Local Electoral Act 2001 states Council must look at how Councillors are elected be it At-Large, or Wards and the number of Councillors that will be representing residents.

Section 19H Review of representation arrangements for elections of territorial authorities

- (1) *A territorial authority must determine by resolution, and in accordance with this Part, —*
- (a) *whether the members of the territorial authority (other than the mayor) are proposed to be elected —*
 - (i) *by the electors of the district as a whole; or*
 - (ii) *by the electors of 2 or more wards; or*
 - (iii) *in some cases by the electors of the district as a whole and in the other cases by the electors of each ward of the district; and*
 - (b) *in any case to which paragraph (a)(i) applies, the proposed number of members to be elected by the electors of the district as a whole;*
 - (c) *in any case to which paragraph (a)(iii) applies, —*
 - (i) *the proposed number of members to be elected by the electors of the district as a whole; and*
 - (ii) *the proposed number of members to be elected by the wards of the district; and*
 - (d) *in any case to which paragraph (a)(ii) or paragraph (a)(iii) applies, —*
 - (i) *the proposed name and the proposed boundaries of each ward; and*
 - (ii) *the number of members proposed to be elected by the electors of each ward; and*

The recommendation to Council is to continue to have members elected by electors of the district as a whole (or at-large). Pursuant to section 19T of the Act, in carrying out the review, Council is required to ensure, in accordance with the principle of fair and effective representation, that the election of members of Council by the district as a whole, will provide effective representation of communities of interest within the District.

By far the majority of people preferred the At-large system. The phrase "status quo" was a common theme in the discussions surrounding the representation election system. The majority of respondents felt that having wards was not going to make for a better connection to Councillors or make them feel better represented. Because Invercargill is of a particularly small geographical size many saw the inability to vote for up to 12 candidates as a disadvantage.

There were some respondents that thought that the addition of a Mixed System could be of benefit and better represent the outlying rural communities. This however, was often dismissed once people realised that the rural areas would have to be extensively large to represent enough of a population to build a ward. There were discussions around other ways rural communities could be represented and this will be explained more in the communities of interest section.

It is important to note there was a great deal of debate by both the panel and members of the public about the differences in the needs of the rural community and how to best represent their interest. Federated Farmers has sent in feedback that said they are concerned that Council will make decisions that are based on “solely urban ideals” unless a ward system is established that would allow for more direct representation.

The Panel’s only solution for rural representation was to possibly form a community board that would fill this perceived gap; however some people thought that the Federated Farmers worked in the same capacity as a community group and were a voice for this section of the community. If there is a large voice for a rural community board this is something Council could help put into place. The voice for this needs to be broader before this option is explored, but if enough support comes forward Council should consider looking at this prior to the next review.

Issues around effective representation were never about accessibility to elected members or the number of people Councillors represent. The real issues that the public focused on revolved around the perception that Councillors were unapproachable or did not provide enough opportunities to have public engagement. This is something that Council has been working to change since the last Representation Review in 2009, and is a common issue raised in many other Councils. As a result of the last review, regular public meetings were held with Councillors however the attendance levels were so small or non-existent that this exercise was discontinued.

There was feedback from Maori constituents that said they did not know that the Council had an Iwi liaison. They felt that the Councillors could better engage by attending some of the local meetings at the Marae and participating in Maori community activities. The feeling of disconnect appears to be partly that Iwi is an overarching representation for all Maori but does not directly represent the local Maori population on the same level. Often times Maori engagement is done on a legislative level but not always on a local level.

As stated above, issues with effective representation, or the perceived lack of effective representation, are not about the number of population represented or the structure of an At-large voting system. The current Councillors reside in a variety of neighbourhoods. The issues identified in this Review are more about how Council engages throughout the year and working on connecting with the community through many different mediums to build stronger relationships with residents. This exercise in engagement serves as an example of the many different tools Council may wish to consider using when implementing effective representation in future.

It is considered that an at-large voting system will provide for effective representation of communities of interest.

Under Section 19A Membership of territorial authorities, Every governing body of a territorial authority is to consist of not fewer than 6 members nor more than 30 members, including the mayor, who are the members of the territorial authority. Since the majority of people preferred the At-Large voting system the Panel asked people what their preference for size of Council was.

When this topic was discussed amongst the community the overwhelming response was that the current amount of Councillors was working and that there was no need to change the number. People did not feel that lowering or enlarging the number of Councillors would benefit the district. The overwhelming majority felt that if we were to change aspects of representation this needed to be done through the use of community groups and engagement with the Councillors, not in the number of Councillors representing the population. By maintaining 12 Councillors and one Mayor, each Councillor represents around 4,308 residents. A map of the boundaries is attached in (*Appendix 2*).

COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

The Local Electoral Act does not specify a definition for “community of interest” it is therefore up to Councils to determine their own interpretation of communities of interest. For the purposes of this review included below is the Merriam Webster definition of communities;

- a unified body of individuals: as
- the people with [common](#) interests living in a particular area;
- *broadly*: the area itself <the problems of a large *community*>
- an interacting population of various kinds of individuals (as species) in a common location
- a group of people with a common characteristic or interest living together within a larger society
- a group linked by a common policy
- a body of persons or nations having a common history or common social, economic, and political interests¹

For this review we have used the above definitions and also have considered geographical and ecological parameters of residents in addressing communities of interest. Our survey asked people if they thought we needed more community boards and while a majority of people said no, many were in agreement that the rural areas of Invercargill need some kind of representation separate of the main Council, because their interests were often different from people residing in the suburbs of Invercargill.

Where there was a desire to have more community boards, the repeating theme was community boards in rural areas, Otatara was named a few times as were South City, Clifton, Waikiwi, and Glengarry. Most of the justification for the areas listed was due to the fact that people perceived that potentially these areas not having a voice at Council. While it is not always possible to have Councillors that reside in all areas of the district, Invercargill actually has a fairly large geographical spread of Councillors.

These same potential communities of interest arose in the 2009 Representation Review and the Council at that time put aside a budget of \$10,000.00 to divide up amongst any groups that wanted to form as a community group. The money has since been available and has funded the Otatara Community Group, Glengarry Community Group, public meeting with Councillors and South Alive. A number of projects have also been funded by Council with community groups like South Alive and Bluff 2024 using funds from the Urban Rejuvenation budget.

The issue that has been identified through this consultation process is that communities often lack an individual in their group who wants to take the responsibility of organising and building a group. It has been identified that groups often form over problems directly affecting their community, but become inactive once the problems directly affecting them are removed. The Council can help groups initially by offering advice and help to set up a purpose

¹ <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/communities>

statement and also provide funding, but the ultimate outcome is in the hands of those community members. The Council could possibly do a better job of ensuring that communities know these services are available, but it is ultimately up to individuals to facilitate these groups themselves. In this review Bluff was the only community of interest that the Panel felt required it's own representation through a Community Board. It was considered that the at-large representation system would effectively represent any other potential communities of interest.

BLUFF COMMUNITY BOARD

Review of maintaining, establishing or removing community boards is a requirement of this review under *Section 19J Review of community boards*:

- (1) *A territorial authority must, on every occasion on which it passes a resolution under [section 19H](#), determine by that resolution, and in accordance with this Part, not only the matters referred to in that section but also whether, in light of the principle set out in [section 4\(1\)\(a\)](#) (which relates to fair and effective representation for individuals and communities),—*

The question was asked of all feedback participants, do you think we should keep the Community Board in Bluff? The overwhelming majority of the survey respondents believed that Bluff still needed to retain their Community Board. The geographical locality of Bluff seemed to be the main reasoning for this support. The Bluff community is located roughly 28km's from the city centre and has many services that are located locally to them. These services include their own pool, library and a Council Service Centre. While they are very much a part of Invercargill, the distance makes for some isolation. The Community Board allows for engagement with Council and an ability to keep Bluff related issues current. The relationship has been very good for both Bluff and Invercargill.

The Bluff community has become very active since the last review and in recent years there has been the formation of a new community group in Bluff, the Bluff 2024 Group. The addition of this community group is a great example of Council supporting a local area and residents taking the charge for change in their area. As it currently stands the community at large and the residents of Bluff have asked that the status quo remain and the Bluff Community Board remain as it is with five members and one appointed ICC Councillor. The map of the Bluff Community Board area has been included in (*Appendix 3*)

MAORI COMMUNITY

Consultation with members of the Maori community was facilitated by the appointed Iwi Representative to the Panel. Feedback, opinion and suggestions from those consultations and discussions form the basis of the Iwi Representative report. Though the voice of the Maori population may not be strong in the feedback forms it is nevertheless expressed through the report.

Through formal and informal discussions with a range of Maori organisations, groups and individuals, and by posting on the Southland email network of the Southern Maori MP a representative portion of the Maori Community were provided with information on the Representation Review.

In relation to the three major points of this review the following has been conveyed. Most reiterated the voice of status quo in terms of the voting system remaining at large. There was some discussion about South Invercargill possibly benefiting from a Ward. The number of Councillors was another area where no change was seen as necessary. Through this review process some deeper issues emerged in regards to effective representation.

Some Maori respondents were of the opinion that there was a lack of connect with Council and Maori communities. Most were unaware of the role of Iwi Liaison Councillor or what the role entailed. Some Maori residents we spoke to thought they may have a need to form an advisory group or a community group of their own.

Members of the Maori community expressed the desire to feel more included in local government and were of the opinion that there was a need for Council to assess how it consults and engages with Maori constituents. Many were concerned the current strategy employed to communicate with Iwi does not engage with and inform all members of the Maori community i.e. all Maori entitled to vote. An example of this is Council's consultation with Iwi around the addition of a Maori ward being established as part of the review.

Effective representation for the Maori community is deeper than engaging with Iwi at Runanga and Marae level only and requires different tools to be successful. Wider and more effective consultation with the Maori population could be achieved through the development with Maori of an agreed engagement strategy. This could be initiated by the Council's Iwi Liaison.

The Panel makes the further recommendation:

That Council work with the Maori Community to develop an engagement strategy that allows for effective consultation and engagement with the Maori Community i.e. Iwi, hapu, whanau, individuals, groups and organisations, using some of the tools utilised in this review, to ensure fair and effective representation for Maori.

ADDITIONAL FEEDBACK SURROUNDING THE REVIEW

Although the legislative requirements for the review are limited to certain areas the Panel thought it would be advantageous to ask some additional questions. Through multiple panel member meetings, members decided to ask the following questions about other aspects of voting.

These questions included the following:

- Do you think voting ballots should list candidate's names in alphabetical order or in a random pattern?
- Would you like to be able to vote online?
- Which form of Voting would you prefer? Postal, Online or Both?

The Panel felt this was an opportune time for Council to look at other aspects of voting that are not always reviewed on a regular basis and the feedback can also be useful for staff and the Chief Electoral Officer.

Many people thought that by listing the Candidates randomly there was a better chance for new people to get elected and that voters would have to think more thoroughly about who they were voting for. 63% of people that responded thought that the ballots should be listed randomly.

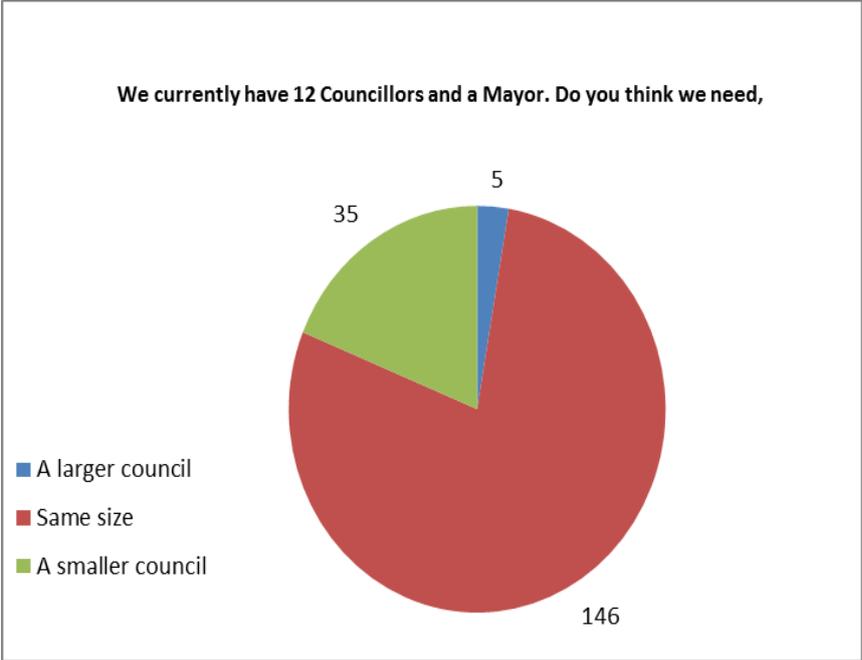
Voting online got an overwhelming voice of support. Over 90% of respondents were in support of having online voting as an option and many thought this would help encourage a greater voter turnout. Although this is not something the Council can currently offer it is something that will be coming in the near future and this is a good indication of how residents feel. It is important to note that many thought it was important to offer both online and postal voting as some are still without internet and some members of the community may have difficulty accessing a computer.

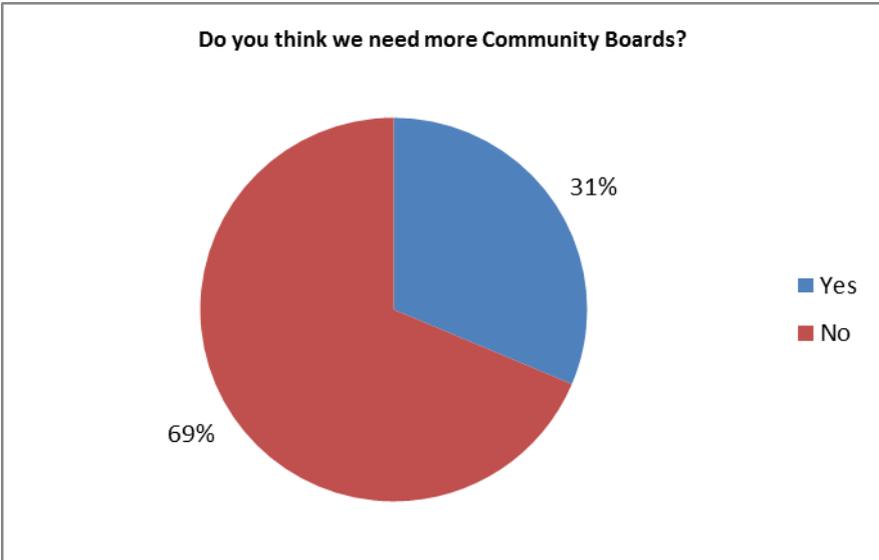
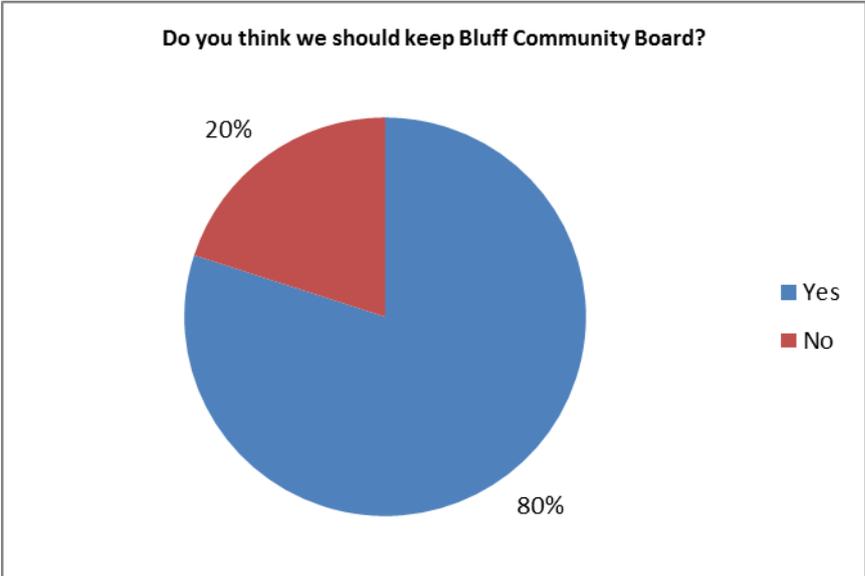
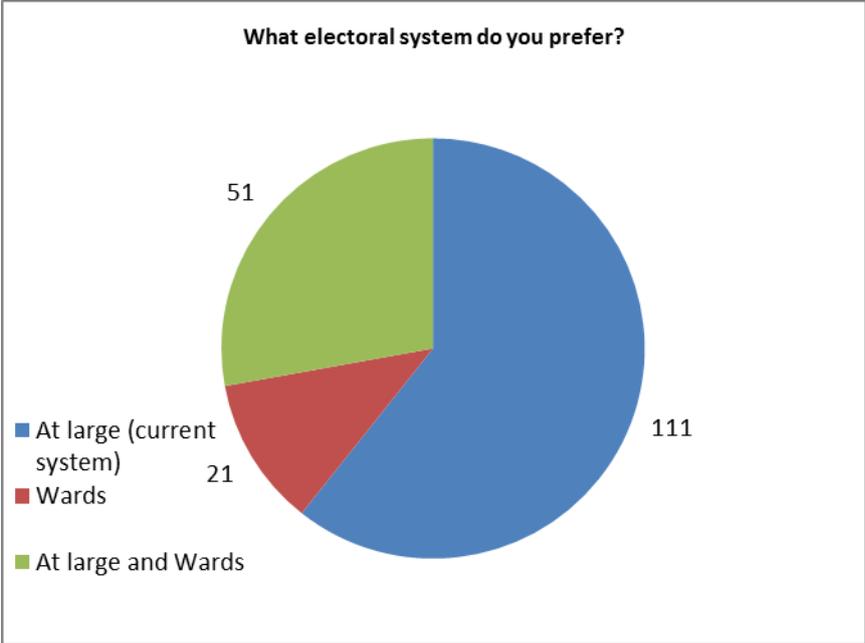
CONCLUSION

The feedback period ran for almost three months and the panel members selected were extremely dedicated and effective in engaging with people. Staff were extremely happy with the group. The six panel members and Council Representative Councillor Rebecca Amundsen, were enthusiastic, dedicated and worked very hard to educate people about the Representation Review. They were extremely diligent in getting views from as many residents as possible and used a number of resources to communicate with people.

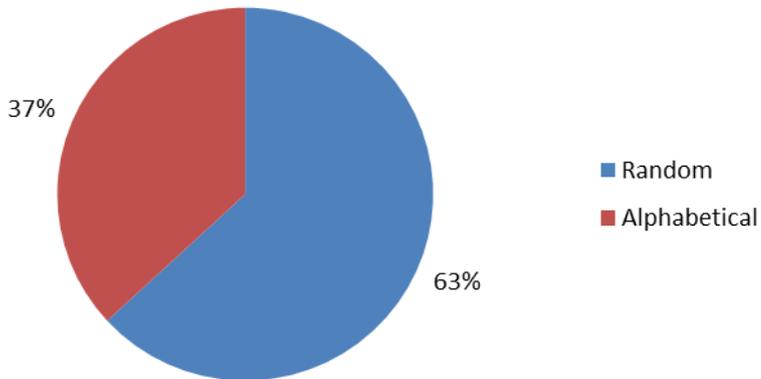
Council received a total of 133 Feedback forms (*Appendix 4*) from the booklets that were given out and left in public places, and we received a further 58 surveys completed through the online service Survey Monkey. This means that we received feedback form a total of 191 individuals. This shows real success in engagement.

The recommendations moving forward are as follows, Council maintains the At Large voting system, the number of Councillors remains at 12, and Bluff Community Board remain with the same number of elected representatives and one Councillor appointment. It is considered that these arrangements will best provide for effective representation in the Invercargill City Council District. Staff would also recommend developing a programme that allows for better consultation and engagement using some of the tools used in this report to improve effective representation amongst groups identified in the report. Please refer to the charts below to see what the compiled data from the feedback forms presented.

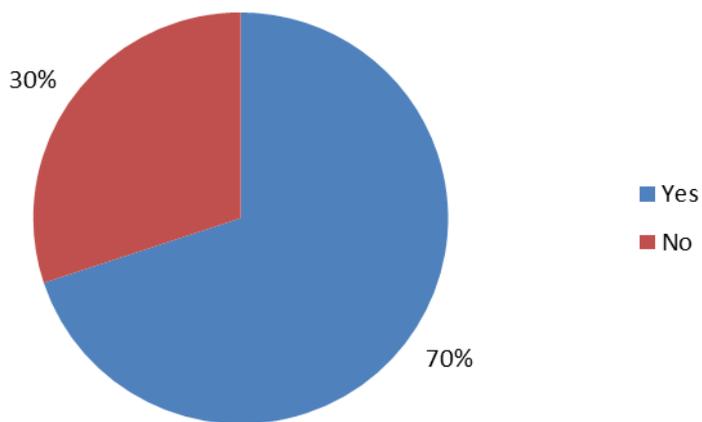




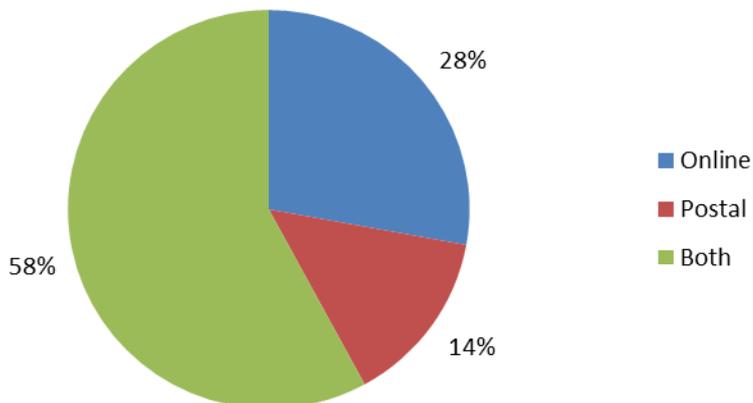
Do you think voting ballots should list candidate's names in alphabetical order or in a random pattern?

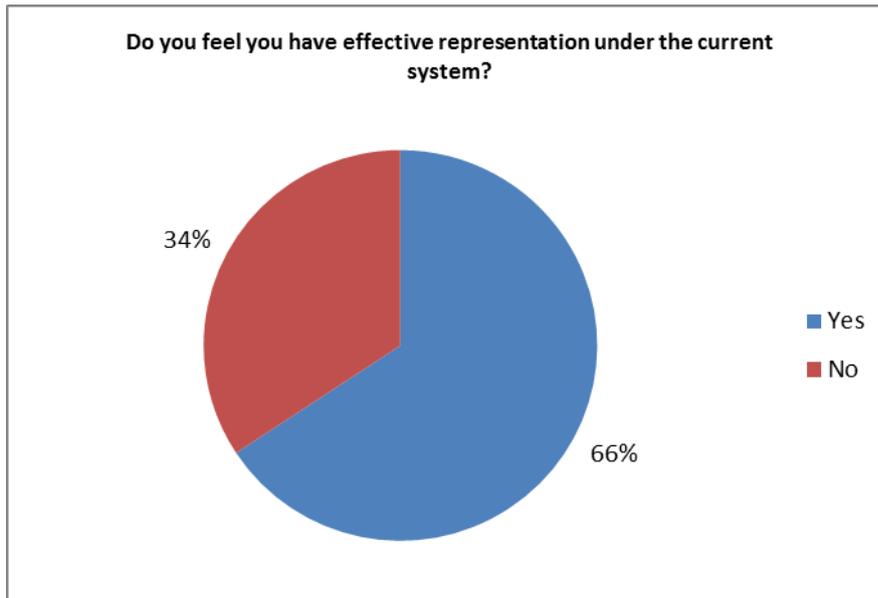


Would you like to be able to vote online?



What type of voting would you prefer?





ENGAGEMENT EVENTS AND ADVERTISING

- Community News - Southland Express - April 16
- Noticeboard - Southland Times - April 22 and June 24

MAORI REPRESENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS

May 1 - Jan Ormsby Secretary to Southern Maori MP Rino Terikatene. Distributed an information flyer on Jan's extensive mailing list of Maori organisations, groups and individuals. Left pamphlets for public

May 4 & July 1 - Ani Wainui Principal of Te Whare Kura O Arowhenua and distributed pamphlets for staff

June 17 - Waihopai Kaumatua Group - presented to group and distributed pamphlets

June 17 & July 15 - Waihopai Runaka monthly meeting

June 22 - Parker Ormond Teacher Education Fellow - Presented to Parker - ***Parker's comment included in the feedback***

July 8 - Arahi Maori Women's Welfare League monthly meeting

July 9 - Nga Hau e Wha Society Inc - meeting

July 21 - Nga Kete Matauranga Pounamu Charitable Trust

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS JON TURNBULL

- Invercargill Rotary
- South Rotary
- Sun Rise Rotary

CARAVAN ENGAGEMENT

- Bluff 4-Square - May 21st and June 6th
- Windsor (Next to Found My Way) - May 23rd
- Splash Palace - May 8th
- Rugby Park - May 17th
- Queens Park - May 14th

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS

- Kennington Hall - May 6th
- Library Workshops - July 1st and July 7th
- Rotary Book Sale - Civic Theatre June 12th and 13th
- Glengarry Market - June 27th
- Greypower AGM - June 29th
- Otatara Community Group - June 11th
- South Alive Board Members - June 10th



8 July 2015

The Project

Preparation and promotion was highly professional, resulting in a greater public awareness and participation.

The Survey

The majority seem to favour the "Status Quo" elected at large. The full ward system is not favoured, but some favour a "Peri Urban" spilt. (Mixed System)

Number of Councillors – 12 plus Mayor.

Community Groups – None seeking "Junior Council" status but groups recognised by the Council, to be consulted on matters concerning their community or demographic grouping for example South City or Senior Citizens.

Bluff Community Board

Some suggest not required now that Bluff has a thriving progressive promotions group, it is seen as a continuation of representation from when Bluff had its own borough Council amalgamated 1989.

Other Issues

Why no vote in one "Unitary Authority for Southland", four Councils for a population of 90,000 is ridiculous.

Council Companies

I get out and about and my Probus Club has a number of ex top business men and professionals. Comments from some: "There should be no Councillors on Council Companies", Council is protected by each Company having to file. "A statement of Corporate Intent" outlining that Companies programme for the ensuing year, Council signs off on that.

Comments were made that several Council appointees had no real experience in business. Companies should be run by those who understand business, keep up with developments, Directorships shouldn't be allocated on a reward for loyalty or to supplement Council remuneration.

Democracy Denied

This relates to Councillors being Company Directors.

Two people have made submission to Council in respect of electively Invercargill seeking Capital to purchase Otago Power Shares. Councillors who were directors of Holdco or EILL declared a conflict of interest. Their submission was heard by the Mayor and four Councillors. They considered that to be insulting, and democracy denied.

Council Projects

Several complained about the length of time taken to complete Council Infrastructure projects such as Forth Street, is there no supervision? I did my best to explain the situation, some understood, others did not. Perhaps better public awareness would help.

Conclusion

I've enjoyed my time as a panel member, good public relations is the essence to good governance. Councils can do only so much, but unless there co-ownership by citizens, new ventures undertaken such as South City and Glengarry, the city will stagnate.

Well Done

Geoff Piercy

Jon Turnbull Representation Panel Report

Meetings attended:

Invercargill Rotary

South Rotary

Sun Rise Rotary

Rotary Book sale

Public Meeting on Wednesday 1st July

Public Meeting on Tuesday 7th July.

As you are aware I used a Power Point Presentation that seemed to go well, with lots of interest and questions being asked. I took Rebecca to a couple of the Rotary meetings and we worked well in tandem. I worked with Rebecca and Rochelle at the Rotary book sale. There was significant interest at that venue. Booklets and submission forms were left at the meetings and people were encouraged to take them away, fill them out and send them.

The feeling I get is that people are reasonably satisfied with the status quo. As to how councillors are elected and how many we have. There was limited support for a mixed system (at large/wards). Most people were satisfied with the number of councillors and there was no strong feeling for additional Community Boards apart from Bluff. The general feeling was that it was good that Bluff had a community Board. There was a feeling that the rural community was not well represented at council and that more could be done in this area. Some Otatara residents thought they should be better represented and were surprised to learn that they had a Community Interest group operating. This group could do a lot more to make itself known to it's community and then perhaps it would get more support.

I am happy to assist at further meetings if required.

I think that a publicised meeting at say the West Plains Hall and the Myross Bush Hall would be an advantage to engage the rural/farming constituents.

I don't think that people are looking for more Community Boards but they do feel a bit isolated from the Council decision making progress especially around the big issues. Viz a viz the inner city development. The opinion on more than one occasion is that the Council could communicate and engage with interested groups in the community on a proactive basis.

Judy Lange
52 Mersey Street
Invercargill 9810

Representation Review Group member

This process of going out into the community has been a very interesting one. The community was approached in many ways and many commented they had enjoyed the conversation and the fact they were consulted and listened to.

There was a lot of discussion about the Ward and Mixed system, especially the Mixed one. However, once understanding was gained about prospective councillors having to choose between being a Ward councillor or an At Large one, then there was a shift of opinion towards At Large. Participants thought it fairer and kept all councillors focussed on the good of the city as a whole, and all councillors available to be approached by their constituents.

The number of councillors currently representing the community was thought to about right. There was some discussion that some seemed to do more and be more active in the community than others.

Communities of Interest raised considerable discussion, and people were very much in favour of the role of the Bluff Community Board and the place it has in representing Bluff and its interests. Rural people spoke about feeling as though they were treated differently and felt they weren't so well represented. The Otatara Ratepayers group had diminished in size and were questioning their own viability and ability to engage with their own community because of lack of interest in that community, and the lack of funds to do so. The discussion groups acknowledged the South Alive, Bluff 2024 and Bluff Promotions are doing good work on their own projects, but did not represent the community as a whole.

The process of consulting the community for the Representation Review was well received by those we spoke to. Most would not have sought out a means to communicate their thoughts, but to converse, exchange views and to be listened to, all brought out the best in participants during the process. Most were just pleased to be listened to. The workshops were very well organised and provided excellent opportunities for people to air their views in a collaborative environment. Many expressed the view this process should be used for other issues in the City, eg the LTP.

General Comment:

There was quite a lot of discussion of the number of councillors on the Council companies and the process of conflict of interest meaning only a few councillors were able to participate in discussions and votes in these areas in council meetings. People found this disturbing and felt other ways should be looked at to overcome this issue to ensure we as a community are receiving the very best governance that can be provided by those representing us.

This Review process was extremely well run by Kari and Rebecca. It was very well received by those attending sessions and the caravan. All of our discussions of this Representation topic keep returning to the process of Communication and how important it is in all aspects of the Council. This process of communication made a good impression on a lot of people and it would be great to see it being retained as a key strategy by the Council. People commented they want to see their councillors out in the community all year, not just at voting times. It would be a pro-active stance and would need councillors out there taking a turn in the caravan with a staff member, in different areas of the city to just talk to constituents and hear what they are saying. This may need some financial input for staff or other resources, but with the correct organisation, would be worth it. Communication is king.

I appreciate the opportunity to contribute to this review and to the governance of our city. We want Invercargill to be going forward and growing, and better communication will make a happier city and that will promote a whole lot of good things for us all.

Report to: Kari Graber reporting and Planning Analyst Invercargill City Council

Project: Invercargill City Council Representation Review 2015

Prepared By: Raewynne Evans Panel Member - Iwi Representative

Date: 17 July 2015

Presented to:

May 1 - Jan Ormsby Secretary to Southern Maori MP Rino Terikatene . Distributed an information flyer on Jan's extensive mailing list of Maori organisations, groups and individuals. Left pamphlets for public

May 4 & July 1 - presented to Ani Wainui Principal of Te Whare Kura O Arowhenua and distributed pamphlets for staff

June 17 - Waihopai Kaumatua Group - presented to group and distributed pamphlets

June 17 & July 15 - Waihopai Runaka monthly meeting of Members- presented to members, distributed pamphlets and gathered feedback

June 22 - Parker Ormond Teacher Education Fellow - Kaiarahi o Te Pokai Matauranga o te Ao Rua, University of Otago College of Education Southland Campus. Presented to Parker **-Parker's comment attached**

July 1 - Participated in the Invercargill Public Library Focus Group Meeting presented by Kari Graber and Councillor Amundsen

July 8 - Arahi Maori Women's Welfare League - Presented with Kari Graber and distributed pamphlets at monthly meeting

July 9 - Nga Hau e Wha Society Inc - presented with Kari Graber to monthly members meeting and distributed pamphlets

July 21 - Nga Kete Matauranga Pounamu Charitable Trust - Kari Graber and I to present to staff

I Have engaged with numerous individuals in a more informal way including staff of Te Ao Marama and staff of Waihopai Runaka, and various individuals at hui over the past three months.

Many individuals within the Maori Community cross over in their involvement with various groups and organisations and with Iwi affiliations

What people want

My brief as the Iwi Representative on the Panel meant my engagement was almost exclusively with members of the Maori Community . This role enabled Maori voice and opinion to be heard.

- **Manawhenua Waihopai Runaka - Kaumatua and members stressed that they valued highly the partnership they share with Invercargill City Council and Councillors and will continue to work to sustain and build that relationship for the mutual benefit of all living within Murihiku.**
- Maori Community members and organisations expressed appreciation at having been included in the Representation Review process and expressed a willingness to be involved in any discussion that may follow on from this process.
- Generally people were satisfied with the status quo in terms of numbers of councillors and at large voting.
- Some were of the opinion that South Invercargill was an area that would benefit from the ward system.
- As well as the general questions relating to how councillors are elected and the number of councillors, the topics of high interest to Maori were around consultation and fair and effective representation
- Some expressed the opinion that, " we never see them, what do they do for us, what do they know about us?"
- Maori like to be appreciated for their contribution to the City and community
- Some expressed the opinion that there was little visible presence and celebration of Maori expression / Maori Culture around the city or within Public buildings - a feeling of being invisible and excluded
- During all discussions Individuals expressed concern that they were not aware of the Maori Ward option, had not been informed and consulted as voters, and had missed an opportunity to express an opinion and/or a choice. The only individuals who were aware were those who had been present at the meetings of Runaka and Nga Hau e Wha addressed by Council. It was not specifically that they agreed/disagreed with the option but rather that Council did not engage with them in the way that this project engages with the general public, on an issue that was specific to Maori.
- One opinion was that a Maori Ward could be divisive of communities and have negative effects on current relationships with Council and communities. Other opinion was that the option was there and Maori should be able to choose.
- There was a general feeling that council / councillors did not engage with and were not visible to the Maori community and therefore could not 'know' the Maori community. Whilst there was appreciation for the consultation that takes place at Runaka level and for the relationships that exist there - that was seen as stopping well short of what was required in engagement with the Maori community as a whole and as individual voters
- Some Maori expressed the view that Council/Councillors as well as not having a visible or active presence within Maori communities, groups and organisations, might only be seen at 'Maori ' events in a ceremonial role. Some had a view that Maori were a visible presence with Council only on ceremonial occasions where Kaumatua and kapa haka were required.
- There were some questions around the role of the Maori Liaison Councillors (majority did not know about this role). What was their terms of reference? Did their role include liaising with the Maori Community at large or was it only at Mana Whenua, Maata Waka, Te Roopu Taiao level? Respondents could see the value of these roles if the Council / Councillors were prepared to embrace them on a comprehensive level. Maori were willing to have input into future discussion around these roles.

- There was good discussion around what effective representation might mean to Maori. What form could it take, what would it look like.? If not a 'Maori' seat or supported/endorsed Maori candidate - what else? and the pros and cons of such positions. There was discussion also around lack of success in the past for Maori candidates.
- Maori expressed frustration at the low level of voter turnout at past elections and suggested that more effective engagement with, and visibility and participation within the Maori Community by Council and Councillors, may have a positive effect on voter turnout.

Observations:

- Whilst we may say that Council did all that was required of them legally in publicly notifying the Public via newspaper advertisement of the Maori Ward option the fact is that people for whatever reason did not see it - this signals to Council that it needs to look at other ways to inform Maori and the general public.
- The people we engaged with in this process appreciated the opportunity to be heard.
- Maori are 14.5% of the total Invercargill population (2013 census data) an increase of 12.4 % from 2006. Ministry of Health New Zealand statistics October 2014 showed that 35% of NZ Maori are aged less than 15 years compared with 19% of non-Maori . Important then and of benefit to Council to explore with the Maori Community, ways to engage with Maori Youth.

Voice Your Choice has been a positive process and one which I believe will provide Council momentum for future engagement with Maori at all levels; Iwi, Hapu, whanau, individuals, Organisations and Groups. I envisage that when the next Representation Review rolls around Council will have cemented strong relationships with all levels of the Maori Community and will find engaging with and informing the Maori community an easier task.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service to Iwi Katoa o Waihopai as a member of the Independent Panel appointed by Council.

Raewynne Evans

ICC Independent Panel Member - Iwi Representative

Rochelle Surendran Representation Panel Report

The meetings I have attended are:

- South Alive meeting with trustees
- Rotary Club book sale
- Glengarry Community Market
- Public consultation workshop at the library

I have also shared about it at a Green Party members' meeting.

I'm also happy to attend a Farmers Market over the next few weeks if this is something you still want.

It appears that Invercargill voters on the whole are reasonably content with the current arrangements namely the "at large" voting system, 12 councillors, and a community board in Bluff.

System of representation

People were interested in the ward system but when it was explained they didn't think it was a very good idea. A number of people seemed to think the mixed system might be a good improvement on the current system to ensure that there is also an aspect of local representation on the Council. However at the workshop when the mechanics of the mixed system were explored, the participants didn't like the fact that a candidate for Council would have to choose between standing in a ward seat or at large. Therefore the at large system was considered to be the better option. The comment was made "if it isn't broke, don't fix it", which got a lot of nods and indications of agreement from the other workshop participants.

Number of councillors

A few people that I encountered wanted to radically slash the number of councillors below what the legislation requires. Some of the people at the workshop said they would be in favour of reducing the number of councillors by two if the Council employed independent directors to sit on its Council-owned companies. However, the majority of people seemed to think that the current number of councillors is fine.

Communities of interest

People were strongly in favour of keeping the Bluff community board. People seemed to be ambivalent about whether to retain the Otatara Ratepayers Group. At the workshop, people expressed the view that there are communities in Invercargill whose interests need to be represented on the Council, however they did not think a community board or ratepayers group would be the best mechanism for doing this. Instead they considered that community interest groups such as South Alive or the Glengarry Action Group are working well with Council to meet the needs of these communities.

Consultation process

A general point - there were a lot of comments to the effect that when people tell Council their views it does not change Council's final decision. This caused some people to state they

were reluctant to tell me their views because it wouldn't change anything. People often expressed the sentiment that the Council don't listen and it is a waste of time telling the Council what they want.

Having said that, people praised the consultation process for the Representation Review. I also thought it was very well run. People I spoke with seemed to be pleased to be asked for their point of view. People also expressed a desire to be able to understand the context related to the matters that the Council is consulting about so that they can provide informed opinions. The workshop in particular was very good and gave an opportunity for people to actively explore the pros and cons of different options before forming a definite view. The participants suggested that a similar style of public workshop be run to help with the Council's planning processes (i.e. annual plan, long term plan).

An aside

My main question arising from this process is how much resource has the Council committed to consulting and engaging with the public? Does this need to be increased in order to ensure that the Council is able to run a lot more effective consultation in the future?

I have really enjoyed participating in the Representation Review Panel and I hope that my contributions have been valuable.

Steve Mitchell
42 McDougall Street,
Bluff 9814

Invercargill City Council – Representation Review

Report of my participation

I have undertaken 2 x Caravan Consultations in Bluff, 1 x Consultation at the Rotary Book Sale, 2 x Workshops at the Library.

In addition I have spoken to members of the Bluff 2024 Rejuvenation Trust, and Bluff Promotions, along with a number of individual conversations in both Bluff and Invercargill.

In the course of this, about 80% of people filled in a survey form on the spot, and the balance took the booklet home with the intention of completing at their leisure. Hopefully some of these will also have been returned.

My impressions are that 80 – 90% of people I spoke to are happy with the status quo in every respect. Of the balance, some seemed to be mostly interested in the cost of everything, and others held strong views on one thing or another and expressed those views in their responses.

With respect to the additional questions, I would expect there to be a majority in favour of random listing of candidates on ballot papers, and for both postal and on-line voting options in the hope of increasing participation among younger people.

While the number of people spoken to represent only a very small percentage of voters, it is obvious to me that the methods employed in this consultation have reached people that would otherwise not have been reached, and in many cases genuinely believed that their opinions had no value. Therefore, I think the use of the workshops by invitation, and the caravan, has been very effective in getting to constituents who would otherwise have no voice. It is obvious that people generally are intimidated by the traditional consultation process, and self exclude for that reason. These people, when asked however often have quite strong and well considered opinions.

If there has been any failing in this process, I think it would be that promotion of caravan events in particular has often been a little late, and has not used every means available to let people know. The difficulty being the divergence of media which people access for information, print media requires a much longer lead time than social media, and each reaches a different demographic.

In Bluff I found that when I reposted to the Bluffys and Bluff 2024 Facebook pages, there was a good response, but it would have been nice to have the Community Board post perhaps a week earlier, so the message could be repeated and people could clear time to come. Even so, there was a pretty good response, so this is meant only as a learning for future consultations, and given that most people would consider the subject of this to be pretty boring and dry, I think as a whole we did pretty well.

Steve Mitchell
Independent Panelist
7 July 2015

Representation review – One page Report July 2015

List of engagements – Caravan – Windsor, Bluff, Book Fair 2 days; Rotary North, Rotary – Invercargill & Sunrise with Jon; Otatara Rates Payers Group; Kennington Community Meeting; South Alive; 2 workshops

Thoughts:

Communities of Interest:

Bluff has been identified as a distinct community of interest with a strong desire to maintain the Bluff Community Board.

Other communities of interest were identified – not just geographical ones – and there was a strong indication that council should work harder to reach these communities.

I liked the suggestion that communities of interest should register with the council and then those groups be divided among councillors to contact and remain in touch with. This would help the council do better at engagement.

System – At Large, Ward and Mixed

Few people seemed interested in the ward system. There was some merit noted in the mixed system however the majority seemed to be in favour of the sticking with what we know. This may well be a reflection of a fear of change and the unknown. In saying that I feel the at large system does suit Invercargill and if the council works harder to build a relationship with the community then this system could develop into one that provides exceptional representation to the community. (See ideas below).

Number of councillors

No desire to increase the number. The majority seemed to favour less or the status quo.

Extra Questions:

Ballot form order – random

Online voting – introduce but keep postal option – could engage younger voters.

My observations:

From the discussion at our first panel meeting I think we should include that better consultation/engagement needs to be used to cover off the voting system (STV and FPP) and the Maori Ward idea.

Following the meetings I have attended as well as the workshops and discussion I believe our recommendation should include the following:

1. The council has an engagement policy and should work harder to use it better – note the variety of engagement methods used in this consultation
2. To enhance the use of the policy developing an engagement strategy would be useful

3. Council should look at options for different types of engagement with different communities of interest
4. Council should approach communities of interest for feedback rather than just expecting them to contact the council
5. Council should help community groups raise awareness in their communities of their existence
6. Council needs to be aware that some community groups ie South Alive are not there to represent the ratepayers they are there to undertake activity in their community on behalf of the community. This is an important distinction.
7. There is a desire from the community to be more involved, let them be
8. Good engagement concludes with giving feedback to participants on how their feedback was considered and used. We need to find ways to do this that work and are meaningful
9. Council needs to help educate the community about what the council does.
10. People who attended the workshops noted that they appreciated being invited and otherwise would not have attended.
11. We need to do better to reach the 'hard to reach' people
12. People had lots of great ideas of things the council could do and things the community could do to create a better relationship between the 2. We should build on these.

Summary from South Alive and Otatara meetings:

South Alive went very well - lots of discussion. They don't feel they have a mandate to speak for the whole community. They appreciate a lot the funding they receive for Janette. They believe it generates 4-5 times what it costs. We discussed options for Wards, rate payer groups etc. There was no real consensus. I left some copies of the docs for them to have in the office. They emphasised that they don't do complaints - which really makes them not a stop for people who want to complain to the council - however they do tell people to get in touch with the council over issues. They feel they have a good relationship with council - staff members on the different groups. I also asked if they felt the council came to them when things were of issue or to change. They didn't really answer that, they spoke mostly of the fact that what they have wanted to do has been well received by the council and supported.

2 members of South Alive were on the panel with Janette last time (and commented that that's why they are now involved in South Alive). Rochelle was good - asked some good questions. Told them at the end that she is running for council.

Otatara - Again was a great discussion, lots of questions. They acknowledged that as a more wealthy community they have a good understanding of who to contact when there is an issue (they also made similar comments to what I made yesterday about low socio economic communities....) They talked a lot about a community board and Bluff. Didn't like the idea of higher rates to have a Board and weren't convinced that a Board would give them an advantage - what does the Bluff CB really do? Talked about a Ward for Otatara and discussed the options for the that and the potential outcomes of that. Was suggested that councillors could just have a designated area anyway that they are the councillor for - visit regularly, build a relationship with etc. Judy and I think they will probably favour the status quo.

Judy was great also.

Some feedback from the Workshops:

How can we make representation better (under at Large)

Talk to key people in the community and community groups

More things like this review

The new way we voted was great
Delve more demographically, networking for communication
Well-being of community just as important as utilities
Booklet sent out helped me with making a submission
Communities need to be educated about how to make submissions – time at library, someone on tap to help/.
At large – communities of interest – best way to engage, ?council to engage, ?work better;
council/councillor accessible; calibre of candidate availability; contniute to enageg through technology

What can council do?

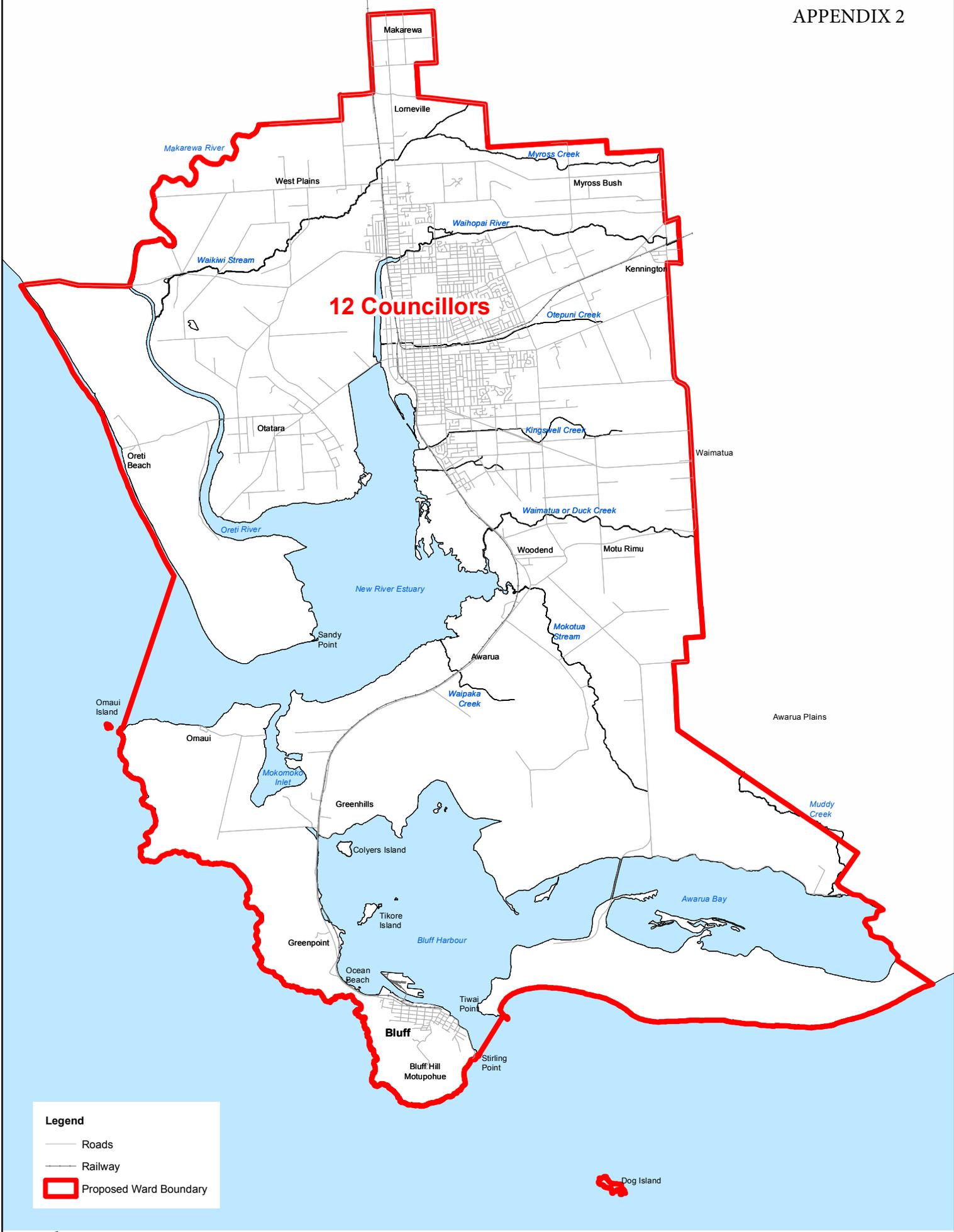
Advertise things that appeal to younger pop
Have community groups not around demographic are but more of a community focus
Get community on side especially around CBD
Innercity mall/hub to bring people in to CBD
Centralistion of city to increase productivity
Community Board meet with council
Advertise – ICC TV, Email group

What can community do?

Vote
Interest groups register with the council and councillors take ownership of so many.

Workshop feedback – from attendees about attending the workshops:

Did you find the workshop worthwhile? Yes, very worthwhile; yes if we are heard..... and its not just council ticking boxes; great idea to be able to have some input and hear others view, well done council; think about a focus on involving those that are not participating int he electoral processes; Interesting!; A good way to be introduced a little bit about how council works and why. Like the information and also how the whole night was run, effective and to the point; tea/coffee and sandwiches is a nice bonus too.



12 Councillors

Legend

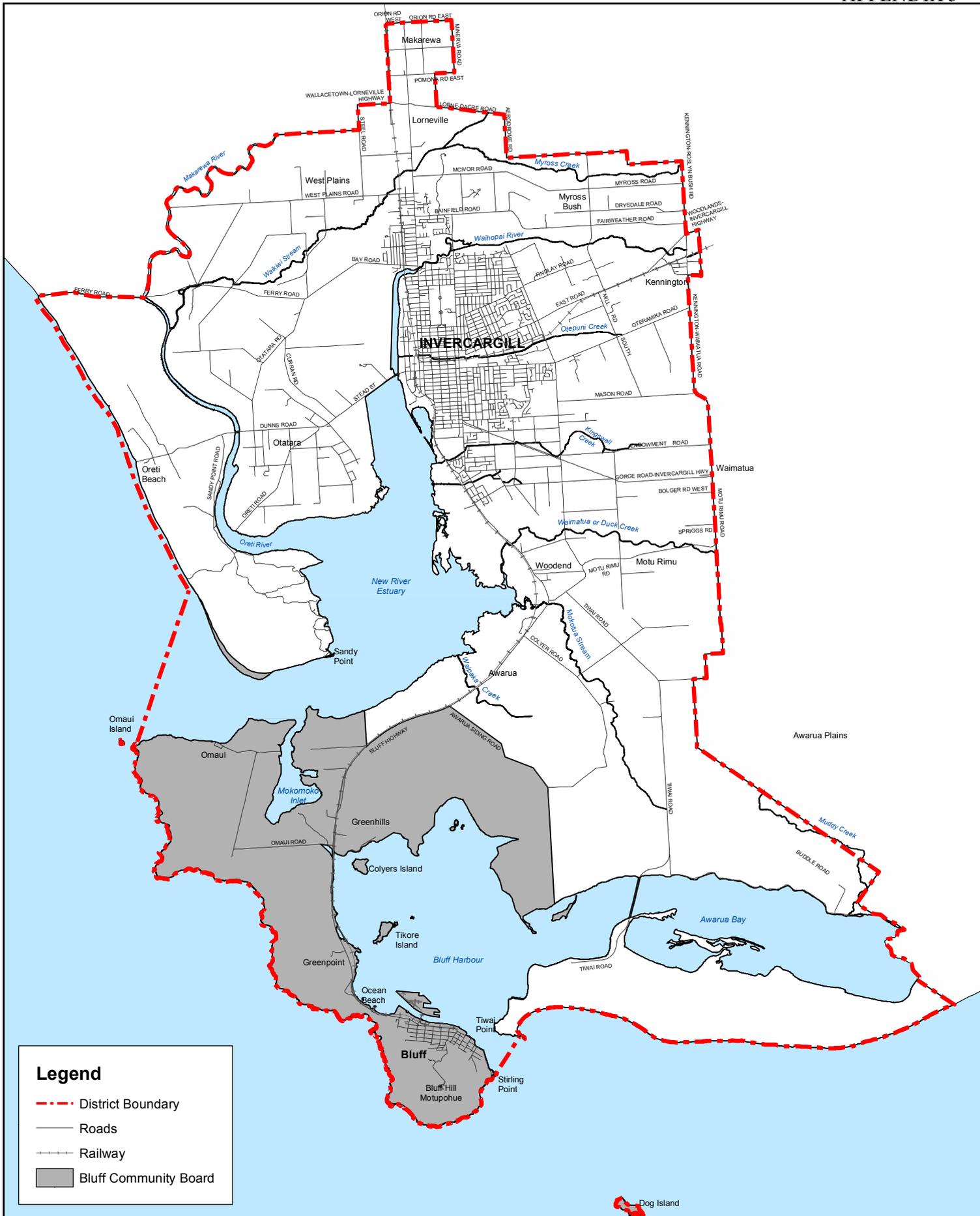
- Roads
- Railway
- Proposed Ward Boundary



N
 Date Printed: 30/6/2015

Representation Option: At Large
 All Councillors elected by electors of whole district

Information shown is the currently assumed knowledge as at date printed. If information is vital, confirm with the Authorative Owner. E & O.E.



N
Date Printed: 11/7/2013

Bluff Community Board Area

Information shown is the currently assumed knowledge as at date printed. If information is vital, confirm with the Authorative Owner. E & O.E.

Eirwen Harris

From: Richard King
Sent: Monday, 22 June 2015 3:15 p.m.
To: Eirwen Harris
Subject: FW: Norman Jones Foundation

For next council agenda

Kind Regards,

Richard King | Chief Executive | Invercargill City Council



From: Karen Arnold [<mailto:kfarnold@ihug.co.nz>]
Sent: Monday, 15 June 2015 8:50 p.m.
To: Tim Shadbolt
Cc: Richard King; Mary Napper
Subject: Norman Jones Foundation

Dear Mayor Tim

Following the most recent council election, you appointed me – as council representative – as a trustee of the Norman Jones Foundation. Unfortunately, the majority of the trust's business takes place during normal business hours. I have work commitments during the day and find it almost impossible to attend any NJF meetings. As a result, I am a poor representative of council.

I would like to resign my position and request that you appoint a councillor more capable of fulfilling the role of trustee. Please confirm that this is acceptable.

Regards
Cr Karen Arnold