

Ashburton District Council

AGENDA

Notice of Meeting:

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

Date: Wednesday 18 September 2024

Time: 10.30am

Venue: Hine Paaka Council Chamber
Te Whare Whakaterere, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton

Membership

Mayor	Neil Brown
Deputy Mayor	Liz McMillan
Members	Leen Braam
	Carolyn Cameron
	Russell Ellis
	Phill Hooper
	Lynette Lovett
	Rob Mackle
	Tony Todd
	Richard Wilson

Meeting Timetable

Time	Item
10.30am	Council meeting commences <i>(Public excluded)</i>
1.00pm	Council meeting resumes

1 Apologies

2 Extraordinary Business

3 Declarations of Interest

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

Business Transacted with the Public Excluded

- | | | |
|----------|--|--------------|
| 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sale of Buildings Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities | PE 53 |
| | <i>Council will adjourn at the conclusion of this item and resume in open meeting at 1pm.</i> | |

Minutes

- | | | |
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| 5 | Council – 4/09/24 | 3 |
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| 7 | Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee – 3/09/24 | 11 |

Reports

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Business Transacted with the Public Excluded

- | | | |
|-----------|---|---------------|
| 17 | Council – 4/09/24
[Now in open meeting] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EA Shareholders Committee appointments | PE 1 |
| 18 | Methven Community Board – 9/09/24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lease matter Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities | PE 2 |
| 19 | Lake Clearwater leases Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities | PE 3 |
| 20 | Housing & Support Trust lease Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities | PE 28 |
| 21 | Te Whare Whakatere Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities | PE 45 |
| 22 | Ashburton Business Estate Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities | Verbal |

5. Council Minutes – 4 September 2024

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 4 September 2024, commencing at 1pm in the Hine Paaka Council Chamber, Te Whare Whakatere, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton.

Present

His Worship the Mayor, Neil Brown; Deputy Mayor Liz McMillan and Councillors Leen Braam, Carolyn Cameron, Russell Ellis, Phill Hooper, Lynette Lovett, Rob Mackle, Tony Todd and Richard Wilson.

In attendance

Hamish Riach (Chief Executive), Toni Durham (GM Democracy & Engagement) *via MS Teams*, Ian Hyde (GM Compliance & Development), Leanne Macdonald (GM Business Support), Neil McCann (GM Infrastructure & Open Spaces), Sarah Mosley (GM People & Facilities) and Phillipa Clark (Governance Team Leader).

Staff present for the duration of their reports: Mark Low (Strategy & Policy Manager), Mel Neumann (Policy Advisor), Lou Dunstan (Policy Advisor) and Erin Register (Finance Manager).

1 Apologies

Nil.

2 Extraordinary Business

Nil.

3 Declarations of Interest

Cr Wilson gave notice he will withdraw from the meeting for item 12.

Kiingi Tuheitia

Council observed a moment's silence as a mark of respect on the passing of the Māori monarch, Kiingi Tuheitia Pootatau Te Wherowhero VII.

Public Forum (1.02pm – 1.11pm)

• Proposal for a Unitary Authority

Allan Andrews presented his views on the benefits of creating a separate regional council that would exclude the city and take in the area south of the Rakaia River to Waitaki. While reference was made to a 'unitary authority', Mr Andrews would want to retain the territorial local authorities.

Presentation (1.12pm – 1.23pm)

• Festival for the Future

Maddie Page presented on her attendance at the Festival for the Future forum – a two day summit held annually in Wellington for youth leaders across New Zealand. Around 200 young people attended along with a number of mayors associated with the Mayors' Taskforce for Jobs scheme. Highlights for Maddie included the opportunity to record a podcast about her goals for the future (Be an outlet for inspiration) and the "Mayors' Lunch" where valuable connections were made with other attendees. Maddie acknowledged the partners that made the event possible and thanked Council for the opportunity to attend.

4 Confirmation of Minutes

- Council – 20/08/24

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 20 August 2024, be taken as read and confirmed.

Hooper/Cameron

Carried

5 Airport Authority Subcommittee – 21/08/24

That Council receives the minutes of the Airport Authority Subcommittee meeting held on Wednesday 21 August 2024.

Lovett/Braam

Carried

6 Biodiversity Advisory Group – 5/08/24

That Council receives the minutes of the Biodiversity Advisory Group meeting held on Monday 5 August 2024.

Braam/Todd

Carried

7 Representation Review – Final Proposal

That Council resolves the following as the final proposal for the representation arrangements for the next triennial election of the Ashburton District Council and Methven Community Board, to be held on 11 October 2025:

- a. The Council is made up of 9 members elected from three wards, plus the Mayor
- b. The three wards will reflect the following identified communities of interest:

Ashburton Ward – the areas around and including Ashburton town and the area of Lake Hood which are serviced or have the potential to be serviced in the medium future.

Western Ward – the inland portion of the rural area of Ashburton District.

Eastern Ward – the seaward portion of the rural area of Ashburton District.

- c. The population that each member will represent is as follows:

Ward	Population	Members	Ratio
Ashburton Ward	21,220	5	4,244
Eastern Ward	7,640	2	3,820
Western Ward	7,860	2	3,930
Total	36,720	9	4,080

- d. There will be one Community Board. The Community Board will be the Methven Community Board and will be representative of the services delivered to residential and commercial areas of Methven.

The Methven community will elect five members and have two appointed members. The Council's appointed members will be the two Western Ward councillors.

As part of the initial proposal, Council had proposed to reduce the elected number of members from five to four. However, in response to submissions received Council has amended its proposal to maintain the five elected members to the Methven Community Board. The reasons for retaining five elected members are:

- The current structure is working well
- Allows for a more diverse range of views, skills and experience
- The Methven Community Board boundary is extending
- The Methven population is expected to grow.

McMillan/Cameron

Carried

Refer to the maps attached in the report indicating boundaries of the Ashburton District Council wards and Methven Community Board area

8 Sensitive Expenditure Policy Review

The recommendation wasn't fully supported. Councillors opposed referred to cl. 6.6 in the Policy (Private use of Council suppliers) and disagreed that benefits given to Council should be passed on to individual members of staff. There was also a view that this clause could remain on the proviso that staff purchases are subject to approval by the Chief Executive.

Officers advised that the provision, which has always been in the Policy, would allow Council to accept promotional offers that are made to councils and other employers from time to time.

That Council adopts the revised Sensitive Expenditure Policy, as attached in Appendix 2, with the next review scheduled for 2027.

Ellis/Braam

Carried

Amendment

1. **That** Council adopts the revised Sensitive Expenditure Policy, with Appendix 2 amended to remove cl.6.6, Private use of Council suppliers; and
2. **That** the next review of the Policy be scheduled for 2027.

Cameron/Mayor

A show of hands gave 4 for and 6 against and the amendment was lost

Amendment

1. **That** Council adopts the revised Sensitive Expenditure Policy, with Appendix 2 (cl 6.6) amended to require that private use of Council suppliers is subject to the Chief Executive's approval; and
2. **That** the next review of the Policy be scheduled for 2027.

Hooper/Mayor

A show of hands gave 2 for and 7 against and the amendment was lost

The original motion became the substantive motion.

Cr Cameron recorded her vote against the motion.

9 Stockwater Transition Working Group Terms of Reference

It was agreed to amend the terms of reference to show that meeting frequency would be at least quarterly. This anticipates the possibility of additional meetings being required in early 2025.

1. **That** Council adopts the Stockwater Transition Working Group Terms of Reference.
2. **That** Council appoints Cr Richard Wilson as the Chair of the Stockwater Transition Working Group.

Cameron/Lovett

Carried

James Meager – MP Rangitata (2.05pm-2.31pm)

James spoke about some of the current issues for local and central government, including the RMA reforms and Fast Track Bill, the Justice Committee's inquiry into the 2023 elections, water services delivery plans and the tourism visitor levy increase. He referred to the National Land Transport Programme noting that Ashburton's second bridge remains a key approved activity. Government recognises that the bridge is a priority for this region. It now sits with ADC and NZTA to discuss funding mechanisms. All options need to be put on the table.

10 July 2024 Financial Variance Report

That Council receives the July 2024 Financial Variance Report.

McMillan/Cameron

Carried

11 Councillors' Report

- **LGNZ Conference**

That Council receives the Councillors' LGNZ Conference reports.

Braam/Hooper

Carried

Welcome to Staff

Katie Perry, People & Capability Manager, introduced new staff – Bobbie Rushton (Programmes Co-ordinator), Gracie Woodhouse (Planning Administrator) and Tania Hoefsloot (Accountant).

Business transacted with the public excluded – 2.56pm

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely – the general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

Item No	General subject of each matter to be considered:	In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Act, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:	
12	Council – 20/08/24 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ADC shareholding• Tradewaste discharge• EA Shareholder Committee• People & Capability report• ACL report to 30/06/24	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
		Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
		Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons
		Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons
		Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
13	Airport Authority Subcommittee	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

Ellis/Braam

Carried

Council adjourned from 2.56pm until 3.22pm.

Business transacted with the public excluded now in open meeting

- **EA Shareholder Committee appointments**

1. **That** Council notes that Anne Marrett has declined reappointment and will step down from her Council appointed role on the Electricity Ashburton Shareholders Committee at the Company's annual meeting on 29 August 2024.

2. **That** Council appoints Kate Templeton to the Electricity Ashburton Shareholders Committee for a three year term expiring at the Company's annual meeting in 2027.

Mayor/McMillan

Carried

The meeting concluded at 3.30pm.

Confirmed 18 September 2024

MAYOR

6. *Methven Community Board – 9 September 2024*

Minutes of the Methven Community Board meeting held on Monday 9 September 2024, commencing at 9.00 am, in the Mt Hutt Memorial Hall Board Room, 160 Main Street, Methven.

Present

Mayor Neil Brown; Kelvin Holmes (Chair), Megan Fitzgerald, Allan Lock, Richie Owen, Liz McMillan, and Robin Jenkinson.

In attendance

Toni Durham (GM Democracy & Engagement), Mark Low (Strategy & Policy Manager), Lou Dunstan (Policy Advisor), Renee Julius (Property Manager), Linda Clarke (Communications Advisor) and Phillipa Clark (Governance Support).

1 Apologies

Cr Rob Mackle

Sustained

2 Extraordinary Business

The Board will receive an update from Richie Owen on his attendance at the LGNZ Community Board Conference.

3 Declarations of Interest

Nil.

4 Confirmation of Minutes

Noted that KidzMethven skatepark funding is not vested in Council.

That the minutes of the Methven Community Board meeting held on 29 July 2024, as amended, be taken as read and confirmed.

Lock/Jenkinson

Carried

5 Discretionary Grant Request – Cancer Society

That the matter be uplifted for discussion.

McMillan/Owen

Carried

The Board noted that the funding requested is not for a specific project in Methven.

That Methven Community Board declines the request for 4,000 from its discretionary grant to the Cancer Society for health navigation services in Methven.

Owen/McMillan

Carried

6 Discretionary Grant Request – Methven Rugby Football Club

That the Methven Community Board allocates \$8,000 from its discretionary grant to the Methven Rugby Football Club for the women’s changing room project.

Holmes/Fitzgerald

Carried

7 Discretionary Grant Request – Island Ferry: Mystery of the Rakaia Gorge (book publication)

That Methven Community Board allocates declines \$2,500 from its discretionary grant to publish the “Island Ferry: Mystery of the Rakaia Gorge’ book.

Owen/Fitzgerald

Carried

8 Activity Reports

That the reports be received.

Jenkinson/Lock

Carried

8.1 Infrastructure & Open Spaces

- **Methven Mall mobility access**

The Board Chair will liaise with the Roothing Manager to identify an appropriate space to designate as a mobility park. It was agreed that the suggested end park may not be viable.

- **SH77 trees removed**

Board members were pleased to see that trees encroaching into the carriageway have been removed. The Mayor advised that Council plans to discuss tree maintenance in a workshop to develop a better understanding of Open Spaces’ retention and removal process. Board members will be further advised and invited to attend.

- **Garden of Harmony**

The Chair will circulate a draft concept plan and project brief to Board members.

- **Methven lighting**

Costings are being confirmed to install amenity lighting in the town square. Of the estimated \$20k, the Board will consider contributing \$5k, with the balance to be met from the Open Spaces budget. The Chair is proposing that a public meeting be held and business owners invited to get their buy-in to lighting up their premises.

- **Methven cemetery**

Officers will be asked to look at an area in need of re-grassing and smoothing out after damage caused by truck movements.

- **Dog park**

The Chair will speak with the Open Spaces Manager about planting more natives in the dog park area. The Board agreed that there should be some consistency between the park and Birdsong Initiative plantings.

Open Spaces will also be asked to mow the area where the 60km speed sign has been placed at the northern approach to the town. Clarification was sought on whether the Camrose developers are required to put a footpath alongside the road and this will be referred to Planning for response.

- **Recycling depot**

Officers were asked to look at moving the signage closer to the site entrance. It was noted that a number of people appear to be missing the message resulting in unwanted dumping and contaminated bins.

8.2 Democracy & Engagement

- **Local Water Done Well**

The Mayor provided a brief update, noting that Canterbury councils are in discussions and looking at options for their water services delivery plans.

- **Stockwater exit**

The Mayor explained that the Stockwater Transition Working Group is the core group to monitor the stockwater exit, but representatives from specific areas will be invited to attend meetings when required. The Board was reminded that Council is exiting water race management but not closing all races.

- **Methven Community Strategic Plan**

Presentation and discussion later in the meeting.

8.3 Business Support

- **Finance**

The Board's discretionary funding balance will be the subject of a carry-over request, to be considered by Council in October.

Extraordinary Business

- LGNZ conference

Richie Owen thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend the Conference in Wellington, and commented positively on the experience and value gained from meeting with other delegates.

- National Land Transport Plan

The Mayor took the opportunity to advise the Board that the second Ashburton Bridge has been retained in the NLTP, with a FAR (NZTA) contribution of 51%. Council has advised the Minister that the remaining 49% is unaffordable for the district, and there will be further discussions about funding this project.

Application for a fast track consent has been lodged. Detailed design is to be completed and then construction will be tendered.

The Board also heard that the NLTP hasn't included the funding anticipated for low cost / low risk work. Council is yet to consider the implications of this, after budgeting \$10m for this work.

Methven Community Strategic Plan

Powerpoint presentation (copy to be emailed to Board members)

The Board supported the proposed timeline and agreed to give further consideration to a number of factors, including whether –

- the area covered by the Plan will be wider than just the Community Board area
- the scope of the Plan should be Council projects, community projects – or more
- the timeframe of the Plan should be 3, 5 or 10 years
- the Plan will be Community Board driven (in conjunction with Council), and/or include other community leaders
- funding of \$20k will be used in-house, or include external engagement

The Board agreed that previous Community Plans (2009 and 2014) will be referred to. The Board will have informal discussion and provide officers with a direction, noting that the intention is to have a Community Plan adopted before the 2025 triennial elections.

Business transacted with the public excluded - 10.38am

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely – the general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

Item No	General subject of each matter to be considered:	In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Act, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:	
7	Extraordinary business - Lease agreement	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

Owen/Jenkinson

Carried

The meeting concluded at 11.18am.

Confirmed 21 October 2024

Chairman

7. Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee 3/09/24

Minutes of the Ashburton District Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee meeting held on Tuesday 3 September 2024, commencing at 9.30am in the Wakanui Room, Te Whare Whakaterere, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton.

1 Welcome and Apologies

That apologies for absence be received from Lucy Mehrtens (Road Safety – South Canterbury), David Scarlett (NZTA), Lesley Symington (Safer Mid Canterbury) and Shane Cochrane (NZ Police) and Mayor Neil Brown for lateness.

Richard Wilson/John Skevington

Carried

Present:

Neil Brown	Mayor	James Long	Waka Kotahi
Liz McMillan	ADC Deputy Mayor (Chair)	Craig Chambers	Waka Kotahi
Phill Hooper	ADC Councillor	Andrae Gold	ACADS
Richard Wilson	ADC Councillor	Steve Ochsner	FENZ
John Skevington	Automobile Association	Neil Simons	Principal Association
Jim Crouchley	Ia Ara Aotearoa/Transporting NZ		

In attendance:

Mark Chamberlain	Roading Manager	Carol McAtamney	Governance Support Officer
Georgie Wilson	Road and Safety Technician		

2 Notification of Extraordinary Business

Nil.

3 Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Ashburton District Road Safety Coordinating Committee meeting held on 4 June 2024, be taken as read and confirmed.

Hooper/Wilson

Carried

4 Correspondence

Nil

5 Reports/Agency Updates

5.1 Ashburton District Road Safety

- Following a recent accident, improvements have been made at the Staveley Store/Arundel Rakaia Gorge road intersection. Road signage has been updated and the intersection has been changed from a give way to a stop.
- Advertising/promotion on how to correctly use median strips has recently been undertaken by NZTA. ADC to also promote through their social media channels.

Neil Brown joined the meeting at 9.45am

5.2 Automobile Association

- Funding for roadside breath testing along with the introduction of drug testing has been increased.
- It was noted that the south end approach to the Ashburton bridge has large potholes that require attention.
- The announcement from NZTA regarding funds allocated for the second Ashburton bridge requires more clarity as to who is paying for what.

5.3 ACADS Report

- A community workshop for the 2024/25 summer safety road campaign is to be held on 17 September.

5.4 Waka Kotahi/NZTA

- Programme for upcoming NLTP 2024-27 is currently being considered.
- Less funding has been allocated for safety promotion.
- Work on repairing the potholes through the Tinwald corridor was put on hold until the completion of the traffic light project. Permanent repairs have been included in the upcoming work schedule.
- Structural asphalt repairs on SH1 from Moore Street intersection to the bridge have been scheduled.
- It was noted that since the Rakaia weigh station has been operational one truck had been stickered – a query was made as to what was non-compliant with the vehicle?

5.5 FENZ (Circulated as a separate document)

- A report detailing statistics of FENZ activity throughout the district was circulated for members information.

Ia Ara Aotearoa/Transporting NZ

- Have written to Waka Kotahi to express their concerns that there are no provisions for either a deceleration or acceleration ramp for trucks to get in and out on the 2nd Rakaia weigh bridge.

NZ Police

- A verbal update of Police activity was provided.

Safer Mid Canterbury

- The Ashburton bike skills park working group are currently in the process of establishing a legal entity or trust so it can apply for funding for the next stages of the project.

6 Next Meeting

The next meeting date is Tuesday 3 December 2024 at 9.30am.

Meeting closed at 10.53am

8. Advice to Council on possible approvals required to divert water from Balmacaan Stream

Author *Toni Durham: GM Democracy & Engagement*
Tania Paddock: Legal Counsel
Mark Low: Strategy & Policy Manager

Executive Team Member *Hamish Riach: Chief Executive*

Summary

- The purpose of this report is for Council to understand the costs and implications of applying for a resource consent and DOC approvals to divert water from the Balmacaan Stream to Lake Camp.
- The matter has arisen due to the Lake Clearwater community seeking a solution to Lake Camp's current low water levels.
- Officers have not provided a recommendation in this report. However, alternative resolutions are provided below for Council's consideration.

Recommendation(s)

- 1. That** Council directs officers to apply for the necessary resource consents and DOC authorisations to divert water from Balmacaan Stream to Lake Camp;
- 2. That** the costs associated with applying for resource consent and DOC authorisations are funded from the Dividend Account; and
- 3. That,** if the resource consent application and DOC authorisations are granted, the costs for implementing the diversion are loan funded as a capital project.

OR

- 1. That** Council directs officers not to proceed with applying for the necessary resource consents and DOC authorisations to divert water from Balmacaan Stream to Lake Camp.

Attachment

- Appendix 1** Estimated Order of Costs
Appendix 2 Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan provisions
Appendix 3 Location Plan

Background

The current situation

1. The request to divert water into Lake Camp was raised with Ōtuwharekai working group members. This culminated in a meeting of stakeholders in the Ashburton District Council offices on 11 June. At this meeting chaired by Environment Canterbury (ECan), Judith Earl Goulet and Vanessa Wright presented a proposal, to divert the Balmacaan Stream and take the snow melt into Lake Camp. ADC Council staff confirmed there is no mandate for this activity or to hold a consent. Department of Conservation (DOC) stated its position was to let nature take its course. ECan and DOC scientists passed comments. Fish and Game spoke of their now surrendered consent, the history and the reasons why. Arowhenua confirmed it is a complex request. Other speakers were representatives of the Lake Clearwater Hut Holders Association and landowner of Mount Possession Station, Mr Donald Whyte.
2. Representatives from the Lake Clearwater Hutholders Association presented to the Ashburton Water Zone Committee in July 2024 seeking a solution to the low water levels that Lake Camp is currently experiencing. The outcome of that meeting was a request for Ashburton District Council to apply for resource consents to take water from Balmacaan Stream for Lake Camp.
3. On 14 August 2024, representatives from ECan, Department of Conservation (DOC) and Fish and Game presented to Council in a public workshop their scientific opinions around the low water levels in Lake Camp.
4. At the Council meeting on the 20 August, Council resolved that an Officer's report would be requested to understand the costs and implications of applying for resource consents to divert Balmacaan Stream into Lake Camp. This report does not address the merits of the applications and approvals required, nor the likelihood of any application or approvals being successful.
5. The current level of Lake Camp at the date of preparing this report is shown below. Live-time data can be found on the Environment Canterbury website at [this link](#). Please note the narrative 'River' refers generically to 'water level' and Lake Camp in this case.

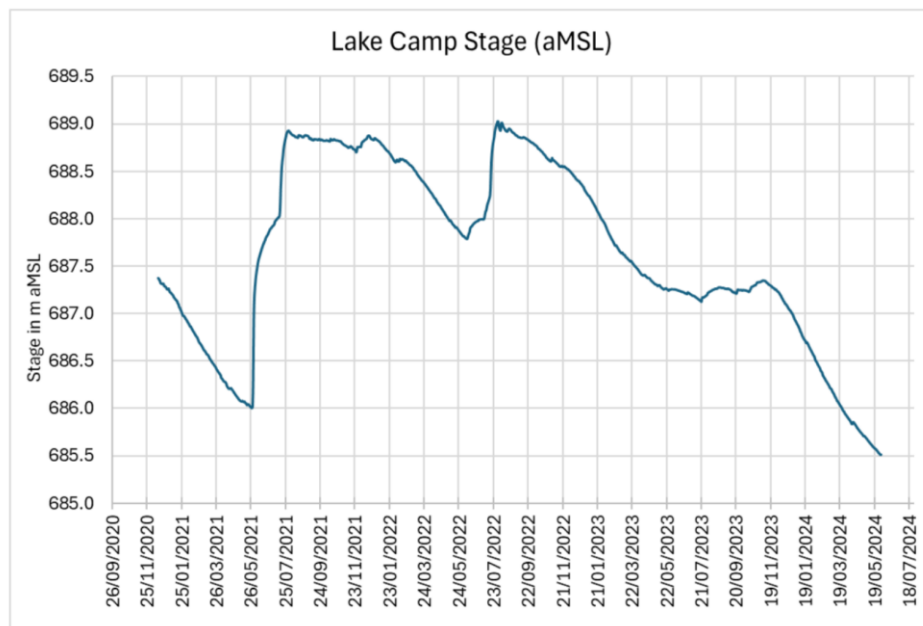
River Flow for Lake Camp at South Lake

LAST SAMPLE (NZD STD TIME)	STAGE M	FLOW M3/S	CHANGE MM/H	7 DAY PEAK STAGE	7 DAY PEAK FLOW	7 DAY PEAK DATE	WATER TEMP °C
11-Sep 09:00	5.391		0	5.395		10-Sep 15:55	6.53

River stage height (metres)



6. At the August workshop, ECan provided the following graph showing Lake Camp water levels from the last four years, with the water level measured as metres above mean sea level. Of note, the water level has fluctuated around 3.5 m over the four-year period, and this includes the large May 2021 rainfall level.



Previous Resource Consents

7. Fish and Game New Zealand (Central South Island Region) previously held three resource consents in relation to the diversion of Balmacaan Stream and discharge into Lake Camp:

- a. [CRC980301](#): to divert water from Balmacaan Stream, to augment Lake Camp and an unnamed tributary for fisheries purposes. Water could be taken at a rate of up to 56 l/s.
 - b. [CRC980302](#): to discharge water diverted from Balmacaan Stream into Lake Camp at a rate not exceeding 56 l/s.
 - c. [CRC980303](#): to use a structure in the bed of an unnamed tributary of Lake Camp and to disturb the bed of the unnamed tributary. This is a consent to undertake minor maintenance works by hand in a stream near Lake Camp.
8. As has been well documented, Fish & Game surrendered these resource consents in November 2020.
 9. These three resource consents were granted in 2000, under a different regional plan framework. Therefore, any resource consent application and consents (if granted) are expected to look substantially different to these previous consents.

Consents and Authorisations required

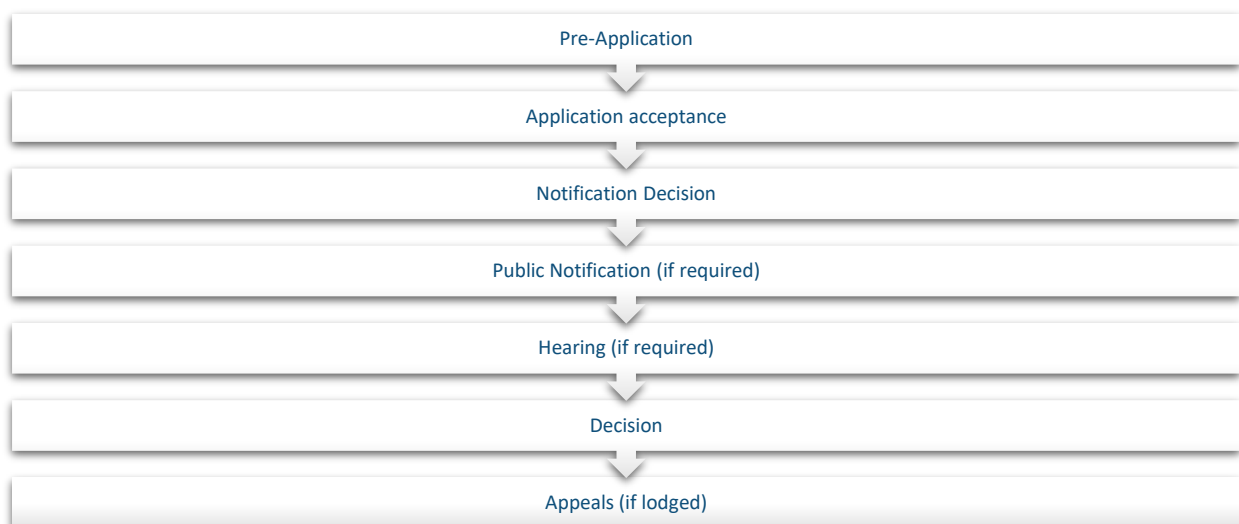
10. To divert water from Balmacaan Stream to Lake Camp, Council will need to obtain consent and concessions from Environment Canterbury, Department of Conservation and under its own District Plan.
11. The table below provides a high-level overview, and cost estimate, of the different aspects needed to be covered. These are covered in greater detail in **Appendix One**.

Pre-Application & Lodgement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECan - ~\$245,000 • DoC - ~\$20,000 • ADC - \$1,295 <p style="text-align: right; color: red; margin-top: 10px;">Running Total: ~\$266,000</p>
Hearings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECan - ~\$149,000 • DoC - ~\$67,250 <p style="text-align: right; color: red; margin-top: 10px;">Running Total: ~\$482,000</p>
Infrastructure & Ongoing Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital costs – structures ~\$175,000 • Annual monitoring & compliance - \$25,000 <p style="text-align: right; color: red; margin-top: 10px;">Running Total: ~\$682,000</p>
Uncertainties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appeal legal costs - ~\$75,000 • Appeal technical experts - ~\$75,000 • Judicial Review - ~\$75,000

12. To gather the required technical information and lodge the consent and authorisation applications to ECan, DOC and ADC has been estimated to cost \$266,000. It is expected that the technical assessments prepared for the ECan process will also be required in the same, or very similar, format for the DOC process. Therefore, officers have not duplicated these technical assessment costs in the calculation of costs for the DOC process.
13. Officers consider it is likely that the applications will be publicly notified (by both ECan and DOC) for community input and that hearings are likely for both organisations. The estimated cost for these parts of the process is \$216,000 (bringing the estimated total to \$482,000 before a decision will be known).
14. Should the consents and authorisations be granted, it is estimated that the building of the diversion structure and associated capital will be \$175,000, with ongoing compliance and monitoring costs likely to be \$25,000 per annum.
15. It is important to note that officers have been unable to quantify costs associated with lizard management plan and translocation costs, as this will be dependent on the number of lizards found in the lizard survey (estimated to be \$5,500).

Resource Consent Application Process

16. Applying for a resource consent(s) to divert water from Balmacaan Stream to Lake Camp will require Council to meet the requirements of the Resource Management Act, 1991 (RMA).
17. The key aspects of the process have been summarised as follows:



18. This report has sought to understand the requirements of the information likely required to lodge the resource consent(s) (pre-application).

19. It is important to note that professional planners and legal professionals are unable to comment on the likelihood of success of an application as it risks accusations of prejudgement including matters that might be raised through assessment or a notification process. An applicant can however maximise their chances of success by addressing as best they can all likely potential effects at an early stage.
20. Section 88 of the RMA is about 'Making an Application'. A key part of this section refers to *'including the information relating to the activity, including an assessment of the activity's effects on the environment, that is required by Schedule 4.'*
21. The key part of schedule 4 that is pertinent to this report is section 7, that refers to the *'Matters that must be addressed by assessment of environmental effects'*. Specifically, the environmental effects of an activity on the following:
 - a) Any effect on those in the neighbourhood and, where relevant, the wider community, including any social, economic or cultural effects:
 - b) Any physical effect on the locality, including any landscape and visual effects;
 - c) Any effect on ecosystems, including effects on plants or animals and any physical disturbance of habitats in the vicinity;
 - d) Any effect on natural and physical resources having aesthetic, recreational, scientific, historical, spiritual or cultural values, or other special value, for present or future generations"
 - e) Any discharge of contaminants into the environment, including any unreasonable emission of noise, and options for the treatment and disposal of contaminants:
 - f) Any risk to the neighbourhood, the wider community, or the environments through natural hazards or hazardous installations.
22. Officers have had initial discussions with ECan consent staff to understand the likely resource consents required, as well as the assessments that will be required to accompany a resource consent application. This can be taken as very initial feedback as the information ECan staff were working to was very limited.

Environment Canterbury Resource Consents

23. It is expected that, as a minimum, the following resource consents will be required under the [Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan](#) ('CLWRP'):
 - a. Section 14 RMA (take and use water): Two rules are breached due to the diversion of water within Balmacaan Stream to an intake structure and the taking of water from Balmacaan Stream. ECan has advised an application would be required under Rule 13.5.5 of the CLWRP, which addresses the take and use of surface water in the Ashburton River/Hakatere catchment. ECan advised the take would likely fall within the B Block allocation limit, noting that the entire Ashburton/Hakatere Catchment is managed on an allocation and flow regime at the Ashburton River SH1 bridge. The only available water within the catchment is

B Block (as the A Block is fully allocated), and this B Block water is not generally reliable due to the SH1 minimum flow restrictions. Officers have understood this comment from ECan to be interpreted as the take from Balmacaan Stream may have a condition that links the take to the B Block minimum flow restrictions of 14,000 l/s at the Ashburton River SH1 bridge. This interpretation is consistent with Policy 13.4.8 and Table 13(b) from the CLWRP, which ECan are bound by in granting consents. Further minimum flow restrictions may also be added on the consent, including a minimum flow for the Balmacaan Stream. These conditions would be determined through the consent process. The relevant planning framework is included in **Appendix two** to this report.

- b. Section 13 RMA (activities in the bed of a river): Two rules are breached due to the disturbance of the bed of the Balmacaan River, and placing a structure in the river bed. It is expected that works are likely needed to contour and engineer the bed of the river to facilitate the diversion and place a new intake structure.
 - c. Section 15 RMA (discharges): Two rules are breached due to the discharge of sediment associated with the works, and the discharge of water into Lake Camp.
24. It is clear that any diversion structure will need to be more sophisticated than the previous diversion in order to satisfy consent requirements, notably the minimum flow requirements. ECan has advised that a control structure would need to be in place that ensures the taking of water can be reduced or stopped when any minimum flow restrictions are in place. Such a structure would ideally need to be automated to avoid the need for human intervention. Water meter/telemetry equipment will be required to record diversion rates as well as being self-sufficient in communication and electrical supply given the isolation of the site. It is unclear whether a fish screen would be required.
25. Following discussions with ECan staff, officers believe the following assessments will be required, as a minimum, to lodge an application for resource consent:
- Hydrological assessment to understand the effects of the take on the hydrology of the catchment. This will include flow modelling of Balmacaan Stream and the effect of removing water from Balmacaan Stream on the downstream hydrology of the catchment, in particular any wetlands sustained by flows from Balmacaan, Lake Roundabout and Lake Emma.
 - Cultural report, given the importance of Otūwharakei for mana whenua. A cultural assessment will need to include reference to impact on any cultural values associated with the downstream wetland complex fed by Balmacaan and mixing of waters.
 - Ecological assessment, including the value and extent of any wetlands affected by the take.
 - Engineering advice, to outline the type of intake structure needed for the diversion, and a fish screen design (if required).

- Explanation of how the proposal is justified, for example, how is this take required to address values associated with Lake Camp, and how will it be successful, e.g. how much will it alter the situation from the natural climatically driven water level patterns of Lake Camp.
 - Consideration of alternatives considered.
26. Given the complexity of the work above, officers have estimated that these would take a minimum of 6-12 months to complete. There are a number of unknowns with this estimate, including obtaining the information required to understand the hydrology of Balmacaan Stream and whether sufficient water is actually available in the stream to make a meaningful impact on improving water levels in Lake Camp, particularly in times of drought. Currently, this information is not available.
 27. Estimated prices of just the assessments required to meet the above requirements are \$160,000. These are shown in Appendix One in greater detail.
 28. If granted, consent durations of 10-15 years can be expected.
 29. Officers consider that a resource consent application for this project carries a high likelihood of requiring full public notification. This means that public consultation and submissions in support of, or opposition to, the applications can be reasonably anticipated. Public notification makes the requirement for hearings and the potential for appeal of a decision much more likely.
 30. Going through a public consultation process, including hearings, will add a significant amount of time and cost to the process, particularly where there is public interest. The notification step is not the final decision in the process. Decision-makers must take into account all information available, including reports, evidence and any submissions when they make the final decision on the consent application.
 31. The minimum timeframes set under the RMA for a publicly notified application are:
 - a. Once the application is lodged, ECan will assess whether the application is complete, or whether more information is required. Once the application is deemed 'complete', has 20 working days to make a decision on whether to notify the application.
 - b. If the application is publicly notified, there is a 20 working day period for submitters to lodge a submission on the application.
 - c. If required, a public hearing must be held within 75 working days following completion of submissions.
 - d. Following close of the hearing, a decision should be issued within 15 working days.
 32. In total, the public notification to hearing process is 130 working days, however these timeframes can be extended by the applicant or ECan.

33. Within 15 working days of the decision being issued, the applicant or any submitters can appeal the decision to the Environment Court.

Department of Conservation (DOC) Authorisations

34. As Balmacaan Stream is located within the Conservation Estate, the land is managed by the Department of Conservation. This means that any plan to divert water from the stream would also need to meet the requirements of DOC, including an easement concession and a Wildlife Act authority.
35. Officers understand that Balmacaan River is a habitat for rare New Zealand Scree skinks, *Oligosoma waimatense*. Therefore, officers understand that a Wildlife Act authority will be required if new earthworks are undertaken to create a diversion structure and new trenches from Balmacaan River to Lake Camp. If there are no lizards or their habitat to be displaced, then no wildlife authority will be required. As the intake and diversion channel are yet to be designed, officers are unable to confirm whether a Wildlife Act authority will be required.
36. Where a Wildlife Act authority is required, as a minimum Council will need to undertake an independent lizard survey and a lizard assessment report. A lizard management plan will also be required if lizards are found. The associated costs with these steps are outlined in Appendix one. Depending on suggested mitigation if lizard or habitat are displaced, there may be associated costs to implement those mitigations. Examples of such mitigation include habitat improvement or salvage and relocation, and ongoing monitoring for several years to be agreed with DOC. These costs cannot be quantified at this stage, as the exact mitigations will depend on lizard survey findings.
37. Council would also need to apply to DOC for an easement concession. An easement concession would provide the right to convey water across DOC's land. The easement concession application must be accompanied by an environmental impact assessment which contains the following information:
- Description of the proposed activity;
 - The physical and social conservation values affected by the proposal;
 - The potential effects of the proposal, both positive and adverse;
 - Any measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects;
 - Any alternative locations, times or designs that would mitigate the adverse effects of the proposal;
 - A programme to monitor any ongoing effects.
38. DOC has advised the intake structure would need to be sufficiently progressed in design in order for DOC to be able to assess any easement concession application. It is expected that the same assessments/experts used for the resource consent application could also be used for the concession easement.

39. It was suggested at the workshop that ECan and Department of Conservation would likely run their pre-application processes contemporaneously. However, each agency would undertake its own assessment of the applications before it and make its own decision on whether or not to grant the relevant approvals.
40. DOC has advised that any easement concession application for longer than 10 years will be publicly notified and would likely be subject to a public hearing. DOC do not provide specific timeframes for processing an application through to a hearing. However, it is expected that a DOC process will take as long, if not longer, than an ECan consent process.

ADC Land Use Consents

41. If earthworks associated with the intake diversion exceed the ADC District Plan volume for the Rural C zone, land use resource consent will be required. The permitted volume of earthworks in the District Plan is 2000m³ without resource consent, provided the earthworks are a minimum of 100m from any lake, or 20m of any river or stream.
42. Given the proximity of earthworks to the stream, it is therefore expected that ADC land use resource consent is required. Rules relating to indigenous vegetation clearance may also be applicable.
43. It is standard practice that if the Regional Council follows a notification path, any relevant ADC consents would be “bundled” with those consents and the package processed together. If however the Regional Council decided to follow a non-notification path, the District Council as regulator would need to make its decisions independently.

Privately Owned Land Permissions

44. As shown on the location plan in Appendix three, the majority of the previous diversion channel flows across privately owned land. Landowner approval will be required from this landowner before any resource consent application can be lodged, as ECan will not process the application without this consent.
45. Officers have not yet approached this landowner.

Māori and tangata whenua participation

46. Ōtuwharekai is one of the best intact examples of an inter-montane wetland system in New Zealand, encompassing a mosaic of lakes, braided rivers, swamps, streams and ephemeral kettleholes.

47. Early Māori travelled through the area on the pounamu (greenstone) trails to the West Coast and the area is highly valued by iwi.
48. Three papatipu runaka have manawhenua in the area, Te Rūnaka o Arowhenua, Te Taumutu Rūnaka and Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnaka.
49. Resource consent(s) application will require a cultural report given the significance of the area for iwi.

Options analysis

Option one – Council directs officers to proceed with preparing a resource consent application and DOC authorisations to divert water from Balmacaan Stream to Lake Camp.

50. This option would see Council direct officers to proceed with preparing a resource consent and authorise the reallocation of budget to fund the work.

<p>Advantages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This option will be supported by some in the community. - This option may result in improved recreational outcomes for Lake Camp, although officers do not have any evidence on the information available to know whether a diversion will be effective at raising the lake levels. 	<p>Disadvantages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The significant cost associated with lodging the applications is expected to exceed \$266,000. This does not include the cost of a hearing (or hearings), which is additional. While submitters to the Reserve Management Plan hearing on 5 September 2024 have made offers to start crowd-funding to raise money, there is no guarantee this funding would be forthcoming. - There is no certainty of a successful or sustainable outcome. - If the consents are granted, there will be ongoing costs associated with monitoring and compliance.
<p>Risks:</p> <p>There is a real risk that resource consents and DOC approvals may be declined. Council would therefore go to considerable cost to apply for consents and approvals, with no successful outcome. This decision could also expose Council to being expected to lodge consents for recreation benefits for other groups and organisations in the community.</p>	

Option two – Council decides not to proceed with preparing a resource consent application and DOC authorisations to divert water from Balmacaan Stream to Lake Camp.

51. This option would see Council direct officers to not undertake any further work on the concept.

<p>Advantages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Council does not incur the significant, unbudgeted cost associated with applying for the necessary approvals.- A community member or community group may wish to use the information collated by Council in this report to apply for the necessary approvals.	<p>Disadvantages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Lake Camp water levels will continue to fluctuate.
<p>Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Council may face criticism from some in the community who will be disappointed with this decision.	

Legal/policy implications

Resource Management Act 1991

52. Resource consent applications must follow the process in the RMA, CLWRP and District Plan. A resource consent is a permission for an activity that might affect the environment and is not allowed 'as of right' in the district or regional plan.
53. Officers expect that resource consents will be required in relation to four sections of the RMA:
- Structures/works in bed of lake or river (section 13 of RMA);
 - Water takes (Section 14 of RMA); and
 - Discharge to land or water (section 15 of RMA).
 - Land use consent under the Ashburton District Plan
54. The resource consent application process is discussed in detail earlier in this report.

Conservation Act 1987

55. Concessions are granted under the Conservation Act 1987. As discussed earlier in this report, an easement concession will be required for the intake and diversion channel on DOC land.

Wildlife Act 1953

56. Authorisations to interact with wildlife, including lizards, are granted under the Wildlife Act 1953. It is an offence under this Act to 'hunt or kill' absolutely protected wildlife (section 63) unless there is lawful authorisation. This includes 'pursuing, disturbing, or

molesting' any wildlife. Therefore, any activity associated with the proposed diversion of Balmacaan Stream where the work may disturb lizards will require a Wildlife Act authority.

Local Government Act 2002

57. Council is considering the request from the Lake Clearwater hut holders community as per section 10 of the LGA.

Climate change

58. It is likely that the impact of the changing climate is one of the factors at play with the current low water levels in Lake Camp. It is reasonable to expect that as the impacts of climate change become more common that fluctuating stream and lake levels are more frequent.

Review of legal / policy implications

Reviewed by In-house Counsel

Tania Paddock; Legal Counsel

Strategic alignment

59. The recommendation relates to Council's community outcome of '*Residents are well-represented, included and have a voice*', '*A district of great spaces and places*' and '*A balanced and sustainable environment*'.

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic		An application to divert water from Balmacaan Stream to Lake Camp will impact on each of these wellbeing's in a range of different ways.
Environmental	✓	
Cultural	✓	
Social	✓	

Financial implications

60. There is no budget allocated to apply for consent or authority to divert water from Balmacaan Stream to Lake Camp. Therefore, it is suggested that reserves would need to be used to cover the initial costs. If the consents were granted, Council may wish to establish a targeted rate to cover the ongoing costs associated with maintaining the consents.

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	If Council proceeds with applying for the necessary consents and approvals, the estimated cost is likely to be over \$266,000. If Council decides not to proceed with applying for any consents, it will not incur any costs.
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	There is no budget currently available to meet the costs of applying for consents and approval.
Where is the funding coming from?	If Council directs officers to apply for the necessary consents and approvals, officers recommend that funding could come from the Dividend Reserve.
Are there any future budget implications?	If resource consents and DOC approvals are sought and granted, there will be ongoing maintenance, monitoring and compliance costs. At this early stage and without any infrastructure having been designed, officers have estimated ongoing costs of \$50,000 per annum.
Reviewed by Finance	Leanne Macdonald Group Manager – Business Support

Significance and engagement assessment

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No
Level of significance	Medium
Rationale for selecting level of significance	The decision to proceed further with lodging applications for consents or authority or not, will be of high significance to iwi and carries a high degree of risk and unbudgeted expenditure for Council. The issue is carrying a medium degree of community interest with local media invested in the outcome. The issue is impactful for some community members.
Level of engagement selected	1. Inform and/or 2. Comment
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	If Council decides to apply for consent, given the size of the proposed unbudgeted expenditure, it may be appropriate to seek informal community comment, if Council considers that they did not already have a broad community view. This would extend the timeframe to address the issue, or could be consulted on alongside or as part of another process (e.g. Annual Plan). If the application is lodged and notified, the community will be able to have their say through the associated processes. The community will be informed of Council's decision through the usual media channels.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Mark Low: Strategy & Policy Manager

Appendix one – Estimated Order of Costs (excluding GST)

Pre Application Stage		
Hydrological Assessment	Estimate (total cost) based on enquiries with consultants previously used by ADC for ECan consents. Excludes – appeal costs and ADC costs.	\$160,000
Cultural Assessment		
Ecological Assessment		
Engineers Assessment		
Planning consultant's preparation of resource consent application, including site visits, research, preparation of Assessment of Environment Effects and responding to RFI requests	Estimate (total cost) based on enquiries with consultants previously used by ADC for ECan consents	\$70,000
Lizard Assessment (if no lizards found then the cost below will not be needed)	Estimate based on enquiry with expert.	\$5,520
Consultant costs to prepare Wildlife Act permit application to DOC	Estimate (total cost) based on enquiries with consultants previously used by ADC for ECan consents	\$4,800
Consultant costs to prepare DOC easement concession application	Estimate	\$5,000
Total		\$245,320

Application Lodgement Fees		
ECan - 1x medium water consent	Estimate based on ECan fees and charges	\$4,400
ECan - 2x any other activity consent	Estimate based on ECan Fees	\$7,000
DoC Wildlife Act permit	For complex application as contained on DOC website and paid on completion of assessment.	\$800
DoC Concession	Based on assumption of notification	\$4,000
ADC land use consent	Land use Discretionary Activity Consent (if required) for earthworks or vegetation clearance etc).	\$1,295
Notification fee x3	Estimate based on ECan charges	\$3,450
Total		\$20,945

Public Notification		
ECan First day hearing (\$11,500 x3 consents)	Based on ECan charges	\$34,500
ECan Subsequent hearing days (assumed \$7,360 x 2 days x #commissioners)	Based on ECan charges	\$14,720 (minimum)

DoC Costs (Hearing)	Uncertain, dependent on complexity and other factors. Estimated to be half of ECan hearing First Day Costs.	\$17,250
Legal / consultant costs for resource consent hearing	Uncertain, will depend on submissions received and ECan's position on the application	\$100,000
Legal / consultant costs for DOC concession hearing	Uncertain, dependent on complexity and other factors. Estimated to be half of ECan legal / consultant costs	\$50,000
Total		\$216,470

Uncertainties		
Appeal legal costs (if applicable)	Conservative assumption based on previous experiences	\$75,000
Appeal technical expert costs (if applicable)	Dependent upon nature of appeal	\$75,000
Judicial Review (if applications processed non-notified but subsequently challenged through judicial review)	Conservative assumption based on previous experiences	\$75,000
Total		\$225,000

Monitoring & Compliance		
Capital Costs (One-off Costs)		
Infrastructure to divert and control diverted flows	Diversion Structure (without and with retention, depending on needs)	\$25,000 or \$50,000
	Telemetry	\$600
Fish Screen (if required)	Based on discussion with staff and irrigation co. experts	\$125,000
Possible costs of translocating lizards	Costs of establishing the receiving habitat including pest-proofed fencing and planting, and pest trapping at the receiving site.	Unknown
Total		\$175,000
Operational Costs (annual / ongoing costs)		
To meet consent and concession charges	Intake and diversion maintenance ECan Consent and DOC Concession Compliance and Monitoring	\$25,000
	Ongoing monitoring, and reporting of lizards.	Unknown
Total		\$25,000

Appendix two: Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan

Rule 13.5.5 The taking and use of surface water and stream depleting groundwater in the Ashburton River/Hakatere catchment is a discretionary activity, provided either of the following conditions are met:

1. The proposed take is the replacement of a lawfully established take affected by the provisions of s124 to 124C of the RMA; or
2. The proposed take, in addition to all existing consented takes, meets a flow regime with an A Block minimum flow of 10,000 L/s and an A Block allocation limit of 15,100 L/s, or a B Block minimum flow of 14,000 L/s and a B Block allocation limit of 5,000 L/s.

Policy 13.4.8 For the Ashburton River/Hakatere, the following restrictions shall be applied in respect of the abstraction of surface water and stream depleting groundwater in the Ashburton River/Hakatere catchment:

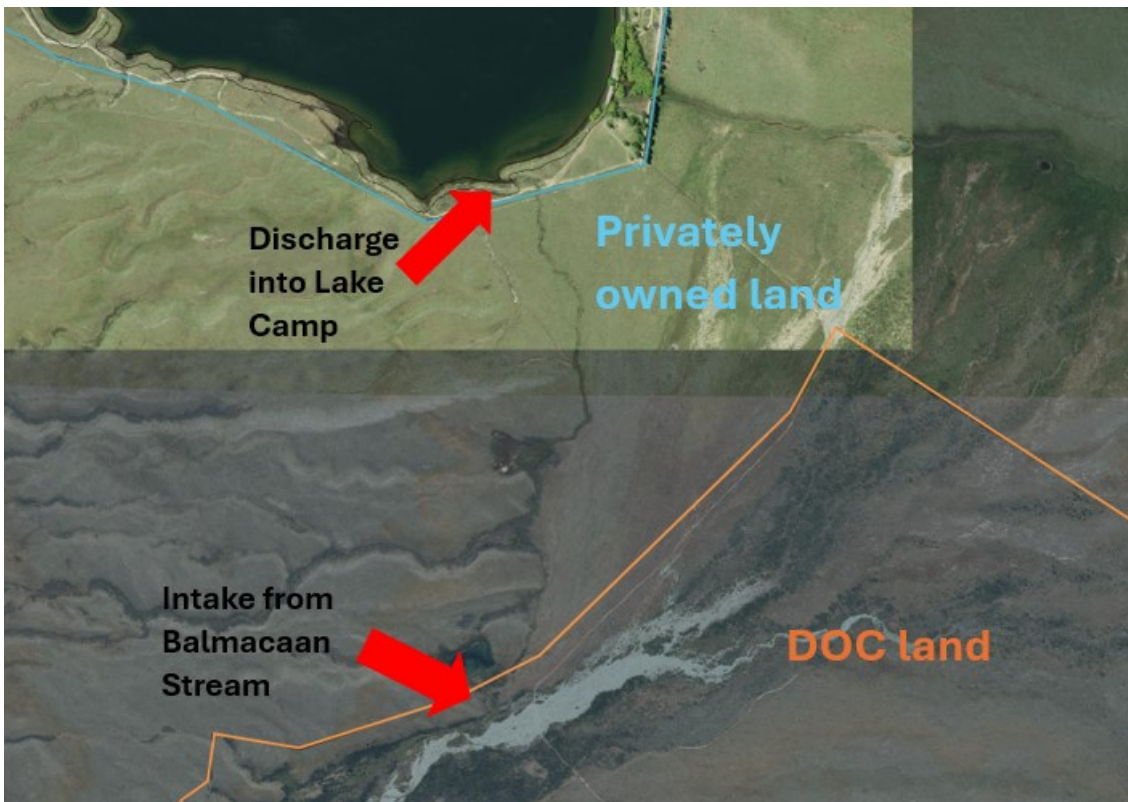
- (a) between 1 July 2023 and until 30 June 2033 Rangitata Diversion Race A and B allocations shall be subject to the residual flow restrictions specified in Table 13(b).
- (b) between 1 July 2023 and until 30 June 2033 all abstractions except Rangitata Diversion Race intake shall be subject to the State Highway 1 minimum flow in addition to the relevant tributary minimum flow as per Table 13(b).
- (c) from 1 July 2033, all abstractions shall only be subject to the State Highway 1 minimum flow as per Table 13(b).
- (d) any Water Users' Group will be subject to pro rata reductions.
- (e) all abstractions except Rangitata Diversion Race allocations and Water Users' Group takes shall be subject to incremental stepped reductions as per Table 13(c).

13.7.1 Environmental Flow and Allocation Limits

Table 13(b): Hakatere/Ashburton River Catchment Environmental Flow and Allocation Limits

River or stream (see Planning Maps)	Location of recorder site, or site where flow is measured	Topo 50 Map Reference	From 1 July 2023				From 1 July 2033			
			Minimum flow for A permits (L/s)	Allocation limit for A permits (L/s)	Minimum flow for B permits (L/s)	Allocation limit for B permits (L/s)	Minimum flow for A permits (L/s)	Allocation limit for A permits (L/s) for the whole catchment	Minimum flow for B permits (L/s)	Allocation limit for B permits (L/s)
Ashburton River mainstem	State Highway 1 Bridge	BY21:999-351	6,000	253	14,000	500	10,000 at State Highway 1 Bridge (map reference (BY21:999- 351)	15,100	14,000	5,000
South Branch	Residual flow site immediately downstream of the RDR intake point	BX20:721-576	3,200 (February – April) 2,300 (May – January)	5,100	4,000	2,000				
	South Branch at North Branch confluence	BY21:976-399	4,650	3,905	10,500	100				
North Branch	above confluence	BY21:976-401	1,000	2,194	4,000	540				
Pudding Hill	below ADC water race	BY21:976-404	80	528	1,600	-				
Taylor’s Stream	above South Branch Confluence	BX20:818-566	500	4,465	3,700	800				
O’Shea Creek	bywash to North Ashburton	BY20:885-527	450	556	1,000	-				
Mt. Harding Creek	Aitkens Road	BY21:926-502	500	1562	1,000	-				
Lagmhor Creek	Frasers Road	BY21:962-366	100	295	-	-				

Appendix three: Location Plan



9. *Global Cities (Sister Cities) New Zealand Membership*

Author *Toni Durham: GM Democracy & Engagement*
Executive Team Member *Hamish Riach: Chief Executive*

Summary

- The purpose of this report is for Council to consider if it wishes to retain its membership with Global Cities New Zealand.

Recommendation

1. **That** Council commits to its membership with Global Cities New Zealand, as an Economic Development function.

Background

The current situation

1. Council has been a member of Global Cities New Zealand (GCNA), formerly known as Sister Cities, since 2008.
2. The vision of GCNZ is, '*Globally connected cities and communities for a more peaceful, sustainable and prosperous future*'.
3. The membership invoice was not paid in 2023, however in the past has been funded as an Economic Development cost.
4. The question now remains if Council wishes to continue to be a member of Global Cities New Zealand (GCNZ).

Previous Council direction

5. Council has been involved with GCNZ to varying degrees, however, ADC was organised to host the GCNZ annual conference in 2020, which was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
6. Council in the past has had a Sister City Subcommittee.

What does GCNZ do?

7. GCNZ is a membership-based organisation, with members ranging from individuals/families, community organisations, schools through to corporate.
8. GCNZ has over 40 Council members throughout New Zealand.
9. Council membership costs are based on population-sized categories, with our population resulting in an annual charge of \$595.12 +GST per annum.
10. GCNZ acknowledges that its role has been difficult post-Covid as the international economy was challenged. However, at the recent 2024 AGM reported business throughout the year, including responding to members' enquiries, Youth workshops, Government/MFAT and other ministries' enquiries, along with preparation for the GCNZ conference. There was also much interaction with the Diplomatic Corp, as well as attending National Days, numerous events and community festivals along with welcoming Trade and Business delegations.
11. GCNZ noted at the AGM that GCNZ ran at a small loss in 2023 and would be looking for new members and external funding going forward.

Who are our Sister Cities?

12. Council has Sister Cities arrangements for the purposes of promoting cultural exchange and friendship between Ashburton District and its residents and people of other countries and cultures.

13. The following shows the Sister & Friendship Cities relationships Council has:

Sister & Friendship Cities

Sister Cities	Pulaski, Virginia, USA	established 4 March 1974 (not active)
	Ashburton, Devon, UK	established 3 March 1982 (not active)
	Shiozawa (now Minamiuonuma), Niigata Prefecture, Japan	established 14 October 1987 (moderately active)
Friendship City Relationship	Puyang City, Henan Province, China	established 12 June 2000 with an intent to develop into a Sister City Relationship (moderately active)
	Xianyang, Shaanxi, China	Established in August 2016 and recently recommitted to July 2018

Agreements have also been signed with the following:

Memorandum of Co-operation agreement	Xian, China	Memorandum signed in August 2016
Letter of Intent on Tourism Co-operation	Puyang City, Henan Province, China	Letter of intent signed in November 2016 by EMC
Expression of Interest to explore a Friendship City	Zaohaung, China	Expression of interest signed in May 2018
Intention agreement to develop a Sister City relationship	Handan, China	Intention agreement signed in July 2018

Options analysis

Option one – Council withdraws its membership of GCNZ, effective immediately

14. This option would see Council withdraw its membership from GCNZ.
15. Council would still retain its Sister and Friendship Cities arrangements, and these would continue to evolve as they do currently.
16. Council would also continue to meet with international student groups, and delegations to the District as has been common practice for a number of years.

<p>Advantages:</p> <p>In recent years, the value and purpose of GCNZ has been less clear to ADC, therefore the budget saving could be re-purposed within the Economic Development activity.</p>	<p>Disadvantages:</p> <p>This would signal the end of a long-term relationship with GCNZ.</p>
<p>Risks:</p> <p>Reputational Risk to Council with GCNZ in withdrawing its membership.</p>	

Option two – Council commits to its membership of GCNZ (recommended option)

17. This option would see Council continue its long-standing membership of GCNZ.

Advantages: Membership continues with GCNZ	Disadvantages: Return on investment of the membership is less clear.
Risks: Reputational – Our community may not understand why we would retain membership of an organisation that we aren't actively a part of.	

Legal/policy implications

Local Government Act 2002

18. Council has been a member of GCNZ in order to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of communities, as per section 10 of the LGA.

Economic Development Strategy 2022

19. Council's Economic Development Strategy is focused on ensuring our residents are engaged and invested in our community, that our businesses are thriving, innovative and resilient and that our district is a destination of choice for locals and visitors. These are all indirectly linked to Sister and Friendship Cities relationships.

Climate change

20. Continuing membership of the GCNZ has no direct impact on climate change.

Review of legal / policy implications	
Reviewed by In-house Counsel	<i>Tania Paddock; Legal Counsel</i>

Strategic alignment

21. The recommendation relates to Council's community outcome of 'A prosperous economy built on innovation, opportunity and high quality infrastructure'.

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic	✓	GCNZ claim their membership contributes to the economic, cultural and social wellbeing of communities.
Environmental		
Cultural	✓	
Social	✓	

Financial implications

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	If Council continues its membership it will cost \$595.12 +GST per annum
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	Yes
Where is the funding coming from?	Economic Development – 100% General Rate CV
Are there any future budget implications?	Yes.
Reviewed by Finance	Leanne Macdonald, Group Manager Business Support

Significance and engagement assessment

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No
Level of significance	Low
Rationale for selecting level of significance	N/A
Level of engagement selected	1 Inform
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	GCNZ will be informed of Council's decision directly. The wider community will be informed through the usual media channels.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Mark Low; Strategy and Policy Manager

10. Dog Control Policy and Practices Report 2023/24

Activity Manager

Rick Catchpowle; Environmental Monitoring Manager

Executive Team Member

Ian Hyde; Compliance and Development

Summary

- The purpose of this report relates to the activities undertaken regarding dog control within Ashburton District for the period **1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024**.
- The Dog Control Act 1996 (the Act) requires that such a report be produced annually and made publicly available once adopted by Council.

Recommendation

- 1. That** the report be received.
- 2. That** Council gives public notice of the Dog Control Policy and Practices Report and makes it publicly available.

Background

1. The Act requires territorial authorities to publicly report each financial year on:
 - The administration of their dog control policy and their dog control practices (Section 10A (1)) ; and
 - A variety of dog control related statistics listed at Section 10A (2) (Tables 1 and 2).

Additionally:

- In accordance with Section 10A (3) the Territorial Authority must give public notice of the report in one (1) or more daily newspapers circulating in the Territorial Authority District.
- In accordance with Section 10A (4) the Council must send a copy of the report to the Secretary for Local Government within one month of adoption.
- This report contains information and statistics on the Council's dog control activity for the year **1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024**.

Dog Control and Practices in Ashburton

2. Dog control in Ashburton is carried out using Council staff and an approved contractor.
3. The contract for animal control services is with Talbot Security Group Limited (TSG), who took over the animal control services contract on 1 February 2022. TSG currently employs ten staff specifically trained for animal control, with suitably trained security officers acting in support where necessary. The service provided covers all dog control callouts 24 hours per day, seven days per week.
4. Within Council we employ a warranted Animal Control and Enforcement Officer who is responsible for all administration relating to dog and stock control as well as leading on enforcement issues.
5. The Ashburton District Council Dog Control Policy and Bylaw (2021), continues to provide greater clarity for dog owners of their obligations under the Act. Where those obligations are not met, Council officers apply the “exacerbator pays” principle e.g. dog owners who fail to control their animals effectively are fined under the Act and the funds channelled back into the animal control activity.

Dog Pound Activity

6. The dog pound facility on Council owned land in Range Street continues to be operated by the appointed animal control contractor.
7. The reporting period saw 110 dogs impounded, 2 euthanised and 19 re-homed. There were 5 incidents of repeat impoundings of the same dog.

Dog Exercise Facilities

8. Ashburton Dog Park

Extensive re-development work has been carried out at this facility with the provision of separate areas for small and large dogs plus activity facilities and walking tracks. A piped water supply plus dog bag dispensers and waste receptacles are available.

9. Methven Dog Park

The Methven Dog Park has a piped water supply with outlet for dogs to use and a dog bag dispenser with waste receptacle.

10. Range St - Landfill area

The fenced landfill area at the end of Range St continues to be available for dog owners to exercise their dogs off the leash. This area is not an official dog park/exercise area due to the land status, but dog bag dispensers and waste receptacles are available.

11. Rakaia Community Dog Park

A community funded fenced dog park is also available for use at Rakaia. The park has separate areas for large and small dogs and Council has provided a dog bag dispenser and waste receptacle.

Dog Registration

12. The total number of active dogs on our data system for the reporting period was 6964. During that time 6935 dogs were registered equating to 99.6%, with enforcement action taken against owners of the remaining 29 dogs.

Dog Education and Obedience Courses

13. Ashburton District Council has not required any owners to undergo dog education or obedience courses.

Disqualified and Probationary Dog Owners

14. No persons were disqualified or classified as probationary dog owners during the reporting period.

Menacing and Dangerous Dogs

15. Ashburton District Council has 32 dogs classified as menacing and 3 dogs classified as dangerous.

Dog Control Act 1996 Hearings held in 2023/24

16. Two Hearings were held during the reporting period and the following decisions made:

- a. Objection to Classification of Dangerous Dog. A Rakaia dog owner successfully appealed a dangerous dog classification at a Hearing held on 04 August 2023. The dog was reclassified as Menacing.
- b. Objection to Classification of Menacing. A Tinwald dog owner unsuccessfully appealed a menacing dog classification at a Hearing held on 11 July 2024. The dog remains classified as Menacing with the additional condition of a 2 year review date.

Dog Control Act 1996 Section 10A Statistical Information (Tables 1 and 2)

17. The Dog Control Act 1996 requires Territorial Authorities to include the following statistical information in their annual report:

Table 1: Breakdown of registered dogs and complaints received

Category	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
1) Total # Registered Dogs	6919	6355	6935
2) Total # Probationary Owners	0	0	0
3) Total # Disqualified Owners	0	0	0
4) Total # Dangerous Dogs	9	5	3
➤ Dangerous by Owner Conviction Under s31(1)(a)	0	1	0
➤ Dangerous by Sworn Evidence s31(1)(b)	7	3	3
➤ Dangerous by Owner Admittance in Writing s31(1)(c)	2	1	0
5) Total # Menacing Dogs	49	38	32
➤ Menacing s33A(1)(b)(i) - i.e. by Behavior	33	26	25
➤ Menacing s33A(1)(b)(ii) - by Breed character	5	3	3
➤ Menacing under s33C(1) by Schedule 4 Breed.	11	9	4
6) Total # Infringement Notices.	82	144	146
7) Total # Complaints Received	602	706	839
Wandering	145	281	200
Barking	159	215	219
Lost	90	111	73
Welfare	1	7	1
Attack	28	27	44
Rushing	13	18	48
Other (e.g. found lost/found dogs, signage issues/dog waste issues)	126	47	254
8) Prosecutions	0	0	0

Table 2: Breakdown of infringement notices issued during the reporting period:

Serial	Offence	Fine Level	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
1	Failure to Register a Dog (Dog Control Act Sect 42)	\$300	73	120	106
2	Failure to Advise Change of Address (s.49(4))	\$100	0	0	0
3	Failure to Keep a Dog Controlled or Confined (s.52A/53(1))	\$200	8	24	33
4	Failure to Implant a Microchip transponder in a dog (s.36(A)(6))	\$300	0	0	0
5	Failure to Advise Change of Dog Ownership (s.48(3))	\$100	0	0	0

6	Failure or Refusal to Supply Information or Willfully Providing False Particulars (s.19 (2)).	\$750	0	0	0
7	Failure to Comply with menacing classification (s.33EC(1))	\$300	0	0	0
8	False statement relating to registration (s.41)	\$750	0	0	0
9	Failure to provide proper care and attention (s.54 (2))	\$300	0	0	0
10	Falsely notifying the death of dog (s.41 (A))	\$750	0	0	0
11	Willful Obstruction of a Dog Control Officer (s. 18)	\$750	1	0	2
12	Failure to Comply with any authorised bylaw (s. 22 (5))	\$750	0	0	4
13	Failure to comply with barking dog abatement notice (s.55 (7))	\$200	0	0	1
14	Releasing dog from custody (s. 72 (2))	\$750	0	0	0

Legal/policy implications

18. It is a statutory requirement of the Dog Control Act 1996 for the Council to publicly report on the dog control activities referred to in this report.

Climate change

The Annual Report for the Dog Control Act does not have a direct impact on climate change.

Strategic alignment

19. The recommendation relates to Council's community outcome of Social because

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic	X	NA
Environmental	X	NA
Cultural	X	NA
Social	✓	Public spaces and facilities are available to meet the communities needs and enjoy the outdoors

Financial implications

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	The cost of monitoring the activity is included in the Animal Control budget
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	Yes
Where is the funding coming from?	Fees and charges 95% General rate 5%
Are there any future budget implications?	No
Reviewed by Finance	Not required

Significance and engagement assessment

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No
Level of significance	Low, not significant
Rationale for selecting level of significance	N/A
Level of engagement selected	Inform
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	The purpose of the report is to inform Council and the community of the activity's work over 2023/24. The report will be made publicly available.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Mark Low; Strategy & Policy Manager

11. District Licensing Committee Annual Report 1 July to 30 June 2024

Author *Rick Catchpowle, Environmental Monitoring Manager*
Executive Team Member *Ian Hyde, GM Compliance and Development*

Summary

- The Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act (the Act) requires each Territorial Authority to submit its annual report on the proceedings and operations of its District Licensing Committee (DLC) to the Alcohol Regulatory and Licensing Authority (ARLA). This report is for the period 1 July 2023 to 30th June 2024.
- The Act further requires that reports are submitted within three months of the end of every financial year.

Recommendation

- 1. That** Council receives the District Licensing Committee Annual Report 2023-24.

Attachment

Appendix 1 List of current On, Off and Club liquor licences in Ashburton District

Background

1. Section 199 of the Act requires every territorial authority to prepare and send to the licensing authority a report of the proceedings and operations of its licensing committee in the set format below.
2. A copy of the report must be made available by the territorial authority for inspection free of charge for a period of not less than 5 years.
3. Regulation 19 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013 also requires Territorial Authorities to prepare a report detailing income from fees and licensing costs under the Act. This includes costs relating to DLC functioning, licensing inspectors and enforcement activities relating to the year commencing 1 July 2023. While this additional information is not required to be in the report to ARLA, it must be made publicly available and is therefore included in the overall report.

The current situation

District Licensing Committee Structure and Personnel

4. The DLC is a combined committee with Selwyn District Council. The following is a full list of the combined DLC:

Commissioners	Robin Kilworth Simon McDonnell Simon Moore Merelyn Redstone Tracy McIlraith
Members	Tanya Surrey Martin Ferguson Carl Purcell Shane Epiha
Secretariat and Support Staff	Jane Donaldson Rick Catchpowle Julie Clements Cara Badger

Alcohol Licensing and the Fees System

5. Under previous legislation all fees were the same across licensed premises, regardless of the costs and risks the operation might create. Whereas Regulations under the current Act has set default fees for each type of licence.
6. This fee system allows alcohol licensing staff to apply a cost/risk rating based on the style of licence, trading hours and any enforcement that may have occurred in the previous 18 months.
7. In effect, low risk outlets such as winery cellar door sales, and small clubs pay lower fees, while higher risk outlets that typically create higher costs, such as bottle stores and taverns, pay more. The same cost/risk approach is also used when assessing special licences for events.

Workflow 2023/2024

8. In the reporting period the Ashburton DLC issued 315 licences which is broken down as follows:

Applications Processed and Licences issued by Category:

Month	On/Off/Club new applications	On/Off/Club renewal applications	Special Licence Applications	Managers Certificates (new and renewal)	Temporary Authority
July	1	6	9	17	1
August	2	3	9	8	2
September	0	1	10	19	0
October	1	4	11	13	0
November	2	2	6	17	0
December	1	3	6	7	1
January	0	0	0	10	0
February	1	5	13	15	1
March	0	1	7	18	1
April	0	0	4	17	1
May	1	7	7	20	1
June	0	5	5	12	1

The Risk Category of all applications received for On, Off and Club licences:

Application type	Number received in Fee Category: Very Low	Number received in Fee Category: Low	Number received in Fee Category: Medium	Number received in Fee Category: High	Number received in Fee Category: Very High
On licence new	1	3	4	0	0
On licence variation	0	0	0	0	0
On licence renewal	1	4	9	0	0
Off licence variation	0	0	3	0	0
Off licence renewal	0	0	0	0	0
Off licence new	0	1	9	0	0
Club Licence new	0	0	0	0	0
Club licence variation	1	0	0	0	0
Club licence renewal	3	1	0	0	0
Total Number	6	9	25	0	0
Total fee paid to ARLA (GST inc)	\$103.50	\$310.50	\$1,293.75	0	0

The annual fees for existing licences received during reporting period:

Licence type	Number received in Fee Category: Very Low	Number received in Fee Category: Low	Number received in Fee Category: Medium	Number received in Fee Category: High	Number received in Fee Category: Very High
On licence	1	15	43	0	0
Off licence	1	3	26	0	0
Club licence	13	13	2	0	0
Total Number	15	31	71	0	0
Total fee paid to ARLA (GST inc)	\$258.75	\$1,069.50	\$3,674.25	0	0

Managers' certificate applications received during reporting period:

	Number received
Managers certificate New	84
Managers certificate Renewal	89
Total Number	173
Total fee paid to ARLA (GST inc)	\$4973.75

Special licence applications received during reporting period:

	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3
Special Licence	12	45	30

Temporary authority applications received during reporting period:

	Number received
Temporary Authority	9

Permanent club charter payments received during reporting period:

	Number received
Permanent club charter payments	1

Current Liquor Licences

9. A list of all On, Off and Club liquor licences in the District is attached.

Conferences and Training

10. Commissioners and members of the combined Ashburton/Selwyn DLC conducted online training during the reporting period.

DLC Hearings

11. During the reporting period the DLC convened for one publicly held hearing concerning an opposed application for a renewal of Manager's certificate based on unsuitability of the applicant. The objection was upheld.

Publication of DLC Decisions

12. All decisions made by the DLC are published on the Council's website at:
<http://ashburtondc.govt.nz>

Notable Trends or Issues

13. DLC members are satisfied with the current procedures and processes associated with liquor licensing activities.

DLC Initiatives

14. No new initiatives were adopted or trialled during the reporting period.

Local Alcohol Policy

15. In accordance with Part 2 subpart 2 of the Act, Ashburton District Council developed a Local Alcohol Policy (LAP) which was reviewed and adopted on 13 January 2024 to take effect on 14 March 2024.

Future Reporting of DLC activity:

16. The Act requires TAs to submit a report each year to ARLA concerning DLC activities conducted through the year. The Act further allows ARLA to specify the form of the annual report and the matters to be included, which, to date, has been submitted by way of an annual report to Council.
17. ARLA has now developed an on-line platform to enable TAs to submit their reports directly to ARLA which, in turn, replaces the requirement to submit the annual report via Council.
18. However, It is appreciated that Councillors will still wish to be kept informed of licensing activities undertaken each year and it is therefore planned to expand the unit's activity briefing reports to include additional information on licensing matters

Legal/policy implications

19. The Act requires TA's to submit a report each year to ARLA.

Climate change

20. The Annual report for Sale and Supply of Liquor Act 2021 does not have a direct impact on Climate Change.

Strategic alignment

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic	✓	Hospitality is a key industry within the District
Environmental	X	NA
Cultural	✓	Amendment to the Act are promoting inclusivity or making arrangements for those to be heard
Social	✓	Amenity and Good Order is a consideration within the Act

Financial implications

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	The cost of monitoring the activity is included in the Liquor Licensing budget
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	Yes
Where is the funding coming from?	Alcohol licensing cost centre
Are there any future budget implications?	No
Reviewed by Finance	<i>Not required</i>

Significance and engagement assessment

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No
Level of significance	Low, not significant
Rationale for selecting level of significance	The recommendation is of low significance because it is only to receive information and no decision is being made.
Level of engagement selected	1. Inform
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	The purpose of the report is to inform Council and the community of the activity's work over 2023/24. The report will be made publicly available.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Mark Low, Strategy and Policy Manager

Current Liquor Licences (ON/OFF/CLUB)

<u>ApplicationNo</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>TraderName</u>	<u>PrimaryProperty</u>	<u>PluServiceAddress</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>RenewalExpiry</u>	<u>Risk</u>	<u>RiskCategory</u>
ClubLic	29							
62/CL/02/24	Club Licence	Rakaia Rugby Club Incorporated	24 Rakaia Barrhill Methven Road	1 Elizabeth Avenue RAKAIA 7710	Received		5	L
62/CL/06/14	Club Licence	Southern Rugby Club (Mid-Canterbury) Incorporated	3 Isleworth Road ASHBURTON	PO Box 378 ASHBURTON 7740	Received	28/06/2023	15	M
62/CL/05/15	CL Licence	Tinwald Golf Club Incorporated	27 Frasers Road TINWALD.	PO Box 375 ASHBURTON 7740	Received	25/07/2024	5	L
62/CL/06/15	Club-Licence	Allenton Rugby Football Club Inc	21 Melrose Road ASHBURTON	PO Box 250 ASHBURTON 7740	Received	25/07/2024	5	L
62/CL/09/15	Club Licence	Rakaia Golf Club Incorporated	481 Acton Road ASHBURTON	872 McCrorys Road RD 11 RAKAIA 7781	Received	25/07/2024	5	L
62/CL/11/15	Club Licence - Methven Golf Club - Replacement	Methven Golf Club Incorporated	84 Hobbs Road METHVEN	PO Box 20 METHVEN 7745	#APPROVED	13/08/2024	5	L
62/CL/07/15	CL Licence	Ashburton Golf Club Incorporated	37 Golf Links Drive ASHBURTON	PO Box 208 ASHBURTON 7740	#APPROVED	13/08/2024	5	L
62/CL/13/15	Club Licence - Ashburton Squash Club - Replacement	Ashburton Squash Rackets Club Incorporated	26 Harrison Street ASHBURTON	C/- K J Palmer 165 Methven Highway	#APPROVED	22/08/2024	2	VL
62/CL/03/18	CL Licence	The Tinwald Family Sport And Recreation Association	1 Shearman Street TINWALD,	PO Box 5048 TINWALD,	#APPROVED	22/08/2024	2	VL
62/CL/03/21	Replacement Club Licence due to redefinition	Mid Canterbury Aero Club Inc	387 Seafield Road ASHBURTON	PO Box 173 ASHBURTON 7740	#APPROVED	22/08/2024	2	VL

<u>ApplicationNo</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>TraderName</u>	<u>PrimaryProperty</u>	<u>PluServiceAddress</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>RenewalExpiry</u>	<u>Risk</u>	<u>RiskCategory</u>
62/CL/04/18	CL Licence	Ashburton Bowling Club Incorporated	337 West Street ASHBURTON	PO Box 376 ASHBURTON 7740	#APPROVED	02/09/2024	2	VL
62/CL/16/15	CL Licence	Mayfield Golf Club Incorporated	30 Bulls Road ASHBURTON	Attention JJ Clucas 1221 Lismore	#APPROVED	19/12/2024	5	L
62/CL/01/16	Club Licence - Replacement Licence - Mid Canterbury	Tennis Mid Canterbury Sub Association Incorporated	337 West Street ASHBURTON	70 Oak Grove ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	20/12/2024	2	VL
62/CL/02/22	Club Licence - Variation / Renewal	Methven Squash Rackets Club Incorporated	Methven Chertsey Road ASHBURTON	PO Box 71 METHVEN 7745	#APPROVED	05/05/2025	2	VL
62/CL/01/19	Club Licence - Variation on Renewal	Methven United Club Incorporated	Methven Chertsey Road ASHBURTON	PO Box 2 METHVEN 7745	#APPROVED	18/06/2025	5	L
62/CL/02/19	Club Licence - Methven Bowling Club	The Methven Bowling Club Incorporated	Methven Chertsey Road ASHBURTON	3 Cameron Street METHVEN 7730	#APPROVED	17/07/2025	2	VL
62/CL/04/16	CL Licence	Ashburton Celtic Rugby Football Club Incorporated	46 Keenans Road ASHBURTON	PO Box 79 ASHBURTON 7740	#APPROVED	25/07/2025	5	L
62/CL/03/14	Club Licence	Collegiate South Sports Club	1 Chalmers Avenue ASHBURTON	Attention Perry Hunt 107 Middle Road	#APPROVED	06/08/2025	2	VL
62/CL/05/16	CL Licence	Ashburton Collegiate Rugby Football Club Incorporated	17 Smithfield Road ASHBURTON	PO Box 201 ASHBURTON 7740	#APPROVED	06/08/2025	5	L
62/CL/01/22	Club Licence	Hinds Squash Rackets Club Incorporated	20 Rogers Street HINDS	PO Box 4 HINDS 7747	#APPROVED	08/09/2025	2	VL
62/CL/17/16	Club Licence	Hampstead Rugby & Allsports Club Bowling Section	77 A Cambridge Street ASHBURTON	77A Cambridge Street ASHBURTON	#APPROVED	05/10/2025	5	L
62/CL/05/18	Club Licence - Mt Somers Rugby Football Club	Mt Somers Rugby Football Club Incorporated	67 Hoods Road MT SOMERS	PO Box 8 Mount Somers	#APPROVED	08/10/2025	5	L

<u>ApplicationNo</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>TraderName</u>	<u>PrimaryProperty</u>	<u>PluServiceAddress</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>RenewalExpiry</u>	<u>Risk</u>	<u>RiskCategory</u>
62/CL/18/16	Club Licence - RSA	Ashburton Returned Services Association Incorporated	12 Cox Street ASHBURTON	PO Box 341 ASHBURTON 7740	#APPROVED	15/11/2025	10	M
62/CL/15/15	Club Licence - Allenton Sports Club Incorporated	Allenton Sports Club Incorporated	16 Cavendish Street ASHBURTON	14 Cavendish Street ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	03/12/2025	5	L
62/CL/08/14	Club Licence	Americar Rod & Custom Club Incorporated	62 Maronan Road ASHBURTON	PO Box 5005 Tinwald	#APPROVED	11/10/2026	2	VL
62/CL/01/20	Club Licence - Ashburton Club and MSA bowling club	Ashburton Club And Mutual School Of Arts Bowling Club	115 Racecourse Road ASHBURTON	231 Burnett Street ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	01/11/2026	2	VL
62/CL/01/15	CL Licence	Rakaia Bowling Club (Incorporated)	24 Rakaia Barrhill Methven Road	179 Hunters Road RD 13 RAKAIA 7783	#APPROVED	15/02/2027	2	VL
62/CL/01/24	Club Licence - Rakaia Squash Club - Replacement	Rakaia Squash Club Incorporated	24 Rakaia Barrhill Methven Road	1075 Chertsey Kyle Road RD 7	#APPROVED	14/04/2027	2	VL
62/CL/01/18	Club Licence	Hampstead Rugby & All Sports Club Incorporated	44 Bridge Street ASHBURTON	13 Thomson Street ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	30/04/2027	5	L
OffLicence 30								
62/OFF/06/17	Winemakers Off-Licence - Siricco Wines	Sirocco Wines	111 Rakaia Barrhill Methven Road		Received	18/06/2022	2	VL
62/OFF/06/15	OFF Licence	Devon Tavern	116 Victoria Street ASHBURTON	116 Victoria Street ASHBURTON 7700	Received	23/07/2024	10	M
62/OFF/06/18	Off-Licence	Ashburton New World	2 Tancred Street ASHBURTON	75 Moore Street ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	27/08/2024	15	M
62/OFF/03/20	General Off-Licence - Ozone Liquor Limited	Super Liquor Methven	93 Main Street METHVEN		#APPROVED	18/09/2024	15	M

<u>ApplicationNo</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>TraderName</u>	<u>PrimaryProperty</u>	<u>PluServiceAddress</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>RenewalExpiry</u>	<u>Risk</u>	<u>RiskCategory</u>
62/OFF/02/23	General Off-Licence	The Blue Pub	2 Barkers Road METHVEN	PO Box 4 METHVEN 7745	#APPROVED	20/09/2024	10	M
62/OFF/05/20	General Off-Licence - SJTP Ltd (Liquorland)	Liquorland Racecourse Road	11 Racecourse Road ASHBURTON	11 Racecourse Road ASHBURTON	#APPROVED	27/10/2024	15	M
62/OFF/03/23	General Off-Licence	The Brown Pub	137 Main Street METHVEN	PO Box 4 METHVEN 7745	#APPROVED	24/11/2024	15	M
62/OFF/05/17	General Off-Licence - Tinwald Liquorland and Bottlestore	Tinwald Liquorland and Bottlestore	103 Archibald Street TINWALD,	4 Ayers Green ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	27/11/2024	15	M
62/OFF/07/20	General Off-Licence - The Bottle O East Street	The Bottle O East Street	660 East Street ASHBURTON	Suite 2 668 East Street ASHBURTON	#APPROVED	11/12/2024	15	M
62/OFF/06/20	General Off-Licence - Singh Brothers Trading Limited	Allenton Liquor Store	75 Harrison Street ASHBURTON		#APPROVED	18/12/2024	15	M
62/OFF/08/20	Grocery/Supermarket Off-Licence - Woods	Netherby Four Square Supermarket 2008	2 Bridge Street ASHBURTON		Approved	18/01/2025	15	M
62/OFF/01/24	General Off-Licence	Ashburton Liquor Centre	160 Tancred Street ASHBURTON	84 Chalmers Avenue ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	16/02/2025	15	M
62/OFF/01/19	Grocery/Supermarket Off-Licence - Rakaia	Rakaia Foodstore Four Square	60 Elizabeth Avenue RAKAIA	60 Elizabeth Avenue RAKAIA 7710	#APPROVED	27/02/2025	15	M
62/OFF/04/18	General Off-Licence - Railway Hotel	Railway Hotel	120 Railway Terrace West RAKAIA	124 Railway Terrace West RAKAIA 7710	#APPROVED	12/03/2025	10	M
62/OFF/10/15	Grocery/Supermarket Off-Licence - Methven	Methven Supervalve	30 Mcmillan Street METHVEN	30 Mcmillan Street METHVEN 7730	#APPROVED	02/10/2025	15	M
62/OFF/02/21	General Off-Licence - Ri Ra Events Limited	The Sheebeen	21 Dolma Street METHVEN	47 South Belt METHVEN 7730	#APPROVED	21/10/2025	5	L

<u>ApplicationNo</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>TraderName</u>	<u>PrimaryProperty</u>	<u>PluServiceAddress</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>RenewalExpiry</u>	<u>Risk</u>	<u>RiskCategory</u>
62/OFF/09/16	Off-Licence - RSA	Ashburton Returned Services Association Incorporated	12 Cox Street ASHBURTON	PO Box 341 ASHBURTON 7740	#APPROVED	15/11/2025	10	M
62/OFF/01/22	General off licence for Romatic gestures	Romantic Gestures Limited	63 Tancred Street RAKAIA	63 Tancred Street RAKAIA 7710	#APPROVED	07/04/2026	5	L
62/OFF/03/22	General Off-Licence for Panthers Rock	Panthers Rock Cafe Bar Restaurant	2006 Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road	2006 Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road	#APPROVED	01/06/2026	10	M
62/OFF/03/19	General Off-Licence - South Rakaia Hotel	South Rakaia Hotel	41 Railway Terrace East RAKAIA	41 Railway Terrace East RAKAIA 7710	#APPROVED	19/06/2026	10	M
62/OFF/06/22	General Off-Licence - Remote Sales	Methven Resort	51 Main Street METHVEN	51 Main Street METHVEN 7730	#APPROVED	12/08/2026	5	L
62/OFF/07/19	General Off-Licence - Hinds Wayside Inn	Sunwins Enterprises Limited	99 Peters Street HINDS	99 Peters Street RD 3 ASHBURTON	#APPROVED	23/09/2026	15	M
62/OFF/01/18	OFF Licence	Tinwald Supervalu	113 Archibald Street TINWALD,		#APPROVED	07/01/2027	15	M
62/OFF/04/17	OFF Licence	Countdown Ashburton	474 East Street ASHBURTON	Progressive Enterprises Limited	#APPROVED	20/01/2027	15	M
62/OFF/01/15	OFF Licence	Ashburton MSA Liquor Centre Limited	231 Burnett Street ASHBURTON	231 Burnett Street ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	28/02/2027	15	M
62/OFF/05/19	General Off-Licence - Thirsty Liquor	Thirsty Liquor Rakaia	114 Railway Terrace West RAKAIA	109 Lower Camside Road KAIAPOI 7630	#APPROVED	13/03/2027	15	M
62/OFF/01/23	Grocery/Supermarket Off-Licence	Allenton Fresh	98 Harrison Street ASHBURTON	98 Harrison Street ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	25/05/2027	15	M
62/OFF/08/16	Grocery/Supermarket Off-Licence - Countdown	Countdown Ashburton South	2 East Street ASHBURTON	Vero Centre PO Box 8 AUCKLAND 1140	#APPROVED	30/05/2027	15	M

<u>ApplicationNo</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>TraderName</u>	<u>PrimaryProperty</u>	<u>PluServiceAddress</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>RenewalExpiry</u>	<u>Risk</u>	<u>RiskCategory</u>
62/OFF/01/20	General Off-Licence - B W CARTER Holding Ltd	Mt Somers Tavern	70 Hoods Road MT SOMERS		#APPROVED	13/07/2027	10	M
62/OFF/07/15	Off-Licence	Methven Four Square Supermarket	33 Mcmillan Street METHVEN	33 Mcmillan street METHVEN 7730	#APPROVED	19/07/2027	15	M
OnLicence 58								
62/ON/02/24	Tavern	The Dubliner Irish Bar and Restaurant	116 Main Street METHVEN	116 Main Street METHVEN 7730	Received		15	M
62/ON/07/21	Restaurant - Miyabi Top in Town	Miyabi Top in Town	660 East Street ASHBURTON	Suite 4 668 East Street ASHBURTON	Received	10/09/2022	5	L
62/ON/01/23	Restaurant	Leo's Bar and Grill	90 Harrison Street ASHBURTON		Received	02/06/2024	10	M
62/ON/02/20	On-Licence - Alluvial Restaurant and Tinwald	Tinwald Function Centre Limited	103 Archibald Street TINWALD.	4 Ayers Green ASHBURTON 7700	Received	01/07/2024	10	M
62/ON/06/23	Restaurant	Aqua Japanese Restaurant	112 Main Street METHVEN		Received	13/07/2024	5	L
62/ON/18/15	On-Licence	Devon Tavern	116 Victoria Street ASHBURTON	116 Victoria Street ASHBURTON 7700	Received	23/07/2024	15	M
62/ON/07/17	Restaurant - Cleavers Corner Gastro Pub	Cleavers Corner Gastro Pub	159 West Street ASHBURTON	159 West Street ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	02/08/2024	15	M
62/ON/09/20	Restaurant - Millhouse Kitchen	Millhouse Kitchen	415 West Street ASHBURTON	415 West Street ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	20/08/2024	5	L
62/ON/07/23	Tavern	The Blue Pub	2 Barkers Road METHVEN	PO Box 4 METHVEN 7745	#APPROVED	12/09/2024	15	M

<u>ApplicationNo</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>TraderName</u>	<u>PrimaryProperty</u>	<u>PluServiceAddress</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>RenewalExpiry</u>	<u>Risk</u>	<u>RiskCategory</u>
62/ON/12/14	On-Licence *TA did not eventuate Dec 22*	Mt Potts Lodge Limited	2131 Hakatere Potts Road ASHBURTON	PO Box 12 Mount Somers	#APPROVED	12/09/2024	10	M
62/ON/21/15	On-Licence	Stronechrubie Restaurant & Accommodation	8 Hoods Road MT SOMERS	8 Hoods Road RD 1 ASHBURTON 7771	#APPROVED	28/09/2024	5	L
62/ON/09/23	General	Staveley Store	2 Burgess Road ASHBURTON	281 Peaches Road RD 1 ASHBURTON	#APPROVED	06/10/2024	5	L
62/ON/12/18	Restaurant - Formosa Restaurant	Formosa Restaurant	163 West Street ASHBURTON	173 West Street ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	07/11/2024	10	M
62/ON/11/20	Restaurant - The Fine Lion	The Fine Lion	152 Burnett Street ASHBURTON	35 Douglas Drive ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	12/11/2024	15	M
62/ON/26/15	On-Licence	Barkers Lodge	21 Barkers Road METHVEN		#APPROVED	20/11/2024	10	M
62/ON/12/23	Tavern	The Brown Pub	137 Main Street METHVEN	PO Box 4 METHVEN 7745	RepPending	24/11/2024	15	M
62/ON/03/24	Tavern	The Brown Pub	137 Main Street METHVEN	PO Box 4 METHVEN 7745	Received	24/11/2024	15	M
62/ON/04/20	Tavern - Tinwald Tavern	Tinwald Tavern	103 Archibald Street TINWALD,	4 Ayers Green ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	27/11/2024	15	M
62/ON/29/14	Hotel	Brinkley Village Resort	43 Barkers Road METHVEN		#APPROVED	01/12/2024	10	M
62/ON/12/20	Restaurant - Armadillo's at the Braided	Armadillo's at the Braided	246 Burnett Street ASHBURTON	PO Box 2414 Stoke NELSON 7041	#APPROVED	25/01/2025	15	M
62/ON/01/18	Hotel - Railway Hotel	Railway Hotel	120 Railway Terrace West RAKAIA	124 Railway Terrace West RAKAIA 7710	#APPROVED	12/03/2025	15	M

<u>ApplicationNo</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>TraderName</u>	<u>PrimaryProperty</u>	<u>PluServiceAddress</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>RenewalExpiry</u>	<u>Risk</u>	<u>RiskCategory</u>
62/ON/03/18	Tavern - The Print Room	The Print Room	199 Burnett Street ASHBURTON	17 Hefford Place ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	03/04/2025	15	M
62/ON/13/17	Restaurant - Nawab Eatery	Nawab Eatery	121 Main Street METHVEN	121 Main Street METHVEN 7730	#APPROVED	16/04/2025	5	L
62/ON/01/24	General	Lushingtons Cafe	5 Archibald Street TINWALD.	5 Archibald Street ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	10/05/2025	5	L
62/ON/04/21	Restaurant - Koji Ashburton	Koji Japanese Restaurant and Sushi Bar	47 Creek Road ASHBURTON		#APPROVED	14/05/2025	10	M
62/ON/07/15	General	Arabica Licensed Cafe	36 Mcmillan Street METHVEN		#APPROVED	02/06/2025	5	L
62/ON/02/16	On-Licence - Mt Hutt Ski Area / Hubers Hut	Mt Hutt Ski Area	Mclennans Bush Road ASHBURTON		#APPROVED	18/06/2025	10	M
62/ON/01/21	General - Southern Cross Lodge	Southern Cross Lodge Limited	17 Racecourse Avenue METHVEN	17 Racecourse Avenue METHVEN	#APPROVED	25/06/2025	10	M
62/ON/11/16	On-Licence	Ashburton Performing Arts Theatre Trust	211 Wills Street ASHBURTON		#APPROVED	04/07/2025	10	M
62/ON/07/22	On license - Farmers Corner	Highway One Restaurant Ltd	12 Longbeach Road ASHBURTON	PO Box 497 ASHBURTON 7740	#APPROVED	08/09/2025	10	M
62/ON/08/21	General - Methven Resort Limited	Methven Resort	51 Main Street METHVEN		#APPROVED	17/09/2025	10	M
62/ON/10/18	Restaurant - Salmon Tales	Salmon Tales Cafe	9 Railway Terrace East RAKAIA	1138 Mitcham Road RD 2 ASHBURTON	#APPROVED	26/10/2025	5	L
62/ON/20/16	Restaurant - The Lake House	The Lake House Restaurant	Torbay Avenue ASHBURTON	10 Huntingdon Avenue RD 4	#APPROVED	02/11/2025	15	M

<u>ApplicationNo</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>TraderName</u>	<u>PrimaryProperty</u>	<u>PluServiceAddress</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>RenewalExpiry</u>	<u>Risk</u>	<u>RiskCategory</u>
62/ON/20/16	Restaurant - The Lake House	The Lake House Restaurant	Torbay Avenue ASHBURTON	PO Box 314 ASHBURTON 7740	#APPROVED	02/11/2025	15	M
62/ON/24/15	Tavern - The Dubliner	The Dubliner Bar and Restaurant	116 Main Street METHVEN	116 Main Street METHVEN 7730	#APPROVED	03/11/2025	15	M
62/ON/11/18	Hotel - Hotel Ashburton	Hotel Ashburton	11 Racecourse Road ASHBURTON	11-35 Racecourse Road, ASHBURTON	#APPROVED	19/11/2025	15	M
62/ON/13/18	General - Red Cottages Staveley & Woolshed	Red Cottages Staveley & Woolshed	4323 Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road	4323 Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road	#APPROVED	20/11/2025	5	L
62/ON/08/22	General - Opuke Thermal Pools and Spa	Opuke Thermal Pools and Spa	35 Mount Hutt Station Road ASHBURTON	35 Mount Hutt Station road	#APPROVED	26/11/2025	10	M
62/ON/09/22	Tavern - Kelly's Bar and Cafe	Kelly's Bar And Cafe	234 East Street ASHBURTON	234 East Street ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	10/12/2025	15	M
62/ON/01/22	Restaurant	Noble 600	231 Burnett Street ASHBURTON	231 Burnett Street ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	18/02/2026	10	M
62/ON/02/23	General for Tanglez Hair Studio	Tanglez Hair Studio	161 Tancred Street ASHBURTON	664 Boltons Road RD 5 ASHBURTON	#APPROVED	13/04/2026	5	L
62/ON/03/22	Tavern - Panthers Rock	Panthers Rock Cafe Bar Restaurant	2006 Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road	2006 Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road	#APPROVED	01/06/2026	15	M
62/ON/05/22	Restaurant	The Green Parrot Bar & Grill	36 Forest Drive METHVEN	36 Forest Drive METHVEN 7730	#APPROVED	10/06/2026	10	M
62/ON/08/20	Restaurant - Somerset Grocer (2016) Limited	The Somerset Grocer	161 Burnett Street ASHBURTON	161 Burnett Street ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	13/06/2026	15	M
62/ON/02/19	Hotel - South Rakaia Hotel	South Rakaia Hotel	41 Railway Terrace East RAKAIA	41 Railway Terrace East RAKAIA 7710	#APPROVED	19/06/2026	10	M

<u>ApplicationNo</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>TraderName</u>	<u>PrimaryProperty</u>	<u>PluServiceAddress</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>RenewalExpiry</u>	<u>Risk</u>	<u>RiskCategory</u>
62/ON/17/14	ON Licence	Ski Time Square Limited	43 Racecourse Avenue METHVEN	PO Box 84 METHVEN 7745	#APPROVED	22/06/2026	15	M
62/ON/03/19	Restaurant - Taj Spice	Taj Spice Restaurant Bar & Takeaway	110 Tancred Street ASHBURTON	110 Tancred Street ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	15/07/2026	5	L
62/ON/03/23	On-Licence (BYO) - Ton's Thai Restaurant	Ton's Thai Restaurant	162 East Street ASHBURTON	148 East Street ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	29/07/2026	5	L
62/ON/08/23	Restaurant	Krung Thep Thai Street Food	90 Harrison Street ASHBURTON		#APPROVED	12/08/2026	10	M
62/ON/03/21	Tavern - Hinds Wayside Inn	Hinds Wayside Inn	99 Peters Street HINDS	99 PETERS STREET HINDS	#APPROVED	25/09/2026	15	M
62/ON/19/16	Restaurant - Nedloh Investments	Speight's Ale House	245 Burnett Street ASHBURTON	144 Bremners Road RD 2 ASHBURTON	#APPROVED	25/11/2026	15	M
62/ON/03/17	General - JRK Limited	Cinema Paradiso	112 Main Street METHVEN	152 Forest Drive METHVEN 7730	#APPROVED	16/02/2027	2	VL
62/ON/04/17	Restaurant - Krishna Food Limited	Indian Minar	300 East Street ASHBURTON		#APPROVED	08/05/2027	5	L
62/ON/10/22	Restaurant	Smoke Ashburton Limited	231 Cameron Street ASHBURTON	371 Springston Rolleston Road RD	#APPROVED	12/05/2027	15	M
62/ON/05/20	Tavern (ON licence) - B W Carter Holdings Ltd	Mt Somers Tavern	70 Hoods Road MT SOMERS		#APPROVED	14/05/2027	15	M
62/ON/05/23	Tavern	The Phat Duck	360 West Street ASHBURTON	360 West Street ASHBURTON 7700	#APPROVED	25/05/2027	15	M
62/ON/04/23	Restaurant	Joe's Garage	40 South Street ASHBURTON	5 Ludlow Drive RD 4 ASHBURTON 7774	#APPROVED	26/05/2027	10	M

<u>ApplicationNo</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>TraderName</u>	<u>PrimaryProperty</u>	<u>PluServiceAddress</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>RenewalExpiry</u>	<u>Risk</u>	<u>RiskCategory</u>
62/ON/06/18	On-Licence - Thai Chilli	Thai Chilli	17 Forest Drive METHVEN	15 Jackson Street METHVEN 7730	#APPROVED	30/06/2027	5	L

12. Te Araroa Short Walking Trail

Author *Simon Worthington; Economic Development Manager*
Executive Team Member *Ian Hyde; GM Compliance & Development*

Summary

- The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the Economic Impact of the Te Araroa Report.
- The report shows that there is an economic value, particularly to Methven, from the proximity of the Te Araroa Trail.
- There is a value of a higher end trail to the District with an estimated return of \$3m per annum.

Recommendation

- 1. That** Council direct officers to support the Te Araroa Trust by facilitating local relationships and contacts.

Attachment

Appendix 1 Economic Impact of the Te Araroa on the Ashburton District Report from Infometrics

Background

The current situation

1. Te Araroa is one of the world's most diverse long distance walking trails stretching from the northern cape of Te Rerenga Wairua to the Southern Bluff of Motupōhue. The route winds its way over high mountain passes, around volcanoes, across sweeping plains, alongside meandering rivers, and through bustling cities and rural towns. Across its 3,000 kilometres, Te Araroa unveils the unique beauty of Aotearoa New Zealand's landscapes and communities. Each year approximately 2,000 walkers complete the trail in one continuous journey and countless more walk their local sections. Te Araroa doesn't have to be walked in its entirety or all at once. For many people, walking Te Araroa over the course of several years or even decades becomes a fulfilling lifelong adventure.
2. In Mid Canterbury the Te Araroa trail crosses the District between the large and braided Rakaia and Rakitata rivers – a natural barrier to Te Araroa's trampers. These rivers are classified as safety zones that do not form part of the trail proper, and the advice to walkers is that these rivers should not be crossed on foot.
3. As a result, walkers are forced out of the mountains and into the foothills where there are bridge crossings that enable progress to be made along the route. These barriers create an opportunity for walkers to resupply and this brings with it an economic opportunity for Mid Canterbury and specifically Methven.
4. Walkers use local accommodation providers, transport, supermarkets, retail and hospitality providers along with some visitor attractions while off route, taking between a few hours to a few days away from the route.
5. The Te Araroa Trust approached the Council to help them better understand the opportunity to work differently in Methven and to also better understand a different approach to the Te Araroa Trail. The Te Araroa Trust are interested in making it more accessible for walkers to experience the breathtaking scenery of the walk whilst catering to an audience who may not have the time or inclination to commit to walking the full route. Thus the concept of a bite sized walk was developed – Te Araroa Iti (small piece), this is the working name that the Te Araroa Trust are using and unclear whether this name has been gifted by mana whenua.
6. Council officers worked with the Te Araroa Trust in the first instance to identify local providers in Methven and surrounds who could be featured on the Te Araroa app, this app is a must have for Te Araroa walkers.
7. The next phase was to commission an Economic Consultancy to help better understand the economic benefits of the existing walkers and then the implications of a different type of walker with a more curated experience. The Economic Development team at

Council worked with Matt Claridge, CEO of the Te Araroa Trust to develop a specification for an Economic Impact Assessment and then joint funded a report to understand the value of the trail with different use case scenarios. The report cost \$22,000 to complete and was funded on a 50:50 basis between the Ashburton District Council and the Te Araroa Trust.

8. The research found that the existing 4000 Te Araroa hikers in the 2022/23 season spent \$515,400 a year in Methven. Those staying overnight before heading back to the route added far more to the local economy and there seems to be options available for encouraging more walkers to add an overnight component to their route.
9. The Te Araroa Iti hikers, though, could be a much higher source of revenue with walkers contributing more revenue to the local economy.
10. To realise the opportunity the Te Araroa Trust would need to invest in further infrastructure along the track including huts, toilets and track maintenance. This would need to be worked through with the Department of Conservation who own the majority of the land that the Te Araroa trail traverses through Mid Canterbury and any private landowners along the route.
11. The costs of investment needed are currently unknown, however if the recommendation is adopted then these would fall outside Council. If, however, Council is minded to invest then further investigation would be required.

Options analysis

Option one – Do Nothing

12. This option would mean Council and its Officers play no further part in the development of a significant walking trail in the District.

<p>Advantages: No further cost to Council</p>	<p>Disadvantages: Inability to influence a key visitor asset being developed in the region.</p>
<p>Risks: The potential for Mid Canterbury to further develop its status as a key destination for walking and biking could be compromised if Council were to sit outside these large projects with no input. This could lead to ad hoc development which is not joined up from a district promotions perspective.</p>	

Option two – Direct Officers to Support the Te Araroa Trust by facilitating local relationships and contacts (Recommended Option)

13. This option would mean no further financial support from an Ashburton District Council perspective but would mean that Council remain close to the project and can assist the Te Araroa Trust with connections to local stakeholders and potentially access to funding options either locally or through central government funds (such as the Tourism Infrastructure Fund should this become available again in the future).

<p>Advantages: Council remain connected to the project. Connections to local stakeholders can be assured If the project is completed there is an opportunity for Council to promote this through the Experience Mid Canterbury website</p>	<p>Disadvantages:</p>
<p>Risks: Only playing a facilitation role could result in a lack of ability to influence the development</p>	

Option three – Invest in the project

14. This option would see Council invest in a part of the project. Until the project is fully scoped it is unknown what the overall project costs would be. Council currently has no budget allocated for such a project.

<p>Advantages: Able to influence the project</p>	<p>Disadvantages: Not our core business No budget planned for this activity</p>
<p>Risks: Public perception that Council is funding commercial activities that sit outside of its core activities.</p>	

Legal/policy implications

15. There are no legal or policy implications for this report

Climate change

16. This report does not have any implications for climate change.

Strategic alignment

17. The recommendation relates to Council’s community outcome of a district of great spaces and places and also a prosperous economy built on innovation, opportunity and high quality infrastructure because utilising a route through our stunning mountain environment would showcase the beautiful landscapes that are prevalent in the District. The project would also have positive impacts on visitor operators, accommodation providers and hospitality venues with increased guest nights and visitor spend.

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic	✓	The creation of a walking track that attracted higher spending visitors would add to the economic wellbeing of the District.
Environmental	×	
Cultural	×	
Social	✓	The project impacts on social wellbeing as it provides visitors and locals alike the ability to use leisure time to build social bonds.

Financial implications

18. Option 2 does not require any additional funding from Council. If Council adopts Option 3 there would need to be a full business case developed.

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	There is no further cost for Council for this work, \$11,000 was spent on understanding the economic impact of this project.
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	No
Where is the funding coming from?	No funding required.
Are there any future budget implications?	No
Reviewed by Finance	Leanne Macdonald, Group Manager – Business Support

Significance and engagement assessment

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No
Level of significance	Low
Rationale for selecting level of significance	This project is considered low risk for Council as it sits on non Council land and would be a project for other organisations to fund and bring to fruition.
Level of engagement selected	Inform
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	Council assisted the Te Araroa Trust in understanding the value of the project, it is now for the Te Araroa Trust to determine whether it is feasible to invest in this project in Mid Canterbury.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Mark Low; Strategy and Policy Manager

Next steps

19. If option 2 is selected by Councillors then Officers will continue to work alongside the Te Araroa Trust.

Economic impact of Te Araroa on Ashburton District

**for Ashburton District Council
and Te Araroa Trust**

May 2024



Authorship

This report has been prepared by Senior Economist Nick Brunsdon, with the input of Dirk van Seventer.

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Executive summary

Introduction

Ashburton District Council (ADC) and Te Araroa Trust (TAT) commissioned Infometrics to estimate the economic impact of Te Araroa hikers on the Ashburton area, under the status quo and in two potential future scenarios. ADC and TAT are considering promoting the Ashburton section of Te Araroa for short walks, termed Te Araroa Iti.

Te Araroa

Te Araroa is a continuous 3,000km walking track covering the length of New Zealand from Cape Reinga to Bluff. In the 2022/23 season, an estimated 4,000 people walked the trail end to end, a feat which typically takes three to five months. Use of the trail is limited by supply – the physical capacity to accommodate hikers over peak summer months with suitable weather – and demand – with only so many people able to take five months out of their lives for the experience.

Te Araroa Iti

The concept of Te Araroa Iti is to enable shorter experiences of Te Araroa trail, which can be more manageable from a supply perspective, and being subject to greater demand given it is achievable for a wider market of visitors.

Tourism is significant for Ashburton

Tourism is an important industry for Ashburton, accounting for 7.7% of all jobs in the district in 2020, before border closures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic cut international visitor arrivals. Tourism employment peaked at 1,480 in 2020, falling to 940 in 2021 and recovering to 1,080 in 2022.

Tourism more significant for Methven

Looking at tourism-focused industries shows the importance of tourism for Methven. 15% of jobs in Methven are in accommodation and food services, compared to 4.6% across Ashburton District. Arts and recreation services accounts for 5.7% of jobs in Methven, compared to 1.5% across Ashburton District. Transport, postal and warehousing accounts for 6.4% of jobs in Methven, compared to 2.4% across the district. These three industries serve a range of customers, not just tourists, but their products are often used by tourists.

Te Araroa hikers surveyed

We developed a brief online survey to understand the experience of Te Araroa hikers in Ashburton District including their spending patterns. The survey filtered respondents to just those who had traversed Te Araroa between Arthurs Pass and Tekapo, with a total of 57 complete responses for analysis.

Through-hikers spend \$8-10,000

Through-hikers – those walking the entire Te Araroa – spend an average of \$8,200 according to the Ashburton survey and \$10,200 according to the TA Trust survey.

Most use commercial transport for Rakaia and Rangitata crossing

Te Araroa encounters two major rivers in Ashburton District, the Rakaia and Rangitata. These rivers are designated hazard zones by TAT, reflecting that they are dangerous to cross and therefore don't constitute part of the trail. The most common approach for traversing the Rakaia and Rangitata River hazard zones was commercial transport, used by 40% of respondents in crossing the Rakaia and 44% in crossing the Rangitata. Hikers who hitchhiked or obtaining commercial transport were more likely to visit Geraldine or Methven, compared to other transport modes, which reflects the use of these towns as hubs for commercial transport operators.

Methven and Geraldine not substitutes

Despite being close together, Methven and Geraldine don't appear to be substitutes for each other. Out of all respondents, 68% visited Methven, and of this group, 56% visited Geraldine too. Out of the respondents that stayed overnight in Methven, 67% also stayed overnight in Geraldine. This perhaps reflects the need to travel out of the back country for both the Rangitata and Rakaia River crossings, and a desire to visit different towns in the process.

Three quarters of respondents visited Methven and/or Geraldine as a day or overnight visit. Among the remaining 25%, several mentioning in the comments that they resupplied at lodges such as Mount Potts or Mesopotamia Station.

Average spend in town of \$207 per overnight visit

Te Araroa hikers who visited Methven and/or Geraldine for a day visit spent an average of \$79, compared to an average of \$207 for an overnight visit, reflecting a longer duration of stay and spend on accommodation.

Most spend on retail and accommodation

Survey respondents indicated their spend across five broad product types in Methven and/or Geraldine. The largest group for spending in town was retail, which reflects hikers stocking up with supplies for multiple days in the back country. Average retail spend was \$30 for day visits and \$69 for overnight visits. Average spend on food services such as restaurants or cafes was \$26 for day visits and \$53 for overnight visits. Overnight visitors spent an average of \$69 on accommodation, which reflects a mix of campground and motel style accommodation, and some visitors spending multiple nights in town. Geraldine was \$60, and \$64 in Methven. Retail was followed by food services, with average spend of \$50 in Methven and \$42 in Geraldine.

Generally positive comments

Respondents were offered a free text field in the final question to add any comments about their experience in Methven, Geraldine and Te Araroa in the Ashburton area more

generally. These comments were generally very positive about the trail between the Rakaia and Rangitata Rivers, with several commenting that it was their favourite or one of their favourite sections in the entire trail. Many commented on the friendly locals at farms, lodges and in towns. Comments about both Methven and Geraldine were generally positive, including one comment on Methven “Great town much loved by TA walkers. Many people took time off here”.

Rakaia and Rangitata crossings a hassle

The most common comment was that the logistics of crossing the two river hazard zones made the Rakaia to Rangitata section particularly challenging.

The hassle of arranging transport around the Rakaia and Rangitata River hazard zones was also borne out in TAT’s national post-hike survey, which showed a lower proportion of hikers completing the Rakaia to Rangitata section than adjacent sections.

Local businesses surveyed

We surveyed a small number of Ashburton businesses to understand how they engage with Te Araroa hikers and identify any barriers to further growth under the Iti concept. The businesses surveyed provide a range of services to Te Araroa hikers, including retail products, accommodation, transport and recreation services. All of the businesses recognised Te Araroa hikers as a distinct customer group, however, none identified Te Araroa hikers as a significant revenue source for their business.

Tight budgets

Several businesses noted challenges with Te Araroa hikers being focused on their goal of completing the hike. One noted that although hikers were “appreciative and happy to be here but keen to get back out on the trail”. Several noted that the tight budgets of hikers presented a challenge, as they were often on a tight budget and in some cases reluctant to pay market rates for services. Several noted that hikers generally focussed on low-cost campground or backpacker style accommodation.

Room to grow

All businesses felt that an increase in hikers in the Ashburton area could easily be accommodated within existing business capacity. One noted that existing hiker numbers made it challenging for locals to explore their own back country as huts and related facilities approached capacity in summer.

Multiplier approach to estimating economic impact

Our economic impact assessment is based on survey data, a series of assumptions that we have built up, and an input-output multiplier model. The model estimates how economic activity in one industry affect others. This includes direct, indirect and induced effects.

Considered status quo and Iti scenario

We have estimated the economic impact of Te Araroa trail on Ashburton District through two scenarios – status quo, and Iti. Status quo is based on existing Te Araroa users, predominantly through hikers, based on data for the 2021/22 season. We have

benchmarked on the 2021/22 seasons, reflecting advice from Te Araroa Trust which indicates that further growth in through-hikers may not be feasible, so it is considered to represent a peak.

The Iti scenario explores the potential for a premium multi-day hiking experience on the Te Araroa in Ashburton. Through discussions with Te Araroa Trust we have assumed 3,000 hikers per year in the Iti scenario. The Iti scenario reflects a future state where the trail has been fully developed and promoted, and has become established as a popular option with annual visitation around half that of the least popular Great Walks.

Premium hikers make up half of Iti hikers

Te Araroa Trust and Ashburton District Council hold an ambition to develop the Te Araroa Iti option into a premium option with hikers supported on their hike with commercial services such as guides, pack transport and catered accommodation. A similar experience can be found on other Great Walks, such as operated by Ultimate Hikes on the Routeburn track. The Iti scenario reflects a future state where these commercial services are fully developed.

Reflecting this ambition, we have modelled Te Araroa Iti assuming that half of the 3,000 hikers are premium hikers – utilising commercial support services along their walk.

Self-supporting hikers make up half of Iti hikers

We have assumed the other half of the hikers are self-supporting. For self-supporting hikers, we have assumed that they will not make any purchases while hiking, as no commercial services are available along the route. We have assumed that all self-supporting hikers will make a day visit to Methven, with 25% will make an overnight visit to Methven.

Developing Iti will require investment in hut capacity

Developing the Te Araroa Iti concept and growing the number of hikers will require an investment in hut capacity, as we estimate the existing huts are at capacity during peak periods of January to March.

Existing Te Araroa hikers spend \$515,400 in Methven

Existing Te Araroa hikers are estimated to spend \$79 per daytime visit to Methven, amounting to a total of \$33,200 in the 2022/23 season. Te Araroa hikers are estimated to spend \$208 per overnight trip to Methven, for a total spend of \$500,600 in the 2022/23. Altogether, Te Araroa hikers were estimated to spend \$534,000 in Methven including daytime and overnight visits.

Iti hikers could spend \$3.0m

We estimate that Iti hikers could spend \$3.0m per year once the Iti concept is fully established. This estimate includes \$694,900 spent directly in Methven by hikers before and after their hike, including both premium and self-supported hikers. Premium hikers are estimated to spend a further \$2.3m while on the track, for commercial services including transfers, guides, pack transport and catered accommodation.

Through hikers add \$222,100 to Ashburton GDP, support 3.3 FTEs

Through hikers on Te Araroa in the 2022/23 season are estimated to have added \$222,100 to Ashburton District's economy. This is estimated to support 3.3 full time equivalent jobs on average over the entire year. Given the seasonality of hiking, this likely manifests as a greater number of part time jobs over summer.

Iti hikers could add \$1.29m to GDP, support 19.4 FTEs

Iti hikers could add \$1.29m to the Ashburton District economy once the Iti concept is fully established and support 19.4 FTE jobs. Given the seasonality of hiking, this would likely manifest as a greater number of part time roles during summer.

Effects concentrated in tourism-focused industries

Given the relatively small economic contribution of Te Araroa hikers, we haven't specifically modelled industry impacts. However, based on the types of products purchased by Te Araroa hikers we can surmise that the GDP and employment effects will be highly concentrated in accommodation and food services, arts and recreation services, transport services, and retail trade.

Introduction

Ashburton District Council (ADC) and Te Araroa Trust (TAT) commissioned Infometrics to estimate the economic impact of Te Araroa hikers on the Ashburton area, under the status quo and in two potential future scenarios. ADC and TAT are considering promoting the Ashburton section of Te Araroa for short walks, termed Te Araroa Iiti.

In this report, we survey Te Araroa hikers and local businesses to estimate the spending patterns of hikers on Ashburton District. We apply these estimates to our economic multiplier model to understand the impact on the district's economy. This report gives stakeholders an understanding of the economic significance of Te Araroa hikers and the potential upside if investments in track infrastructure and promotion were to be made.

Te Araroa and Te Araroa Iti

Te Araroa is a continuous 3,000km walking track covering the length of New Zealand from Cape Reinga to Bluff. In the 2022/23 season, an estimated 4,000 people walked the trail end to end, a feat which typically takes three to five months. Use of the trail is limited by supply – the physical capacity to accommodate hikers over peak summer months with suitable weather – and demand – with only so many people able to take five months out of their lives for the experience.

Te Araroa plays a considerable role in New Zealand's tourism sector, with hikers estimated to spend a collective 450,000 nights in New Zealand in the 2022/23 season, comparable to Kaikoura District's tourism sector which accommodated 458,000 guests nights in the year to September 2023. Furthermore, Te Araroa brings tourists into the heart of New Zealand's communities, which has the potential to create enduring relationships with New Zealand after their visit, such as encouraging purchase of our export products or migrating.

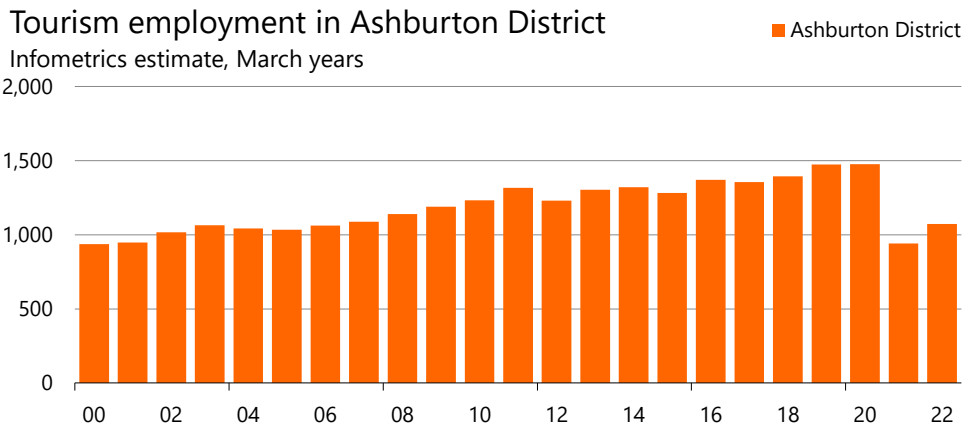
The concept of Te Araroa Iti is to enable shorter experiences of Te Araroa trail, which can be more manageable from a supply perspective, and being subject to greater demand given it is achievable for a wider market of visitors.

Significance of tourism for Ashburton

7.7% of Ashburton District jobs in tourism

Tourism is an important industry for Ashburton, accounting for 7.7% of all jobs in the district in 2020, before border closures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic cut international visitor arrivals. Tourism employment peaked at 1,480 in 2020, falling to 940 in 2021 and recovering to 1,080 in 2022 (Graph 1).

Graph 1



We estimate tourism employment based on the proportion of jobs in each industry which are supported by tourism expenditure. This reflects that the proportion of jobs supported by tourism varies from industry to industry and area to area. When looking at Methven specifically, we can't estimate the number of jobs supported by tourism, but we can highlight the industries overall which are tourism-focused.

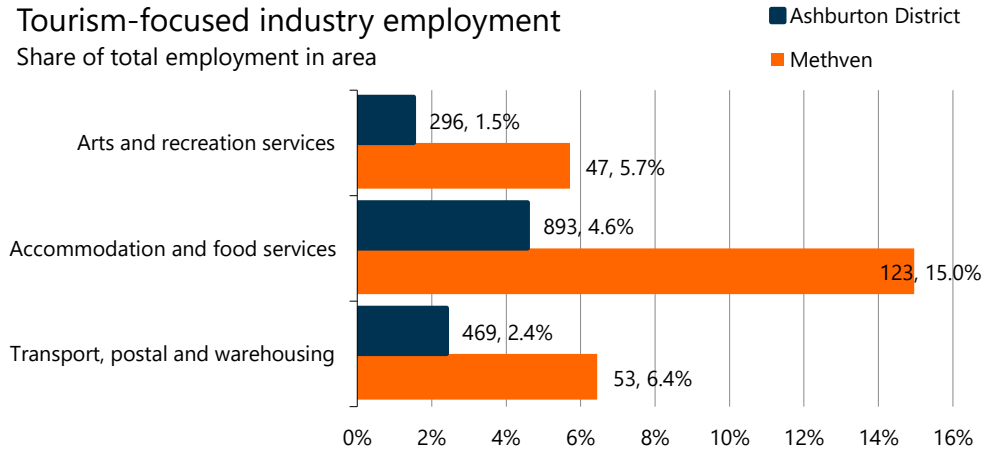
Tourism more significant for Methven

Looking at tourism-focused industries shows the importance of tourism for Methven. 15% of jobs in Methven are in accommodation and food services, compared to 4.6% across Ashburton District (Graph 2). Arts and recreation services accounts for 5.7% of jobs in Methven, compared to 1.5% across Ashburton District. Transport, postal and warehousing accounts for 6.4% of jobs in Methven, compared to 2.4% across the district. These three industries serve a range of customers, not just tourists, but their products are often used by tourists.

Graph 2

Tourism-focused industry employment

Share of total employment in area



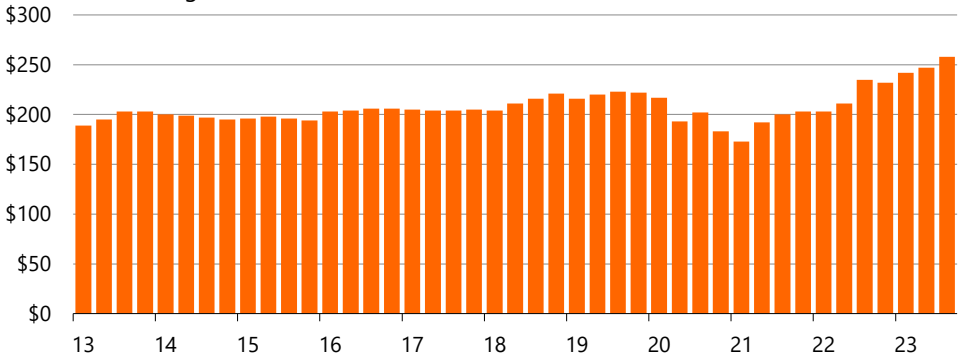
Tourism spending in Ashburton tops \$258m in 2023

Tourism spending in Ashburton has been recovering strongly after reaching a trough in 2021, peaking at \$258m in the year to September 2023. Tourism spending has been buoyed by the return of international visitors in mid-2022.

Graph 3

Tourism expenditure in Ashburton District

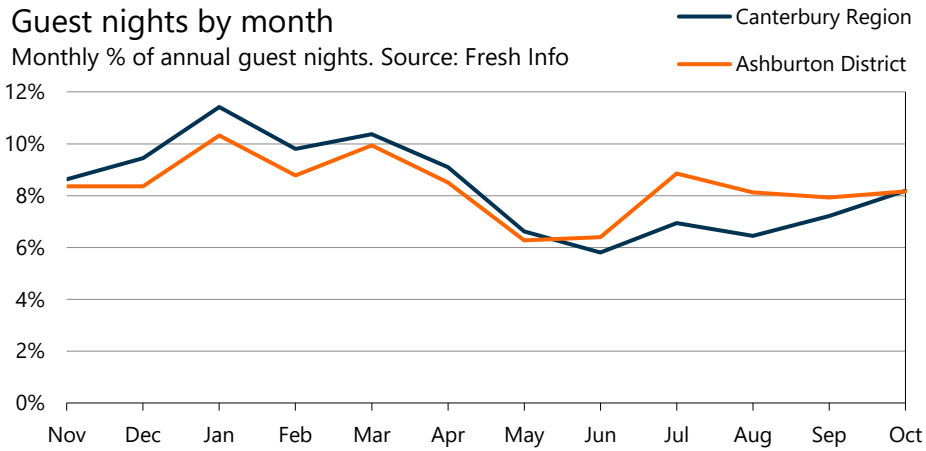
\$m, annual rolling totals



Seasonality becoming less pronounced

Ashburton has a pronounced seasonal pattern of tourism demand, as illustrated in Graph 4 with a peak in demand around July associated with the ski season, as well as January to March. Ashburton experiences a less pronounced summer peak than the Canterbury Region overall, although both share a lull through the shoulder season of May to June.

Graph 4



Te Araroa Hiker survey

Approach

We developed a brief online survey to understand the experience of Te Araroa hikers in Ashburton District including their spending patterns. The survey was distributed to members of Te Araroa Facebook Group by TAT. The survey contained several demographic questions, which were aligned to the trust's regular post-hike survey, such that the representativeness of this survey could be benchmarked. The survey filtered respondents to just those who had traversed Te Araroa between Arthurs Pass and Tekapo. We focused on this section of the track as it would be more easily identified by survey respondents than the Ashburton District territorial boundaries.

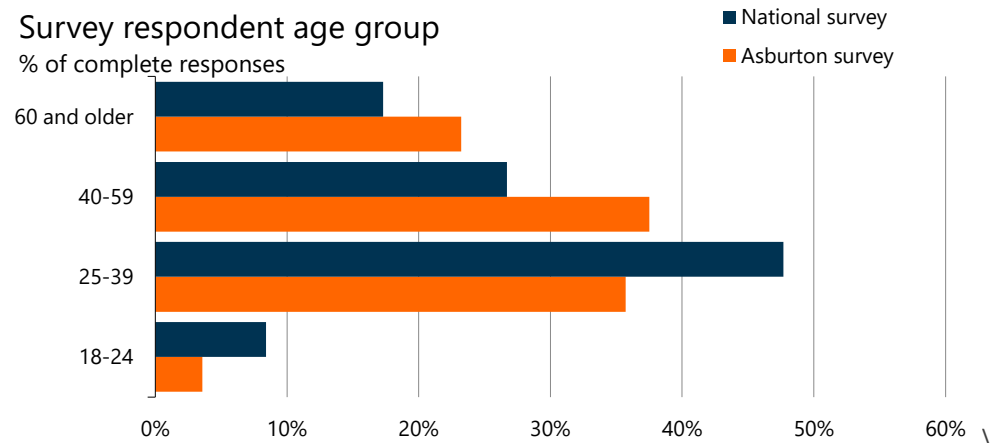
In total, 62 respondents attempted the survey, which was filtered to 57 complete responses for analysis.

Findings

Most hikers aged between 25 and 59 years old

Out of the respondents to our survey, 38% were aged between 40 and 59 years old, and 36% were aged 25-39 years old (Graph 5). The TA Trusts' survey indicated a higher share of 25-39 year old walkers, accounting for 48% of responses, with 40-59 year olds accounting for 27%. Overall, most hikers are aged between 25 and 59 years old, with both surveys indicating a broadly similar distribution across age groups.

Graph 5

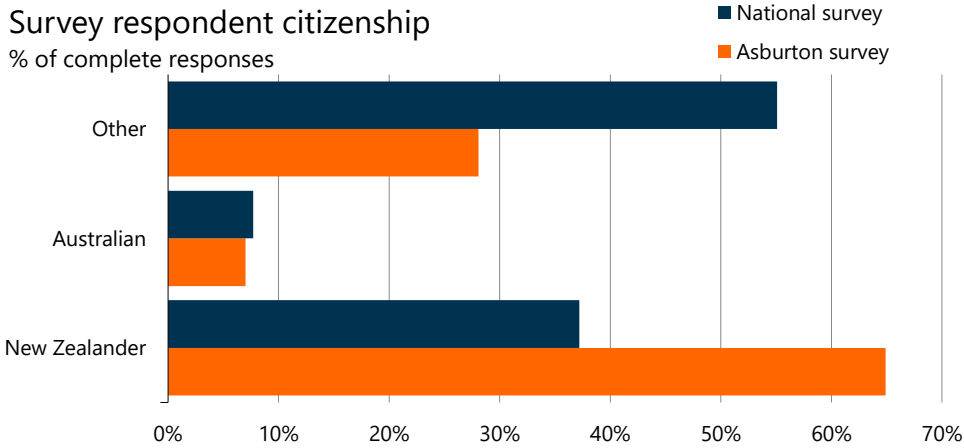


New Zealanders account for 65% of survey respondents

The Ashburton TA survey indicated that 65% of hikers were New Zealanders, compared to 37% in the TA Trust's own survey (Graph 6). This could reflect greater survey engagement from New Zealanders due to greater familiarity with Ashburton District as a

descriptor in the survey promotion and introduction. Australians accounted for 7% of Ashburton survey respondents, similar to 8% in the national survey. Other nationalities accounted for 28% of Ashburton survey respondents, compared to 55% in the national survey, inversely reflecting the bias towards New Zealand respondents in the Ashburton survey.

Graph 6



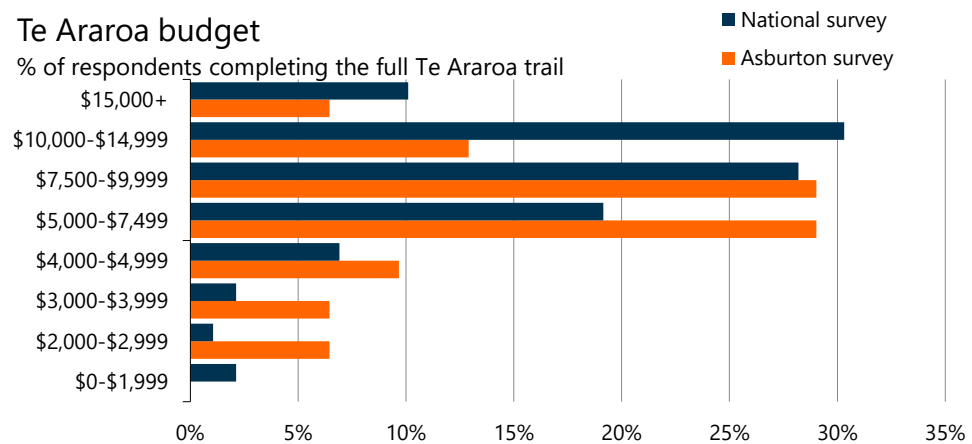
Most through-hikers walk Southbound

Most through-hikers on Te Araroa walked Southbound, with 68% of respondents to our survey walking Southbound and 80% of respondents to the TA Trust survey walking Southbound.

Through-hikers spend \$8-10,000

Through-hikers – those walking the entire Te Araroa – spend an average of \$8,200 across the full journey according to the Ashburton survey and \$10,200 according to the TA Trust survey. In the Ashburton survey, the most common spend amounts were \$5,000-\$7,499 (29%) and \$7,500-\$9,999 (29%) (Graph 7). In the national survey, the most common amounts were \$7,500-\$9,999 (28%) and \$10,000-\$14,999 (30%)

Graph 7



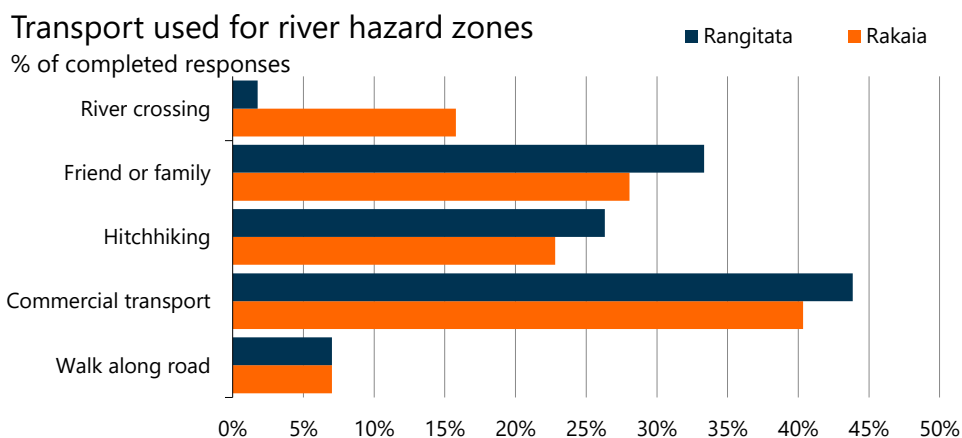
River hazard zones

Te Araroa encounters two major rivers in Ashburton District, the Rakaia and Rangitata. These rivers are designated hazard zones by TAT, reflecting that they are dangerous to cross and therefore don't constitute part of the trail. Hikers face a long detour by road to traverse these rivers, representing the primary opportunity for economic impact as this is when hikers are able to access commercial services and visit Methven or Geraldine.

The most common approach for traversing the Rakaia and Rangitata River hazard zones was commercial transport, used by 40% of respondents in crossing the Rakaia and 44% in crossing the Rangitata (Graph 8). Rides from friends or family and hitchhiking (including rides from Trail Angels) were the second and third most common options respectively.

The TA Trust strongly advises against river crossings of both rivers for safety reasons, although it does suggest that crossing the Rangitata is possible for experienced parties. This relative safety was reflected in the survey comments, however, surprisingly among survey respondents river crossing was more common for the Rakaia (16%) than the Rangitata (2%).

Graph 8



Hikers who hitchhiked or obtaining commercial transport were more likely to visit Geraldine or Methven, compared to other transport modes, which reflects the use of these towns as hubs for commercial transport operators.

Methven and Geraldine not substitutes

Despite being close together, Methven and Geraldine don't appear to be substitutes for each other. Out of all respondents, 68% visited Methven, and of this group, 56% visited Geraldine too. Out of the respondents that stayed overnight in Methven, 67% also stayed overnight in Geraldine. This perhaps reflects the need to travel out of the back country for both the Rangitata and Rakaia River crossings, and a desire to visit different towns in the process.

Three quarters of respondents visited Methven and/or Geraldine as a day or overnight visit. Among the remaining 25%, several mentioning in the comments that they resupplied at lodges such as Mount Potts or Mesopotamia Station.

There was no relationship between hikers’ total Te Araroa budget and whether they visited Methven and/or Geraldine. This reflects that transiting Methven or Geraldine is commonly part of commercial transport across the Rakaia and Rangitata Rivers, and that commercial services are available at lodges near the trailheads.

Average spend in town of \$207 per overnight visit

Te Araroa hikers who visited Methven and/or Geraldine for a day visit spent an average of \$79, compared to an average of \$207 for overnight visit, reflecting a longer duration of stay and spend on accommodation.

We grouped Methven and Geraldine together for our analysis as the larger sample size (people who visited Methven or Geraldine) increased the robustness of the average spend estimates.

Most spend on retail and accommodation

Survey respondents indicated their spend across five broad product types in Methven and/or Geraldine.

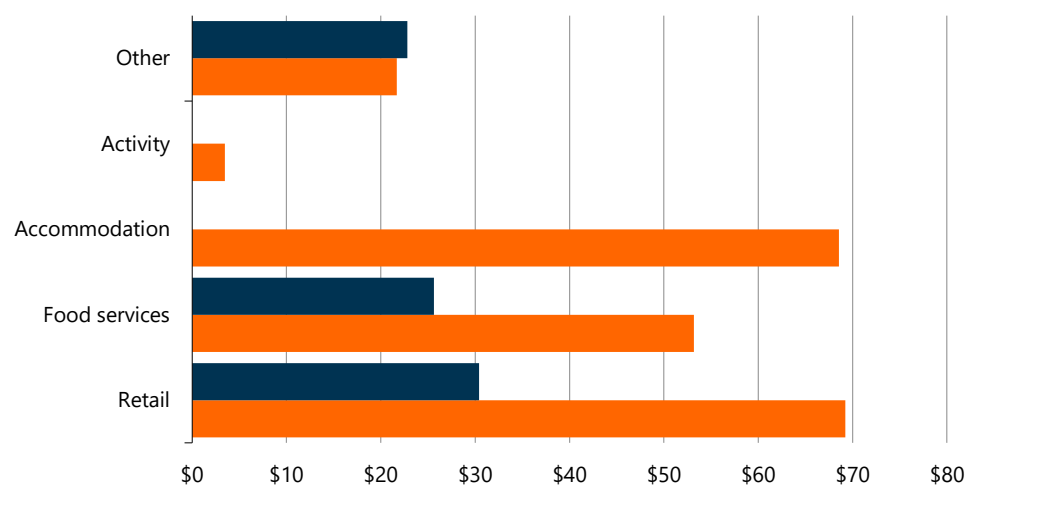
The largest category for spending in town was retail, which reflects hikers stocking up with supplies for multiple days in the back country. Average retail spend was \$30 for day visits and \$69 for overnight visits (Graph 9). Average spend on food services such as restaurants or cafes was \$26 for day visits and \$53 for overnight visits. Overnight visitors spent an average of \$69 on accommodation, which reflects a mix of campground and motel style accommodation, and some visitors spending multiple nights in town. Geraldine was \$60, and \$64 in Methven. Retail was followed by food services, with average spend of \$50 in Methven and \$42 in Geraldine.

Graph 9

Average spend by product type

For those who visited and spent in Methven and/or Geraldine

■ Day ■ Overnight



Resupply

Most hikers (56%) restocked their supplies in Methven or Geraldine, and didn't resupply at any other point between Lake Tekapo and Arthur's Pass. A further 35% resupplied at other points, including lodges near the trail such as Mount Potts and Mesopotamia Station. Just 9% of hikers didn't resupply at all between Arthur's Pass and Tekapo.

Generally positive comments

Respondents were offered a free text field in the final question to add any comments about their experience in Methven, Geraldine and Te Araroa in the Ashburton area more generally. These comments were generally very positive about the trail between the Rakaia and Rangitata Rivers, with several commenting that it was their favourite or one of their favourite sections in the entire trail. Many commented on the friendly locals at farms, lodges and in towns. Comments about both Methven and Geraldine were generally positive, including one comment on Methven "Great town much loved by TA walkers. Many people took time off here".

The most common comment was that the logistics of crossing the two river hazard zones made the Rakaia to Rangitata section particularly challenging. This was best encapsulated in the comment "A great area to walk but a big hassle to get past the exclusion [hazard] zones". Exacerbating this, several noted the challenge of arranging shuttles from trailheads with limited camping and patchy or non-existent cell phone reception. Several noted their satisfaction with commercial transport services, once they had been arranged.

The hassle of arranging transport around the Rakaia and Rangitata River hazard zones was also borne out in TAT's national post-hike survey, which showed a lower proportion of hikers completing the Rakaia to Rangitata section than adjacent sections. Out of the survey respondents, 65% completed the Arthur's Pass to Rakaia River section and 68% completed the Rangitata to Tekapo section, however, only 58% completed the Rakaia to Rangitata section.

Business survey

Approach

We surveyed a small number of Ashburton businesses to understand how they engage with Te Araroa hikers and identify any barriers to further growth under the Iti concept. Businesses were identified from Te Araroa trail notes and approached at first by phone, then by email as it proved challenging to reach appropriate staff at each business by phone during the busy summer season.

In total, eleven businesses were approached, and five responded.

Te Araroa hikers not significant for businesses

The businesses surveyed provide a range of services to Te Araroa hikers, including retail products, accommodation, transport and recreation services. All of the businesses recognised Te Araroa hikers as a distinct customer group, however, none identified Te Araroa hikers as a significant revenue source for their business. Most businesses noted seasonal peaks in demand during the winter ski season and summer, with Te Araroa hikers coming through in the peak summer season more so than the shoulder season.

Tight budgets

Several businesses noted challenges with Te Araroa hikers being focused on their goal of completing the hike. One noted that although hikers were “appreciative and happy to be here but keen to get back out on the trail”. Several noted that the tight budgets of hikers presented a challenge, as they were often on a tight budget and in some cases reluctant to pay market rates for services. Several noted that hikers generally focussed on low-cost campground or backpacker style accommodation.

Room to grow

All businesses felt that an increase in hikers in the Ashburton area could easily be accommodated within existing business capacity. One noted that existing hiker numbers made it challenging for locals to explore their own back country as huts and related facilities approached capacity in summer.

Economic impact

Multiplier approach

Based on survey data and assumptions

Our economic impact assessment is based on survey data and a series of assumptions that we have built up. This reflects the limited data sources available. We discussed the survey findings in detail in the previous section, and in this section we have outlined how we have arrived at the assumptions used in our modelling. Ultimately, our estimates of economic impact are a function of our assumptions.

A key assumption of multiplier analysis is that there are sufficient resources available to meet demand. For example, if more hikers were to demand transport to the trailhead, then we are assuming that an Ashburton business is able to step-up and meet this demand such that the economic impact is felt within Ashburton District. If sufficient resources were not available, for example, Ashburton's transport businesses were at capacity, then out-of-district suppliers could step up and therefore the effect on Ashburton District would be less than estimated.

Input-Output multiplier approach

We use a regional input-output (IO) multiplier model to estimate the impact of the trail. The IO model is based on inter-industry relationships within an economy, mapping how economic activity in one industry flows through to other industries and ultimately households. As we have focused on the effect on the Ashburton District, we have disregarded expenditure with out-of-region suppliers. Outputs are expressed in 2022 dollars, and effectively assume the economic structure of the Ashburton District in 2022. Due to modelling limitations, we cannot specifically estimate the effect on Methven, although it is likely that the effect of Te Araroa hikers would be concentrated on Methven and surrounds more so than Ashburton town.

Our multiplier approach is described in more detail in Appendix 1.

Direct, indirect and induced economic effects considered

We consider the direct, indirect and induced economic effects of the hikers on Te Araroa. Direct effects include transactions made by Te Araroa hikers. Indirect effects include the effect on suppliers, such as cafes purchasing food from farmers, or transport providers purchasing diesel. Induced effects include the expenditure effect of wage earnings – such as higher spending at local restaurants - as a result of higher direct and indirect employment.

Our assumptions

Iti scenario of 3,000 hikers per year

We have estimated the economic impact of Te Araroa trail on Ashburton District through two scenarios – status quo, and Iti.

Status quo is based on existing Te Araroa users, predominantly through hikers, based on data for the 2021/22 season. We have benchmarked on the 2021/22 seasons, reflecting advice from Te Araroa Trust which indicates that further growth in through-hikers may not be feasible, so it is considered to represent a peak.

The Iti scenario explores the potential for a premium multi-day hiking experience on the Te Araroa in Ashburton. Through discussions with Te Araroa Trust we have assumed 3,000 hikers per year in the Iti scenario. The Iti scenario reflects a future state where the trail has been fully developed and promoted, and has become established as a popular option with annual visitation around half that of the least popular Great Walks.

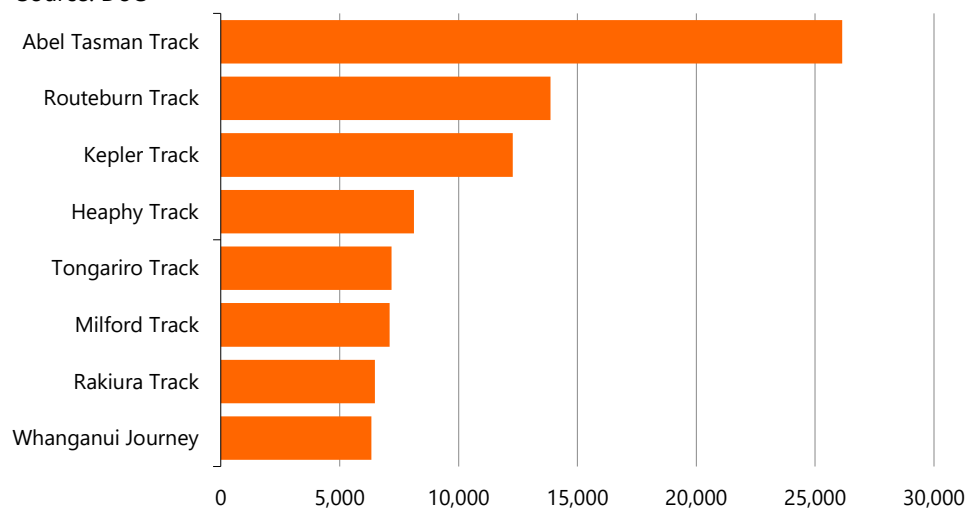
Great Walks provide an upper-bound

The Iti scenario has been developed with reference to the Department of Conservation's Great Walks, which provide reliable statistics as bookings are required for huts and campsites. The Great Walks represent a conceptual upper-bound for the Iti concept as they are popular, well marketed and maintained to a high standard. It is unlikely that the Ashburton Te Araroa Iti would outperform a Great Walk, even considering that it is more proximate to a large population centre (Christchurch). Annual visitors to the Great Walks in 2018/19 season, the last full season before international tourism was affected the COVID-19 pandemic and travel restrictions, ranged from 5,600 to 26,100 (Graph 10).

Graph 10

Great Walk annual visitors 2018/19

Source: DoC



Premium hikers make up half of Iti hikers

Te Araroa Trust and Ashburton District Council hold an ambition to develop the Te Araroa Iti option into a premium option with hikers supported on their hike with commercial services such as guides, pack transport and catered accommodation. A similar experience can be found on other Great Walks, such as operated by Ultimate Hikes on the Routeburn track. The Iti scenario reflects a future state where these commercial services are fully developed.

Reflecting this ambition, we have modelled Te Araroa Iti assuming that half of the 3,000 hikers are premium hikers – utilising commercial support services along their walk. We have modelled the premium hikers based on Ultimate Hikes' Routeburn package which is priced at \$1,930 for a three day, two night hike. We have also assumed that the premium hikers would spend one night in Methven on average (either before or after their Iti experience) and spend \$231 per person. This per person spending estimate is based on the average per person spend for overnight holiday-type trips, from the Domestic Traveller Survey and International Visitor Survey, updated for inflation.

Self-supporting hikers make up half of Iti hikers

We have assumed the other half of the hikers are self-supporting. For self-supporting hikers, we have assumed that they will not make any purchases while hiking, as no commercial services are available along the route. We have assumed that hikers will make a day visit to Methven, spending \$87 per person on average (based on through hikers in the Te Araroa hiker survey). We have assumed that 25% of self-supporting hikers will spend one night in Methven on average (either before or after their Iti experience), spending \$231 per person.

We have assumed that overnight spending of both premium and self-supporting hikers in Methven will reflect standard spending patterns of holiday travellers in New Zealand, rather than that of Te Araroa through hikers, as multi-day hikers won't face the same financial constraints as those hiking for several months at a time.

Seasonality and hut capacity

In developing the Iti scenarios, we have considered the current capacity for hikers in the area. DoC does not have data on usage of existing huts nor the number of hikers on the trail, however, there is a vehicle counter on Hakatere Heron Road, which indicates the seasonal and day-of-week patterns associated with recreation in this area. Traffic counts show higher recreation in the warmer summer season, with traffic in January 2.5 times higher than that of June. Traffic counts also show higher recreation in the weekend, with Saturday and Sunday accounting for 43% of weekly traffic in January. By applying these seasonal and day-of-week patterns to the capacity for hikers to stay overnight, we can estimate the hut capacity required to support a given number of hikers in a year, assuming that capacity is fully utilised in the peak period of January weekends. For Te Araroa through-hikers, we have applied a different seasonality assumption as their arrival at huts is unlikely to be related to weekends, as they are hiking continuously over several months. We have assumed Te Araroa hikers use the huts to their capacity through January to March, which is the peak time for both northbound and southbound through hikers to transit the Ashburton area.

No spare hut capacity

Based on existing Te Araroa through hiker numbers and estimated casual recreation in the area, we estimate that the current hut capacity of 23 bunks is effectively fully utilized through peak periods of January for casual users and January to March for Te Araroa through-hikers. This lack of existing hut capacity means that any growth in hiker numbers for the Iiti scenario would require an investment in huts.

Findings

Existing TA hikers spend \$515,400 in Methven

Existing TA through hikers are estimated to spend \$79 per daytime visit to Methven, and \$208 per overnight visit in the 2022/23 season. Total spending from daytime visits to Methven amounts to \$33,200, and \$482,200 for overnight visits. Altogether, TA hikers were estimated to spend \$515,400 in Methven (Graph 11).

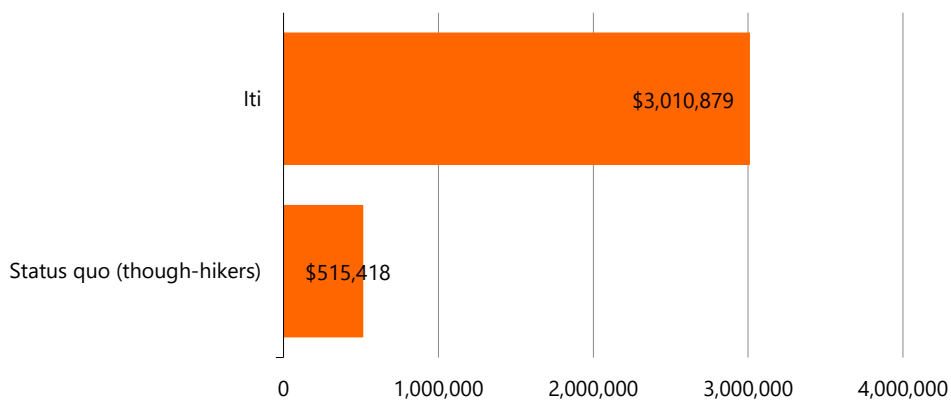
Iiti hikers could spend \$3.0m

We estimate that Iiti hikers could spend \$3.0m per year once the Iiti concept is fully established (Graph 11). This estimate includes \$694,900 spent directly in Methven by hikers before and after their hike, including both premium and self-supported hikers. Premium hikers are estimated to spend a further \$2.3m while on the track, for commercial services including transfers, guides, pack transport and catered accommodation.

Graph 11

Te Araroa hiker expenditure in Ashburton

Infometrics estimate



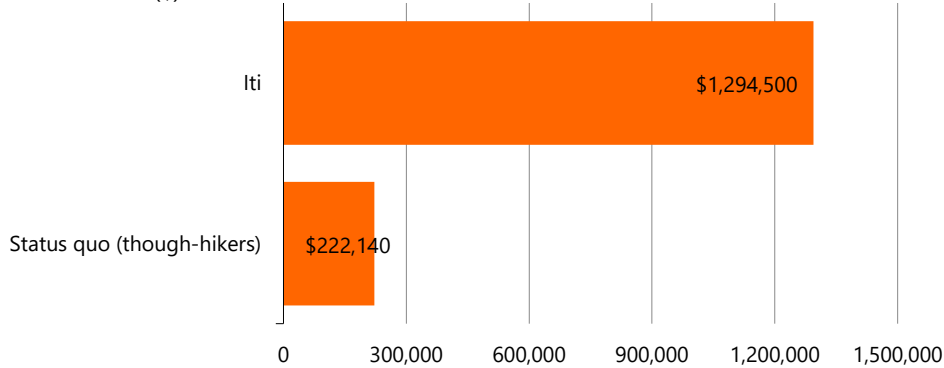
Through hikers add \$222,100 to Ashburton GDP, support 3.3 FTEs

Through hikers on Te Araroa in the 2022/23 season are estimated to have added \$222,100 to Ashburton District's economy (Graph 12). This is estimated to support 3.3 full time equivalent jobs (Graph 13) across the entire year. Given the seasonality of hiking, this likely manifests as a greater number of part time jobs over summer.

Graph 12

GDP impact of Te Araroa hikers on Ashburton

Value added (\$)



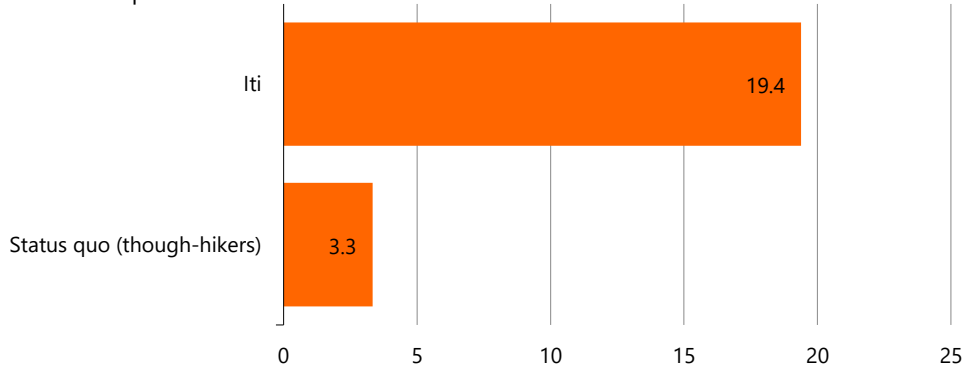
Iti hikers could add \$1.29m to GDP, support 19.4 FTEs

Iti hikers could add \$1.29m to the Ashburton District economy once the Iti concept is fully established (Graph 12) and support 19.4 FTE jobs (Graph 13). Given the seasonality of hiking, this would likely manifest as a greater number of part time roles during summer.

Graph 13

Employment impact of Te Araroa hikers on Ashburton

Full time equivalents



Effects concentrated in tourism-focused industries

Given the relatively small economic contribution of Te Araroa hikers, we haven't specifically modelled industry impacts. However, based on the types of products purchased by Te Araroa hikers we can surmise that the GDP and employment effects will be highly concentrated in accommodation and food services, arts and recreation services, transport services, and retail trade.

13. Hampstead School Pool Partnership

Author	<i>Ellen Nicol; Recreation Services Manager</i>
Activity Manager	<i>Richard Wood; Sport and Recreation Manager</i>
Executive Team Member	<i>Sarah Mosley; GM: People and Facilities</i>

Summary

- The purpose of this report is to seek direction from Council if it wishes to fund and provide a public swimming pool option within Ashburton town during January 2025, when EA Networks Centre pool area will be closed for maintenance.
- Hampstead Pool is the only school pool within Ashburton. The Hampstead School Board (& pool subcommittee) operate the pool for predominantly student use only. The pool is unheated and is in fair condition for the asset's age.
- Should this partnership proceed, there are two safety concerns that officers have identified that would need to be addressed prior to opening and redeploying lifeguards (who will be available due to the maintenance closedown) to work there.

Recommendation

- 1. That** Council enters into an agreement with Hampstead School on the terms identified within this report, including an investment of up to \$6,000 as compensation for public access to enable EA Networks Centre, to operate the Hampstead Pool during January 2025.

Background

The current situation

1. EA Networks Centre (EANC) management have planned a four week pool area shutdown to undertake a range of key maintenance tasks in January 2025. This shutdown's focus is the pool deck, changing rooms plus all pools/features (except the main pool). Tasks include but are not limited to acid washing, tile, grating and floor repairs, and replacing pool expansion joints. This shutdown, along with the loss in revenue, was forecast through the LTP process.
2. Performing maintenance shutdowns in January is preferred due to January's lower visitation and does not impact on learn to swim or schools swim programmes.
3. Although EANC will be closed in January, Council and its local reserve boards will operate public swimming pools in Rakaia, Hinds, Mt Somers, Ruapuna, Mayfield and Open Spaces staff also operate the paddling pool within the Ashburton Domain.
4. During the shutdown, pool staff will be encouraged to take annual leave and or perform a range of work tasks at EANC or other Council facilities, including training and redeployment to other activities. If this recommendation is approved, a number of staff will be redeployed to lifeguard at Hampstead Pool.
5. Hampstead Pool is over 50 years old and, while operational, investigations have highlighted the need to upgrade the chlorinating system and balance tank cover so that our staff are not put at risk. The proposed upgrades (estimated between \$5,000 - \$6,000) would lift the pool to a similar standard to other district pools. Funding for the upgrades is available within EANC budget.
6. Hampstead School currently operate their pool in February-March only. In previous years, they opened the pool earlier to enable students to swim in December, however, due to the variability in weather and the cost involved of maintaining the pool for a longer season they moved to their current model.
7. The Board has advised the pool provides a refreshing swim (approximately 18-20 degrees). The pool was once heated, but there has been no heating for a number of years. Therefore, operating hours will be set, but opening will be subject to weather of the day, with this communicated on EANC Facebook page.

The proposed agreement terms

8. Hampstead School Board and Council officers have discussed this unique opportunity and agree in principle with the following terms:
 - Both parties would assist with the pre-opening cleaning tasks.

- EANC would remedy the two identified safety concerns (chlorinating system and balance tank cover), with the improvements becoming the property of Hampstead School. Should the final quotes for these works exceed \$6,000 + GST, Council reserves the right to withdraw from the agreement.
- EANC will maintain and staff the pool when opened in January.
- Days and times of operation will be weather related and at the discretion of EANC Management.
- Swimmers will pay \$4.50 per adult and \$3.50 per child (5 -17 years), with under 5's free. There will also be the option to purchase a family pass (2 adults + 2 children or 1 adult + 3 children) for \$13.50. The income will be retained by EANC to subsidise some operating costs. Officers will investigate the benefits of using a mobile eftpos machine and being cash-free due to the security benefits.

Options analysis

Option one – Upgrade and operate Hampstead School Pool.

9. Council completes minor upgrades to the Hampstead Pool plant and subsequently operates the pool with EANC staff for the month of January 2025.

<p>Advantages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The community would have an option for supervised aquatic play during January 2025 when EANC pool is closed. • Provides an additional option for redeployment of staff. • Instead of trying to calculate a value to pay Hampstead School for using their asset, improving their pool plant and safety has longer term benefits. 	<p>Disadvantages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expected patronage is low given the short timeframe of operation and that the pool is unheated.
<p>Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some members of the community may disagree with Council's decision to operate the pool. • Expectations from other schools with pools may believe additional funding (outside of grant process) is available. 	

Option two – Do nothing

10. EANC's maintenance shutdown will occur in January 2025 and there will be no public swimming pool, other than the Ashburton Domain Paddling Pool within Ashburton.

<p>Advantages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council does not need to fund any upgrades at Hampstead Pool. • Visitation at other community pools around the district and Lake Hood (subject to no health warning) could be up. 	<p>Disadvantages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less redeployment options available. • Community members and family groups will incur greater travel cost to go swimming in a public pool during January. • Positive Council-Community partnership opportunity lost. • Funding the upgraded items, benefits the community and ongoing viability of the pool.
<p>Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some members of the community might criticize Council for not providing a swimming pool option for all age groups within Ashburton during January 2025. Some community members might not support Council funding improvements on assets that is not owned by Council, although this occurs already through grant funding processes. 	

Legal/policy implications

Health and Safety

11. The Health & Safety at Work Act 2015 requires Council to manage risks associated with all activities where there are paid employees (workers) on site.
12. EANC follows the guidance provided by Recreation Aotearoa and have obtained Poolsafe accreditation for EANC. This covers all operational aspects including lifeguard training requirements and direct supervision ratios of younger children. If EANC was to operate Hampstead Pool as outlined in this report, the provision of qualified lifeguards and Poolsafe supervision ratio would be extended to this site also.

Strategic alignment

13. The recommendation relates to Council's community outcome of being a district of great places and spaces because it provides an opportunity for partial continuity of service for aquatic play in a controlled environment.

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic		
Environmental		
Cultural		
Social	✓	Families and social groups have the chance to connect while using the facility.

Financial implications

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	Up to \$6,000 –formal quotes currently being sourced
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	Yes
Where is the funding coming from?	EA Networks Centre budget
Are there any future budget implications?	No
Reviewed by Finance	Leanne Macdonald, Group Manager Business Support

Significance and engagement assessment

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No
Level of significance	Low
Rationale for selecting level of significance	Whilst the public may feel disappointed that EANC pool area is closed during January – maintenance shutdowns are required in all pools and are necessary to maintain the life of the asset.
Level of engagement selected	1. Inform
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	Shutdown is an operational matter and necessary to maintain the asset to enable future pool use. While this may provide a temporary inconvenience, it does not require consultation, and will be well signalled with community prior to the closure period. If Council decides on the Hampstead Pool option, this will be promoted with the community.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Mark Low; Strategy and Policy Manager

Next steps

Date	Action / milestone	Comments
September 2025	Agreement signed by EANC and Hampstead School.	
February 2025	Officers will include a Hampstead Pool update in the relevant activity briefing .	

14. 2024-27 National Land Transport Programme Approved Funding

Author *Mark Chamberlain; Roading Manager*
Executive Team Member *Neil McCann; Group Manager Infrastructure and Open Spaces*

Summary

- The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the funding approved by NZTA for the 2024-27 National Land Transport Programme.
- The funding for the maintenance of the network has been approved but, although we received close to the requested funding for road maintenance, operations and renewals, there has been a decrease of 64% for footpath maintenance and renewals, and 75% less than requested for road safety promotion.
- There has been no funding approved for the ‘Low Cost Low Risk’ activity improvements.
- To manage the underfunding it is proposed to fully spend the NZTA approved funding, and fully spend the Council share of the funding (\$2,458,000), that was requested but not approved by NZTA.

Recommendation

- 1. That** Council spends the Council LTP budgeted share of the reduced subsidised budget for 2024/25 (\$2,458,300), across agreed work categories.

Attachment

- Appendix 1** NZTA Waka Kotahi Approved funding
Appendix 2 Possible spend of Council share in 2024/25

Background

The request for funding

1. The subsidised funding bid to New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) for the 2024-27 National Land Transport Programme (NLTP) was made through Transport Investment Online (TIO) with the funding request matching the budgets in Council's Long Term Plan 2024-34 (LTP). The budgets in the LTP and the value of the bid considered the needs of the network and what was affordable for both Council and NZTA.
2. The approved funding for the 2024-27 NLTP has recently been released with significantly less funding for some activity classes.

Activity Classes

3. The subsidised funding is in six activity classes being:
 - Operations
 - Pothole prevention
 - Walking and cycling
 - Improvements
 - Road safety promotion
 - Low cost low risk improvements
4. The transportation Government Policy Statement set these activity classes with the relevant work categories assigned to each. A significant change is the work categories are the same as the previous NLTP but are grouped into new activity classes.
5. Of note is the funding within the pothole prevention activity class cannot be used in a different activity class i.e. ringfenced for pothole prevention.
6. Operations includes structures maintenance, environmental maintenance, network service maintenance, rail level crossing maintenance, minor events, network and asset management, structures component replacements, environmental renewals, and traffic services renewals.
7. Pothole prevention includes sealed pavement maintenance, unsealed pavement maintenance, routine drainage maintenance, unsealed road metalling, sealed road resurfacing, drainage renewals, and sealed road pavement rehabilitation.
8. Walking and cycling includes cycle path maintenance, footpath maintenance, cycle path renewal, and footpath renewal.
9. Improvements included bridge and structures renewals with the \$705,000 requested for 2024-27 approved.

10. Low cost low risk improvements include walking and cycling improvements and local road improvements. Local road improvements include resilience, delineations improvements, intersection improvements, drainage improvements.

Requested and approved funding

11. The requested funding and approved NZTA funding for 2024-27 is shown in the following table.

Activity	Requested	Approved by NZTA	% of Requested	% of 2021-24
Operations	\$11,487,217	\$11,085,001	96%	128%
Pothole prevention	\$32,700,000	\$32,700,000	100%	113%
Walking and cycling	\$2,822,080	\$1,016,000	36%	38%
Local road improvements – Bridge and structures renewals	\$705,000	\$705,000	100%	N/A
Road safety promotion	\$948,000	\$234,000	25%	61%
LCLR Walking and cycling	\$1,590,000	\$0	0%	0%
LCLR Improvements	\$10,500,000	\$0	0%	0%
Total	\$60,752,217	\$45,740,001	75%	100%

Impact of approved funding

12. The overall impact of the total subsidised roading programme is the total approved funding for 2024-27 is \$15,012,296 less than requested from NZTA. This means for 2024/25 there will be \$2,458,300 of funding from rates not matched by subsidy from NZTA.
13. The increase from 2021-24 for the work done under operations and pothole prevention will enable more work to be done to maintain and renew the network.
14. The funding for local road improvements (bridge and structures renewals) will enable the work to be carried out on the Wills St rail footbridge. Noting that the funding is currently spread across the second and third year which was done to spread the rate increase as part of the LTP discussion.
15. The reduced funding for footpath and cycle path maintenance, and for road safety promotion will have a significant effect on the work that can be carried out for those activities.

16. Footpath maintenance and renewals work will need to be reduced. It is considered that the maintenance does need to be carried out, but the programmed renewals will need to be deferred for at least the first year to allow the maintenance work to be completed.
17. Road safety promotion activities will be limited to staff time and the low cost or free social media messaging that are available. Billboard messaging will not be carried out and purchase of promotional products will be much reduced or not carried out.
18. The zero funding for low cost low risk improvements is a significant reduction and affects the work Council can carry out over the next three years. While a reduction in this was expected, to have zero funding is a surprise.
19. There will be reduced NZTA subsidy for those work categories with reduced or zero funding approved. The requested total budgets are included in Council's LTP so the options put forward in Appendix 2 (e.g. intersection improvements, delineation) are how the reductions can be managed for at least the 2024/25 financial year.
20. The NZTA approved funding is for the 2024-27 NLTP. There is the option to request a cost scope adjustment (i.e. an increase for work categories) for the second and third years. Any approval would be dependent on how the funding across the country is being spent and whether there is any forecast underspending.

Options analysis

Option one – Spend up to the approved NZTA funding in 2024/25

21. This would have the reduced subsidy, reduced Council share, and reduced work.
22. Is not a recommended option because there will be a significant reduction to footpath maintenance and renewals and no local road improvements under low cost low risk such as delineation upgrades, intersection improvements, resilience improvements.
23. The footpath maintenance and renewal spend would be 36% of the Council budget, 25% of the road safety promotion budget and 0% of the low cost low risk budget.

<p>Advantages: The approved subsidised roading budget will be spent.</p>	<p>Disadvantages: Significantly less work on footpath maintenance and renewals. No low cost low risk projects carried out. An underspend of Council budget which has been rated for.</p>
<p>Risks: Maintenance of the footpath network will be reduced and no subsidised roading improvements carried out. The full 100% of rates revenue for roading will not be spent (\$2,458,300).</p>	

Option two – Spend the Council LTP budgeted share of the reduced subsidised budget (\$2,458,300) in 2024/25, on footpath maintenance and renewal, road safety promotion, and low cost low risk improvements.

- 24. This option would have the reduced subsidy, same Council share, and reduced work.
- 25. The maximum subsidy is claimed, and the balance of Council budgeted rate funding of \$2,458,300 spent on categories with reduced, or zero, funding i.e. footpath maintenance and renewal, road safety promotion, and low cost low risk improvements.
- 26. The footpath maintenance and renewal spend would be 67% of the budget, road safety promotion would be 62% and low cost low risk would be 50%.

<p>Advantages: The approved subsidised roading budget will be spent and the Council share spent.</p>	<p>Disadvantages: Less work on footpath maintenance and renewals. Less low cost low risk projects carried out. An underspend of the overall LTP Roding budget. This means that \$2,458,300 of rates is unsubsidised</p>
<p>Risks: Maintenance of the footpath network will be reduced and only half of the subsidised roading improvements carried out.</p>	

Option three – Spend the Council LTP budgeted share of the reduced subsidised budget (\$2,458,300) in 2024/25, across agreed work categories. (recommended option)

- 27. This option would have the reduced subsidy, same Council share, and reduced work. The spread of the Council share of unfunded budget to be across a variety of work categories agreed with Council.
- 28. A possible spread for 2024/25 is included as **Appendix 2**. This is mainly for the unfunded low cost low risk improvements, reduced funded footpath maintenance and road safety promotion but also other work categories that may not be sufficient to carry out the work necessary.

<p>Advantages: The approved subsidised roading budget will be spent and the Council share spent.</p>	<p>Disadvantages: Less work on footpath maintenance and renewals. Less low cost low risk projects carried out. An underspend of the overall LTP Roding budget. This means that \$2,458,300 of rates is unsubsidised.</p>
<p>Risks: Maintenance of the footpath network will be reduced and only half of the subsidised roading improvements carried out.</p>	

Legal/policy implications

Revenue and Financing Policy

29. The funding bid and proposed options align with the Revenue and Financing Policy.

Climate change

30. Maintenance and construction on the roading network influences climate change due to the use of materials, equipment, etc. to carry out the work. Difficult to mitigate the effects but work with the contractor on the best type of machinery, efficient manufacture of materials, and reuse of materials.

Review of legal / policy implications

Reviewed by In-house Counsel

Tania Paddock; Legal Counsel

Strategic alignment

31. The recommendation relates to Council's community outcome of A district of great spaces and places because of the connections that the roading network provides.

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic	✓	supporting the local economy through transportation of produce to markets.
Environmental		
Cultural	✓	by connecting communities to enable business, leisure and social activities
Social	✓	providing footpaths and cycleways promotes active transport, enhancing our communities' physical and mental health

Financial implications

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	The budget has already been included in the Long Term Plan
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	Yes, for the reduced programme of work.
Where is the funding coming from?	Funding was approved as part of the 2024-34 Long Term Plan.
Are there any future budget implications?	Yes. With the reduced funding approved by NZTA for 2024-27 there will be a review of the Council budgets for 2025/26 and 2026/27.
Reviewed by Finance	Leanne Macdonald, Group Manager Business Support

Significance and engagement assessment

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No.
Level of significance	Medium
Rationale for selecting level of significance	Medium significance assessed because it will have a high interest in the short term but will be resolved and no extra funding required from Council. Levels of service are likely to be impacted in some areas where funding has been reduced or removed, meaning additional funding would be required if this work was to progress based on the current LTP.
Level of engagement selected	For 2024/25 Council would Inform, based on the outcomes of this report. Depending on Council decisions in year 2 and 3 Consultation may be required.
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	Consultation may be required if Council decided to maintain the level of service proposed in the LTP 2024-34 and this led to a significant rate increase to address the funding gap, or alternatively proposed a significant reduction in the level of service Council would provide.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Mark Low; Strategy and Policy Manager

Appendix 1 NZTA approved works

	A	B	C	D	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
2	Local road operations	Operations	114	Structures maintenance	1,000,000	315,872	321,662	327,452	964,986	492,144	342,147
3			121	Environmental maintenance	2,060,000	650,696	662,624	674,551	1,987,871	1,013,814	1,738,017
4			122	Network service maintenance	2,790,000	881,283	897,437	913,591	2,692,311	1,373,078	2,458,689
5			123	Network operations	54,000	17,057	17,370	17,682	52,109	26,576	82,186
5			131	Rail level crossing warning devices maintenance	111,000	35,062	35,704	36,347	107,113	54,628	100,987
7			140	Minor events	300,000	94,762	96,499	98,236	289,497	147,643	238,864
3			151	Network and asset management	3,300,000	1,042,378	1,061,484	1,080,591	3,184,453	1,624,071	3,032,016
9			215	Structures component replacements	1,300,000	410,634	418,160	425,687	1,254,481	639,785	108,932
0			221	Environmental renewals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1			222	Traffic services renewals	572,217	180,747	184,060	187,373	552,180	281,612	583,456
2				Total Local road operations	11,487,217	3,628,491	3,695,000	3,761,510	11,085,001	5,653,351	8,685,294
3									128%		
4	Local road pothole prevention	Pothole prevention	111	Sealed pavement maintenance	6,700,000	2,193,133	2,233,333	2,273,533	6,699,999	3,417,000	5,316,536
5			112	Unsealed pavement maintenance	2,600,000	851,067	866,667	882,267	2,600,001	1,326,000	2,295,300
6			113	Routine drainage maintenance	1,530,000	500,820	510,000	519,180	1,530,000	780,300	1,375,494
7			211	Unsealed road metalling	3,600,000	1,178,400	1,200,000	1,221,600	3,600,000	1,836,000	3,306,477
8			212	Sealed road resurfacing	9,300,000	3,044,200	3,100,000	3,155,800	9,300,000	4,743,000	8,414,140
9			213	Drainage renewals	1,650,000	540,100	550,000	559,900	1,650,000	841,500	868,972
0			214	Sealed road pavement rehabilitation	7,320,000	2,396,080	2,440,000	2,483,920	7,320,000	3,733,200	7,420,664
1				Total Local road pothole prevention	32,700,000	10,703,800	10,900,000	11,096,200	32,700,000	16,677,000	28,997,583
2									113%		
3	Walking and cycling improvements	Walking and cycling	124	Cycle path maintenance	18,000	2,121	2,160	2,199	6,480	3,305	8,481
4			125	Footpath maintenance	965,480	113,778	115,863	117,949	347,590	177,271	1,025,277
5			224	Cycle path renewal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6			225	Footpath renewal	1,838,600	216,672	220,643	224,615	661,930	337,585	1,606,880
7				Total Walking and cycling improvements	2,822,080	332,571	338,666	344,763	1,016,000	518,161	2,640,638
8									38%		
9	Local road improvements	Improvements	216	Bridge and structures renewals	705,000	0	250,000	455,000	705,000	359,550	0
0				Total Local road improvements	705,000	0	250,000	455,000	705,000	359,550	0
1				Total	47,714,297	14,664,862	15,183,666	15,657,473	45,506,001	23,208,062	40,323,515
2									113%		
3		Low cost low risk improvements	341	Walking and cycling improvements	1,590,000	0	0	0	0	0	200,000
4			341	Local road improvements	10,500,000	0	0	0	0	0	4,880,427
5				Total Low cost low risk improvements	12,090,000	0	0	0	0	0	5,080,427
6											
7		Safety	432	Road safety promotion	948,000	78,000	78,000	78,000	234,000	119,340	383,725
8				Total Road safety promotion	948,000	78,000	78,000	78,000	234,000	119,340	383,725
9				Grand Total	60,752,297				45,740,001		45,787,667
0									100%		

Appendix 2 Possible spend

Priority Rank	Activity Class	Activity Name	Activity Description	2024/25				
				Approved funding (A)	NZTA Share	ADC Share	Proposed programme (B)	Total (A+B)
1	Road safety Promotions Activity Class	Road safety Promotions	75% of the requested funding cut across the next 3 years, so more funding to support RSP activities	\$78,000	\$39,780	\$38,220	\$80,000	\$158,000
2	Local road Improvement -LCLR	Resilience Improvements-Drainage Improvements	Drainage improvements are being increased to alleviate/prevent related pavement issues. Installation of appropriate drainage asset to council standards. Options: swales, soakpits, sumps, culverts etc.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000
3	Local road Improvement -LCLR	Delineation Improvements-Rural Delineation & Intersections	Out-of-context curves to be identified and investigated for appropriate solutions including delineation. Refer to ARC Delineation Strategy.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$250,000	\$250,000
4	Local road Improvement -LCLR	New Streetlights (Undergrounding)	Power poles (with streetlights attached) are replaced with frangible streetlight poles as part of EA Networks ongoing power undergrounding programme.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$250,000	\$250,000
5	Local road Improvement -LCLR	Resilience Improvements-Post Heavy Rainfall Event	Upgrade of high-risk locations (e.g. install a stopbank, install/upgrade culverts)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$400,000	\$400,000
6	Local road Improvement -LCLR	Intersection - Railway Crossing Road/Rail Improvements	Kiwi rail improvement programme requires adjacent roading works. Pavement and surfacing renewals/repair to reshape road as required to tie-in with rail work.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000
7	Local road Improvement -LCLR	Roadside Hazard Mitigation - Culvert Headwalls	Extending culverts where the end of culvert and/or headwalls are in close proximity to the edge of seal. Work is prioritised to be alongside future road rehabilitation programmes.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000
8	Operation Activity Class	Environmental maintenance	We have spent around \$640k on snow clearing, ice control and vegetation control so far and foresee another \$200k to spend	\$650,696	\$331,855	\$318,841	\$400,000	\$1,050,696
9	Operation Activity Class	Traffic services maintenance	Additional funding for line marking as a do-minimum safety intervention.	\$881,283	\$449,454	\$431,829	\$330,000	\$1,211,283
10	Walking and Cycling Activity Class	Footpath maintenance	To enable maintenance not approved for subsidy.	\$113,778	\$58,027	\$55,751	\$200,000	\$313,778
11	Walking and Cycling Activity Class	Footpath Renewal	To enable renewals not approved for subsidy.	\$216,672	\$110,503	\$106,169	\$240,000	\$456,672
12	Local road Improvement -LCLR	Rural Intersection Sealbacks	Increase safety at intersection approaches by installing or lengthening sealbacks to; improve braking distance, and reduce gravel movement onto sealed road. Ensure sealbacks at intersections are minimum 100m (where practical/applicable)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000
Total				\$1,940,429	\$989,619	\$950,810	\$2,450,000	\$4,390,429

15. Submission on SH76/SH1 Christchurch Southern Motorway speed limit review

Author *Tayyaba Latif: Policy Advisor*
Activity Manager *Mark Low; Strategy & Policy Manager*
Executive Team Member *Toni Durham: GM Democracy & Engagement*

Summary

- The purpose of this report is for Council to consider a submission to NZTA Waka Kotahi on the SH76/SH1 Christchurch Southern Motorway speed limit review.

Recommendation

- 1. That** Council approves the proposed draft submission to NZTA Waka Kotahi on SH76/SH1 Christchurch Southern Motorway speed limit review.

Attachment

Appendix 1 Draft submission on Christchurch Southern Motorway speed review

Background

The current situation

1. NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) Waka Kotahi is consulting on increasing the speed limit to 110 km/hr on the SH76/SH1 Christchurch Southern Motorway.
2. This motorway serves as an important transport corridor for moving freight, services, and people between southern regions.
3. Officers have prepared a draft submission for Council to consider.
4. Submissions need to be lodged by 1 October 2024.

Options Analysis

Option one – Do not make a submission

5. This is not the recommended option. Council may decide to stay silent and not make a submission on the Christchurch Southern Motorway speed review.

Advantages: Nil	Disadvantages: The Council's voice may not be considered by NZTA Waka Kotahi.
Risks: Reputational - This would result in Council missing an opportunity to advocate on behalf of the district.	

Option two – Approve the proposed submission as attached in Appendix One (recommended option)

6. This option would see Council officers lodge the appended submission to Waka Kotahi.

Advantages: The proposed submission is a draft and ready to be lodged, meaning it will meet deadlines.	Disadvantages: Current draft may not accurately reflect elected members' position.
Risks: Nil	

Option three – Approve an amended submission

7. This option would see Council approve an amended version of the submission for lodging with NZTA Waka Kotahi.

<p>Advantages: Officers recognise that useful points of improvement often arise from elected member input and this option may be preferred for those reasons.</p>	<p>Disadvantages: Fundamental amendments will require a re-write of the draft submission</p>
<p>Risks: Fundamental amendment may risk on-time lodgement of the submission.</p>	

Legal/policy implications

8. The lodging of a submission does not breach or trigger any statutory or legal duty of the Council.

Strategic alignment

9. The recommendation relates to Council’s community outcome of a district of great spaces and places.

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic	✓	The submission has the potential to positively impact economic well-being and improve social connectivity.
Environmental		
Cultural		
Social	✓	

Financial implications

10. There are no immediate financial implications in making this submission.

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	Officer resource in preparing the submission. This has been met from within existing operating budgets.
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	Yes
Where is the funding coming from?	Strategy & Policy
Are there any future budget implications?	No
Reviewed by Finance	Leanne Macdonald, Group Manager – Business Support

Significance and engagement assessment

11. The approval of this submission is not considered to be significant.

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No
Level of significance	Low, not significant
Rationale for selecting level of significance	Not applicable
Level of engagement selected	1. Inform
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	The community will be informed of Council's submission through usual channels.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Mark Low: Strategy & Policy Manager

Submission

SH76/SH1 Christchurch Southern Motorway speed limit review

PREPARED BY: Ashburton District Council
PO Box 94
ASHBURTON 7774

SUBMITTED TO: NZTA Waka Kotahi
speedmanagement@nzta.govt.nz

Contact: Mayor Neil Brown
mayor@adc.govt.nz

Officer contact: Mark Low (Strategy & Policy Manager)
Mark.low@adc.govt.nz

Introduction / background

1. Ashburton District Council (Council) welcomes the opportunity to submit feedback on SH76/SH1 Christchurch Southern Motorway speed limit review 2024 consultation. This submission has been prepared by the Council.
2. Ashburton District is located in the middle of Canterbury, an hour's drive south of Christchurch and an hour's drive north of Timaru. More than 36,800¹ residents live in our district. Approximately 50% of our residents live in the main town of Ashburton, with the rest of our residents living rurally or in smaller towns or villages across the district.

SH76/SH1 Christchurch Southern Motorway speed limit review

3. We support NZTA's overarching commitment to deliver state highways so people and freight can move quickly and safely.
4. We acknowledge that Christchurch Southern Motorway is a key transport corridor which enables the movement of freight, goods, produce, forestry, and services between Christchurch and areas South of Christchurch.
5. In Ashburton District's case, it is an essential strategic link to get goods and services particularly to Lyttleton Port and Christchurch Airport for international export and domestic transfer throughout New Zealand. It is also a key link to central Christchurch for Ashburton district businesses and residents.
6. Council supports initiatives to enable improved efficiency of movement and as a result increased productivity.
7. Council supports the proposed 110km/hr speed limit for Christchurch Southern Motorway from east of Curletts Road interchange, Addington to west of Weedons Road interchange, Rolleston. This road is designed and constructed to the standard, including safety features that can safely support this increased speed limit.

8. We also support NZTA's intent to undertake safety improvements from Barrington Street to Halswell Junction Road prior to the implementation of any speed limit changes.

9. Council note that increasing speed limit may lead to increased mean speeds on adjoining on and off ramps and could potentially negatively impact road safety. We suggest if the speed limit is to increase, it must be accompanied by increased enforcement policing in the proximity of relevant on and off ramps, interchanges and junctions.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on this proposal.

ⁱ Statistics New Zealand Estimated Population 30 June 2023

16. *Mayor's Report*

16.1 LGNZ Annual General Meeting Remits

At the recently held AGM, seven of the eight remits considered were passed, with the following results:

Remit 1: Representation reviews

That LGNZ advocate for changes that support the provision of timely and accurate regional and sub-regional population data to councils for use in council representation reviews.

- **100% in favour**

Remit 2: Community Services Card

That LGNZ advocate to Central Government to amend the Health Entitlement Cards Regulations 1993 so that the cardholder can use the Community Services Card as evidence for the purposes of accessing Council services which would otherwise rely on a form of means testing.

- **98.35 in favour**
- 1.65% abstain

Remit 3: Local government constituencies & wards should not be subject to referendum

That LGNZ lobbies central government to ensure that Māori wards and constituencies are treated the same as all other wards in that they should not be subject to a referendum. We oppose the idea that Māori wards should be singled out and forced to suffer a public referendum.

- **83.5% in favour**
- 12.87% against
- 3.63% abstain

Remit 4: Entrenchment of Māori wards seats for local government

That LGNZ proactively promote and lobby to entrench the Māori Wards and Constituencies for the 64 councils which currently have these, to require the support of a supermajority of parliament should either parliament or councils seek their removal.

- 40.58% in favour
- **50.65% against**
- 8.77% abstain

Remit 5: Graduated driver licensing system

That LGNZ advocate for changes to the fee structure for driver licensing, better preparing young people for driver license testing, and greater testing capacity in key locations

throughout New Zealand, in order to relieve pressure on the driver licensing system and ensure testing can be conducted in a quick and efficient manner.

- **84.09% in favour**
- 12.34% against
- 3.57% abstain

Remit 6: Proactive lever to mitigate the deterioration of unoccupied buildings

That LGNZ advocate to Government:

- For legislative change enabling local authorities to compel building owners to remediate unoccupied derelict buildings and sites that have deteriorated to a state where they negatively impact the amenity of the surrounding area.
- To incentivise repurposing vacant buildings to meet region-specific needs, for example, accommodation conversion.
 - **90.26% in favour**
 - 6.49% against
 - 3.25% abstain

Remit 7: Appropriate funding models for central government initiatives

That LGNZ proactively promote and lobby for the development of a more equitable and appropriate funding model for central government initiatives.

- **96.7% in favour**
- 1.65% against
- 1.65% abstain

Remit 8: Goods and services tax (GST) revenue sharing with local government

That LGNZ be proactive in lobbying central government on sharing GST revenue with local government, derived from local government rates and service fees related to flood protection mitigation, roading, and three waters, for investment in these areas.

- **100% in favour**

The AGM also ranked the seven successful remits in order of priority. National Council will take this ranking into account when deciding how to allocate LGNZ's limited resources to remits at its 20 September meeting. We'll share an update with you after that NC meeting (after we've updated remit-proposing councils).

This is the ranking as voted by the AGM voted (with 1 being the highest priority remit):

1. Appropriate funding models for central government initiatives (remit 7)
2. GST revenue sharing with local Government
3. Local Government Māori Wards and Constituencies should not be subject to a referendum (Remit 3)
4. Proactive lever to mitigate the deterioration of unoccupied buildings (Remit 6)
5. Representation Reviews (Remit 1)
6. Community Services Card (Remit 2)
7. Graduated Licensing System (Remit 5)

16.2 Age Friendly Ashburton Steering Group

Council will recall that Safe Communities are developing an Age Friendly Strategy and have set up a Steering Group to progress this. Deputy Mayor Liz McMillan is a member of the Group and Cr Carolyn Cameron has been appointed as Council's representative.

The Steering Group had their inaugural meeting on 10 September where it was agreed to progress a funding application to the Office for Seniors that will enable a needs analysis to be completed. Council has been asked to provide a letter of support.

With funding in place, research will be undertaken that will involve listening to the voices of older people in our district and to the agencies which work with them. With older adults, 65 plus currently, making up one fifth of our population and numbers set to grow, this work will be a timely investment in helping us plan for the current and future growth of an important sector of our community.

Recommendation

That Council writes to the Ministry of Social Development in support of the Age Friendly Ashburton Steering Group's application for funding from the Age Friendly Fund.

16.3 Meetings

• Mayoral calendar

September 2024

- 4 September: The Y – Youth survey results from the Ashburton District
- 5 September: Regional Management Plan submissions and hearings
- 6 September: Secondary schools second XI girls hockey tournament closing ceremony
- 8 September: Mid Canterbury Group Riding for the Disabled open day
- 9 September: Methven Community Board
- 10 September: Robbie Shefford
- 11 September: Activity Briefings
- 11 September: Audit & Risk Committee
- 11 September: Stockwater working group discussion
- 12 September: Public Transport Research workshop
- 12 September: Rakaia Hall workshop
- 12 September: Procurement Policy workshop
- 13 September: Hekeao Hinds Water Enhancement Trust
- 14 September: Mid Canterbury v Whanganui rugby match
- 14 September: Willowby Fire Brigade 50th anniversary
- 17 September: Regional Deals Strategic Framework (via MS Teams)
- 17 September: Braided Rivers Trust/Lion Foundation
- 18 September: Community Awards application assessment
- 18 September: Council meeting
- 18 September: ECan Representation Review Submission Hearings

Recommendation

That Council receives the Mayor's report.

Neil Brown
Mayor