

Canterbury Regional Council

(operating as Environment Canterbury)

June 2020

Guide to Environment Canterbury (incorporating
our Local Governance Statement)



Introduction

This is a guide to Canterbury Regional Council (operating as Environment Canterbury), incorporating the Local Governance Statement. It sets out the Council's functions, responsibilities and activities, how decisions are made and how people can engage with the Council to influence those decisions. This Guide is current at 1 June 2020, and includes details of the Council's Working Groups (established in April 2020) and the Council's Strategic Direction for 2020-2023 (adopted in June 2020).

Local Governance Statement

Every Council is required to prepare a Local Governance Statement following an election. The information required by Section 40 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) can be found in the following pages.

<i>Required information (section 40, LGA)</i>	<i>Page</i>
The functions, responsibilities, and activities of the local authority	5,6,10,19
Any local legislation that confers powers on the local authority	47
The bylaws of the local authority, including for each bylaw, its title, a general description of it, when it was made, and, if applicable, the date of its last review	22
The electoral system and the opportunity to change it	37
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Contact us

Requests for Council services can be made in various ways including:

- Visiting, phoning or writing (including emails) to the relevant Council department
- Contacting the Chair or a Councillor, or the Executive Assistant to the Chair & Councillors

Principal Office

Postal address: PO Box 345
Christchurch 8140

Physical address: 200 Tuam Street
Christchurch 8011

Email: Governance@ecan.govt.nz

Phone: (03) 353 9007
(0800) 324 636 during business hours

Website: www.ecan.govt.nz

Pollution Hotline: (03) 366 4663 for Christchurch residents
(0800) 765 588 for residents outside of Christchurch

District Offices

Kaikōura Office

92 West End
PO Box 59
Kaikōura 7340

Phone: (03) 319 5781
Fax: (03) 319 5809

Timaru Office

75 Church Street
PO Box 550
Timaru 7940

Phone: (03) 687 7800
Fax: (03) 687 7808

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Overview of Canterbury Region

Canterbury is New Zealand's largest region by land area (around 44,500 km²) and second largest by population after Auckland, with an estimated resident population (June 2018) of 624,200 – 13% of New Zealand's total population.

The region generates around 12% of national GDP. Canterbury's population is unevenly distributed across the region – 62% in Christchurch City, 82% in greater Christchurch (Waimakariri, Christchurch, Selwyn).

There are 10 Papatipu Rūnanga of Ngāi Tahu in Canterbury:

- Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura
- Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga
- Ōnuku Rūnanga
- Te Rūnanga o Koukourārata
- Wairewa Rūnanga
- Te Taumutu Rūnanga
- Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke
- Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua
- Te Rūnanga o Waihao
- Te Rūnanga o Moeraki.

The region includes 10 local authority areas (north to south):

- Kaikōura District Council
- Hurunui District Council
- Waimakariri District Council
- Christchurch City Council
- Selwyn District Council
- Ashburton District Council
- Timaru District Council
- Mackenzie District Council
- Waimate District Council
- Waitaki District Council.

In November 2019 the Canterbury Mayoral Forum released [an overview of the Canterbury region](#), which is available on the Mayoral Forum website. It is structured around:

- the 'four wellbeings' (environmental, economic, social and cultural) that were reinstated into the Local Government Act 2002 (ss.3, 5, 10, 14, 101 and Schedule 10) in May 2019
- the 'four capitals' of the NZ Treasury's Living Standards Framework

Where data permit, the report includes regional indicators presented on the Treasury's Living Standards Dashboard. The data and information in this overview are current as at 10 June 2019.

About Environment Canterbury

Environment Canterbury's advanced draft Strategic direction, *Te Aronga Rautaki*, 2020- 2023

Environment Canterbury, as the Canterbury Regional Council, is responsible for social, economic, cultural and environmental outcomes in a 44,500 square kilometre area of the South Island. It is an area that includes many of New Zealand's iconic landscapes and majestic vistas, from Kaikōura in the north to Waitaki in the south, and inland as far as the Southern Alps, including the spectacular braided rivers, a sweeping coastline and the mighty maunga Aoraki-Mount Cook.



Our vision and purpose

Taking action together to shape a thriving and resilient Canterbury, now and for future generations.

Toitū te marae o Tāne, toitū te marae o Tangaroa, toitū te iwi.

This broadly translates to: Protect and strengthen the realms of the land and sea, and they will protect and strengthen the people.

Our transformational opportunities

- Accelerate regeneration of the natural environment
- Facilitate diversification of land use
- Build community engagement and action
- Champion safe, multi-modal transport choices
- Lead climate change resilience

Our enduring priorities

- Decisive action for healthy fresh water, land and coastal ecosystems
- Fostering relationships to underpin regional leadership for our communities
- Sustainable and healthy living and working environments
- Helping communities be well prepared for changes in the natural environment

Our values

- **People first – Manaakitanga**
People, customers and staff come first
- **Collaboration – Whanaungatanga**
Together works best
- **Stewardship – Kaitiakitanga**
Good decisions today, for tomorrow
- **Integrity – Pononga**
Trust in us and our information
- **Can do – Māiatanga**
Be brave and make it happen

Our operating principles

We will make good decisions by

- Listening to the people to serve communities
- Displaying confident and caring democratic leadership
- Working collaboratively with partners
- Being guided by our values
- Taking into account cultural, social, economic and environmental wellbeing
- Being evidence-based and future-focused
- Enabling innovation
- Ensuring change is both managed and manageable

We will efficiently deliver through our portfolios

- Regional leadership
- Freshwater management
- Biodiversity and biosecurity
- Climate change, hazards, risk and resilience
- Transport and urban development
- Air quality

We will support this by investing in

- An enduring partnership with Ngāi Tahu
- Community participation locally and regionally
- High-performing people for success
- Knowledge: science, data and mātauranga Māori
- Securing a diversity of funding sources
- Opportunities through technology and innovation

Tuia – shoulder to shoulder with mana whenua

Ngāi Tahu are the kaitiaki (guardians) of the whole of the Canterbury region, having had an intimate connection with it since the ancient migrations of Waitaha, Ngāti Mamoe and Ngāi Tahu. Generations later, the sense of kaitiaki responsibility that Ngāi Tahu has for the natural environment remains vital and strong and is increasingly relevant.

Environment Canterbury recognises Ngāi Tahu's role as kaitiaki and the cultural narrative through the Tuia Relationship Agreement. The word 'Tuia' means to work and walk together shoulder to shoulder, and captures the nature of the established partnership between Environment Canterbury and Papatipu Rūnanga and acknowledges the tikanga responsibilities of Ngāi Tahu alongside the statutory responsibilities of Environment Canterbury.

Two years of work went into the development of the Tuia Relationship Agreement, which was finalised in December 2012. It is supported by an extensive work programme.

While the agreement is between Environment Canterbury and Papatipu Rūnanga, it recognises the role of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu as the iwi authority to support Papatipu Rūnanga to protect the rights of Ngāi Tahu Whānui, and the importance of Environment Canterbury and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu engaging directly.

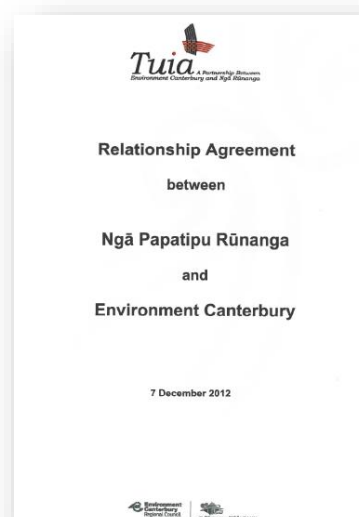
Tuia is about creating clear and consistent expectations for how the Environment Canterbury and Papatipu Rūnanga relationship will operate and enables a greater understanding of Ngāi Tahu values and their relevance to Environment Canterbury's work.

It has four guiding principles:

- create an intergenerational relationship that is dedicated to enhancing outcomes for current and future generations
- forge kotahitanga (unity) between Environment Canterbury and Papatipu Rūnanga
- act as stewards and caretakers of the environment, while recognising the respective contributions of both parties to environmental stewardship and shared commitment to acting as kaitiaki
- anchor the relationship in face to face engagement to build shared understanding and be committed to resolving any differences through discussion and building shared understanding.

At governance level Te Rōpū Tuia, a collective of the full Environment Canterbury Council and the chairs from each of the 10 Papatipu Rūnanga, anchors the agreement.

Following the October 2019 local body elections, a priority for Council and Te Rōpū Tuia has been to ensure Ngāi Tahu participation in Environment Canterbury governance arrangements. This is discussed further on page 38.



Key relationships

Collaboration – whanaungatanga – is one of Environment Canterbury’s organisational values and we depend on our strong relationships with many partners and stakeholders to achieve outcomes for Canterbury. Environment Canterbury aims to build and maintain excellent relationships with a wide range of partners and stakeholders to enable:

- operating collaboratively rather than in isolation
- developing wider community support and awareness of activities
- identifying potential new strategic opportunities
- enhancing engagement and consultation opportunities
- managing organisational risk and reputation.

To help meet community outcomes, key relationships have been identified.

Ngāi Tahu (Papatipu Rūnanga and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu)

Environment Canterbury has committed with Ngāi Tahu to engage together in a constructive and progressive relationship, supported by a joint work programme called Tuia, ‘working together shoulder to shoulder’. This commitment is based on the recognition that the relationship of Ngāi Tahu with their ancestral land within Canterbury is inextricably affected by the powers and functions of Environment Canterbury.

District and city councils

The Canterbury Local Authorities’ Triennial Agreement is the primary mechanism for local government collaboration in Canterbury to drive regional development and achieve the Mayoral Forum’s vision of ‘a strong regional economy with resilient, connected communities and a better quality of life for all’. At the request of the Mayoral Forum, Environment Canterbury hosts a regional forums secretariat and resources this from the regional general rate.

Central government

Central government sets the legislation which guides our work and administers funds which can be used by regional councils to address environmental issues. However, government legislation and funding mechanisms need to be informed and shaped by regional perspectives. A strong, respected and well-connected Environment Canterbury voice enables us to advocate for central government action that helps deliver on Environment Canterbury strategic priorities.

Canterbury and South Canterbury District Health Boards

We work collaboratively with District Health Boards across all portfolios to achieve shared outcomes in areas including air quality, contaminated land, recreational water safety, drinking water, marine safety, active transport, and civil defence.

Industry groups and non-governmental organisations

Industry groups represent those who are most affected by our regulatory functions. We work together to find agreed solutions that provide a pragmatic sustainable management pathway. Working with industry sector organisations helps to inform, educate and build support for implementing our plans. Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) add significant value to environmental management and sustainable development, contributing local knowledge and expertise and raising community awareness of key issues.

Environment Canterbury Youth Rōpū

The Environment Canterbury Youth Rōpū is a new initiative led by young people and the Youth Engagement and Education Team at Environment Canterbury. It is a formalised group with the purpose of building a two-way relationship between young people and decision makers of the Council.

Contract arrangement – Chatham Islands Council

Since 2004 central government has granted funding for the Chatham Islands Council to obtain services to support it in meeting its obligations as a regional council (along with ancillary functions). Since then these services have been provided by Environment Canterbury under three successive contracts for service, each for a four-year term. The current contract expires on 30 June 2020.

How we work

Governance structure

The Local Government Act 2002 states that the purpose of local government is:

- to enable democratic local decision making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and
- to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future.

The Council works closely with mana whenua, communities, businesses, industry sectors and groups throughout Canterbury on the management of natural resources – air, water, land.

Regional councils are responsible for management of their region's natural resources and the environment as a whole. Specific responsibilities typically include:

- resource management, including water quality and allocation, soil conservation, air quality, biodiversity and the coastal environment
- flood protection
- biodiversity and pest management
- land transport planning
- public transport services
- harbour navigation and safety, and marine pollution response
- sustainable economic development
- regional parks
- civil defence
- environmental monitoring and reporting.

This is distinct from the role of **City and District Councils**, which are responsible for essential community services within their own boundaries, such as:

- road maintenance
- provision of public transport infrastructure
- water for homes and businesses
- sewerage
- storm water
- land use and subdivisions
- community health
- community services (e.g. libraries and swimming pools)
- civil defence.

Roles and relationships

The role of Councillors

Councillors are responsible for governance. Governance includes:

- the development and adoption of Council policy and budgets
- monitoring Council performance against stated objectives and policies
- prudent stewardship of Council resources
- employing and reviewing the performance of the Chief Executive
- representing the interests of residents and/or ratepayers in the Canterbury region.

Unless otherwise provided for in legislation, or in Council's Standing Orders, the Council can only act by majority decisions at meetings. Each Councillor (including the Chair) has one vote. No individual Councillor has authority to act on behalf of Environment Canterbury unless the Council has expressly delegated such authority.

Councillors take an oath to faithfully, impartially, according to their best skill and judgement, execute and perform their duties in the interests of the region. Councillors need to prepare for and attend meetings and be available at times to attend external meetings and forums on Council's behalf.

Councillors are responsible for representing the interests of the residents and ratepayers in the region. They have a responsibility to ensure that the community and other stakeholders are fully and accurately informed of matters relating to Environment Canterbury's business. The relationship between the region's community and Councillors is key to effective Council decision making.

Code of Conduct

Adopting a Code of Conduct is a requirement of the Local Government Act 2002. Once adopted, the Code of Conduct may only be amended by a 75 per cent or more vote of the Council.

The Environment Canterbury Code sets out the Council's understanding and expectations of how the Council Chair and Councillors will relate to one another, to staff, to the media and to the public in the course of their duties. It also covers disclosure of information that is received by or is in the possession of Councillors, and contains details of the sanctions, if any, that the Council may impose if an individual breaches the code. The Code of Conduct is publicly available.

The Chair

Councillors elected a Chair, Cr Jenny Hughey, at the inaugural Council meeting following the triennial election, held on 24 October 2019.

As one of the Councillors, the Chair shares the same responsibilities as other Councillors.

The Chair:

- presides at Council meetings and is responsible for ensuring the orderly conduct of business during meetings (as determined in the Standing Orders)
- is the ceremonial head of the Council
- provides leadership and direction to the Council
- is a member of the Canterbury Mayoral Forum
- represents Council at various national local government fora.

Councillors may remove the Chair through a Council resolution.

The Deputy Chair

Councillors also elected a Deputy Chair, Cr Peter Scott, at the inaugural Council meeting on 24 October 2019. The Deputy Chair exercises the same roles as other Councillors; however, if the Chair is absent or incapacitated, the Deputy Chair will perform all of the responsibilities and duties and may exercise the powers of the Chair.

Councillors may remove the Deputy Chair through a Council resolution.

Committees and Committee Chairpersons

The Council may create one or more committees of Council.

A Committee Chairperson presides over all meetings of a committee, ensuring that any action taken by the committee is within the powers delegated by the Council, as set out in the Committee Terms of Reference and Delegations for Council Committees (which describe the membership, objectives and responsibilities of each committee). The Committee Chairperson may be granted the power to exercise a casting vote. Committee Chairpersons may be called on to act as official spokespersons on particular issues. They may be removed from office by resolution of Council.

Further information on Environment Canterbury's committees is included on page 15.

Representing Environment Canterbury on partnership committees

Council appoints Councillors to represent the interests of Environment Canterbury on a number of committees, including committees required by statute, partnership and co-governance committees and water management zone committees.

Further information about appointments to committees or groups is included on page 43.

Appointing and employing the Chief Executive

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA), Council employs a Chief Executive to:

- implement the decisions of the local authority
- provide advice to members of the local authority

- ensure that all responsibilities, duties, and powers delegated to him or her or to any person employed by the local authority, or imposed or conferred by an Act, regulation, or bylaw, are properly performed or exercised
- ensure the effective and efficient management of the activities of the local authority
- maintain systems to enable effective planning and accurate reporting of the financial and service performance of the local authority
- providing leadership for the staff of the local authority
- employ, on behalf of the local authority, the staff of the local authority
- negotiate the terms of employment of the staff of the local authority.

A chief executive may not be appointed for a term of more than five years. At the end of the first term the incumbent may be appointed for up to two further years. Thereafter, the position must be advertised and the incumbent may apply.

Staffing

The Council directly employs only one staff member, the Chief Executive, who employs the remainder of the staff on behalf of the Council. The Chief Executive must imbue the employees of the Council with a spirit of service to the community, promote efficiency, be a responsible manager, maintain appropriate standards of integrity and conduct among the employees, ensure that the Council is a good employer and promote equal employment opportunities.

Any comment about individual staff members should therefore be directed to the Chief Executive, rather than the Chair or Councillors.

Councillors' declaration of interest register

Keeping a Councillors' declaration of interest register (both financial and non-financial) allows the Council to identify and manage a conflict of interest when it arises. The register should also include any such interest(s) held by a Councillor's partner or spouse. Guidance on conflicts of interest is included in Councillors' Code of Conduct and in the Office of the Auditor-General's Good Practice Guide. If a Councillor is in any doubt as to whether or not a particular course of action (including a decision to take no action) raises a conflict of interest, then guidance should be sought from the Chief Executive immediately.

The information in the completed declarations is publicly available on the Council's website.

Council and Committee Meetings

Council meetings and papers

Decisions are made at full Council meetings, which are generally held monthly on a Thursday. The Council and committee meeting agendas are public documents, although parts may be withheld if any of the grounds for withholding under the Local Government Meetings and Official Information Act 1987 (LGOIMA) apply. Members of the public can

access meeting agendas and papers on Environment Canterbury's website www.ecan.govt.nz. Council meetings begin and end with karakia and are generally live streamed via the Environment Canterbury website.

Calendar of meetings

Council adopts a meeting schedule for the coming year on an annual basis and a record of attendance is kept and is available for inspection. In addition to monthly meetings, the Chair may call additional meetings of full Council as required and, in certain circumstances, the Chair, Chief Executive, or Councillors can call extraordinary meetings.

Notice of meetings

Meetings are publicly notified in The Press, The Marlborough Express, The Ashburton Guardian, Timaru Herald and Otago Daily Times. They are also published on the Environment Canterbury website www.ecan.govt.nz.

Council Standing Orders

Standing Orders are the set of procedures for conducting meetings. They include rules on who can speak and when, and contain procedures for voting and making decisions. The Council may suspend Standing Orders temporarily during a meeting by a vote of 75 per cent of Councillors present. The reason for the suspension shall be noted in the minutes of that meeting.

The Council Chair and Committee Chairpersons are responsible for maintaining order at the meetings they chair and may, at their discretion, order the removal of any member of the public for disorderly conduct, or remove any member of the Council who does not comply with Standing Orders.

Public attendance at meetings

The Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) provides that members of the public are entitled to attend Council and committee meetings unless there is good reason for excluding them from meetings or parts of meetings. The LGOIMA sets out the circumstances in which Councils may exclude members of the public from all or part of a meeting.

Deputations and petitions

The Council or any of its committees may receive a deputation from representatives of a group who would like to present information. This is a formal process and the rules can be found in Council's Standing Orders.

In summary, permission must be granted beforehand, there can be up to two speakers per deputation and the total speaking time allowed per deputation is generally 10 minutes.

Minutes of meetings

Minutes of meetings must be kept as evidence of the proceedings of each meeting. Meeting minutes must be made publicly available, subject to the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA).

Standing committees of Council

Performance, Audit and Risk Committee

This committee, comprising at least five Councillors, was established in accordance with clause 30(1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, to deal with audit, external financial reporting, financial risk management, internal control, strategic performance management and operational performance.

In September 2019, in order to further enhance Council's financial capabilities and to provide independent oversight, an independent member was appointed to the committee.

Regulation Hearing Committee

This committee, comprising up to six Councillors, has delegated functions to appoint independent Hearings Commissioners under Resource Management Act processes and make decisions on resource consent applications in accordance with delegated powers, as set out in the Council's delegation manual.

Meetings of the Regulation Hearing Committee are scheduled for 8.30 am each Thursday morning, before Council meetings or briefings begin. These meetings only proceed if required.

Canterbury Water Management Strategy Regional Committee

This committee was established in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002. The purpose is to implement the Canterbury Water Management Strategy and champion action at a regional level to support actions at a local level.

Chief Executive's Employment, Performance and Remuneration Committee

This committee, comprising four Councillors, takes responsibility for matters relating to the Chief Executive's employment and performance.

Committees required by statute

Canterbury Regional Transport Committee

This is a joint committee established under the Land Transport Management Act 2003 with two Environment Canterbury representatives, one elected member from each territorial authority, one representative from New Zealand Transport Agency, and one independent transport sector expert. The regional council must appoint from its representatives the chair

and deputy chair of the committee This group prepares a regional land transport plan and advises and assists Environment Canterbury on any other matter relating to its transport responsibilities. The Act provides that the committee must be established as soon as practicable after each triennial election.

Canterbury Civil Defence and Emergency Management Group Joint Committee

This is a joint committee under the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002, made up of elected representatives from territorial authorities and Environment Canterbury, exercising governance and determining Canterbury group emergency management policy.

Other partnership committees established under the Local Government Act 2002

- Greater Christchurch Public Transport Joint Committee
- Water Management Zone Committees
- Biosecurity Advisory Groups – these groups were established in July 2019.

Informal or voluntary arrangements

Informal or voluntary committees, i.e. those not required by statute or established under the Local Government Act 2002, include Te Rōpū Tuia, the Mayoral Forum, the Greater Christchurch Partnership Committee, Te Waihora Co-Governance Group, and the Whakaraupō Governance Group.

Working groups of Council

Council has the ability to form *Working Groups of Council* to make recommendations to full Council on specific issues. In April 2020 two such groups were formed:

- Public Visibility
- Planting and Regeneration – Me Uru Rākau

These two working groups report back to full Council at each public Council meeting via their Chairperson. They have specific guidelines for operation, are able to co-opt external parties, and will have a fixed term before the issue under consideration is moved into the usual functions of the regional council. Actions from these meetings are available on the Council website.

The Council Chair has the ability to form ad hoc *Chair's Working Groups*, for example to consider COVID-19 recovery projects in early 2020. They are informal and can include parties from outside of regional council. Neither a Working Group of Council nor a Chair's Working Group has any delegated decision-making authority.

Workshops/briefings/portfolio updates

Environment Canterbury structures its work and activities into six portfolios. In addition to Council and Committee meetings, workshops/briefings and portfolio updates provide opportunities for Councillors to consider issues in an informal way and for staff to provide

more detailed advice for Councillors to assist with making informed decisions in formal meetings. No formal decision making occurs at workshops or briefings. All-of-Council workshops and briefings are held on Thursdays and are generally not open to the public. Portfolio briefings may be held on other days of the week, subject to availability of Portfolio Councillors.



Community engagement

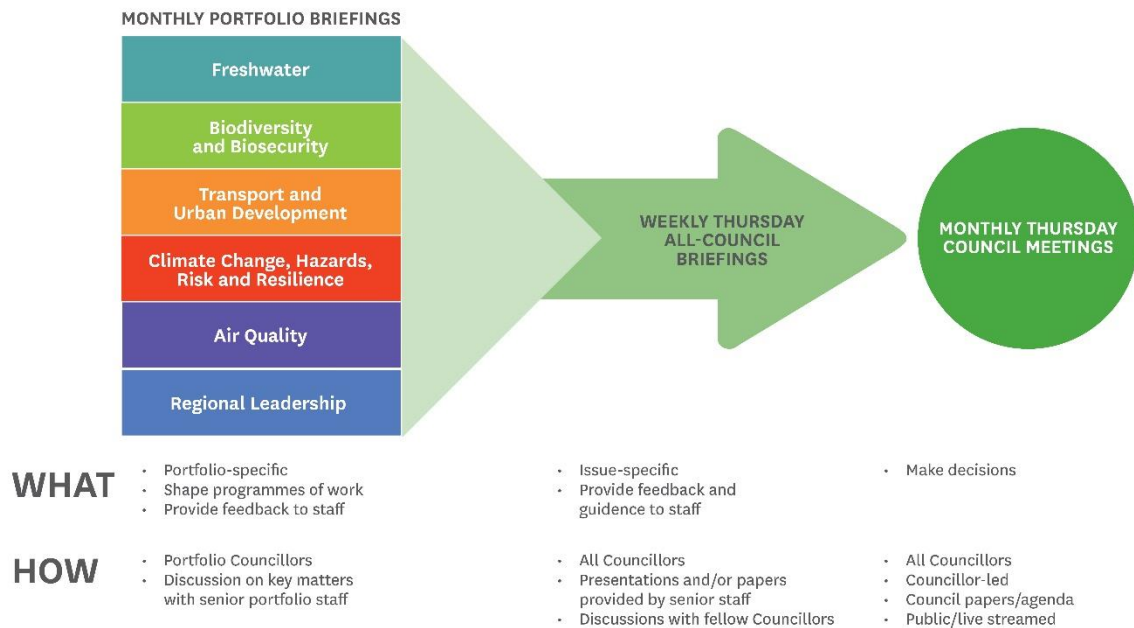
The community engages with Councillors in a number of ways. Formal consultation and informal engagement on plans, policies or strategies invites comment, both as written submissions and in person, from partners, stakeholders and the community, and the Environment Canterbury website includes an online engagement site where comments and suggestions can be left at any time.

Councillors sit alongside community and Rūnanga representatives on the water management zone committees. These committees act as a conduit for community discussion and community involvement in developing water management solutions across the region.

There are regular opportunities for Councillors to visit and meet with councillors from district and city councils, Rūnanga representatives and representatives of industry and environmental groups.

Key consultation policies are outlined on page 48.

Decision making



Decisions are made by Councillors in formal Council meetings. Decisions are informed by community engagement, information/advice provided by senior staff or subject matter experts through portfolio briefings and weekly all-Council briefings, and discussion with fellow Councillors.

Portfolios

Environment Canterbury structures its work and activities into six portfolios. This allows the Council and its staff to focus on achieving progress in areas of relevance and importance to the community. The Local Government Act 2002 requires Councils to group activities for the purpose of developing and reporting on a Long-Term Plan. Environment Canterbury uses the portfolio structure to meet that requirement.

The Council portfolios provide a framework to:

- engage with communities and stakeholders
- align related activities and policies for maximum effectiveness.

The Council portfolios are:

- Freshwater Management
- Biodiversity and Biosecurity
- Transport and Urban Development
- Climate Change, Hazards, Risk and Resilience
- Air Quality
- Regional Leadership.

Portfolio funding is allocated through the Long-Term Plan/Annual Plan process.

Councillors' role

Portfolios provide a vehicle for Councillors to champion strategic and policy leadership in their area of responsibility, shaping activities and assisting the Council to meet its strategic objectives. They also provide a mechanism for Councillors to:

- ensure progress is made towards the Council's strategic priorities
- lead discussions on portfolio matters with fellow Councillors
- be regularly briefed by senior staff on key matters, working closely with staff to shape future priorities.

Lead portfolio Councillor

One or more Councillors takes the lead role in each portfolio, working with a number of their colleagues. They are supported in their work by:

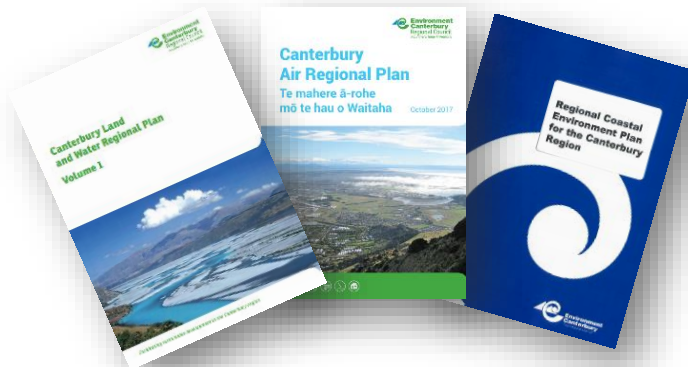
- one-to-one monthly briefings with their Portfolio Director
- monthly briefings with senior staff. These briefings discuss progress and challenges and provide an opportunity for portfolio Councillors to provide guidance on the future direction for the portfolio activities.
- regular reporting on portfolio progress, risks, and financial performance.

Environment Canterbury plans and strategies

The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) and the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) are the key pieces of legislation that guide much of the work of a regional council. Other legislation, such as the Biosecurity Act 1993 and the Land Transport Management Act 2003, are also important.

In accordance with the LGA we are required to produce Long-Term Plans and Annual Plans. This Act also allows us to make regional bylaws.

The RMA requires Environment Canterbury to have a Regional Policy Statement (RPS) and we may produce regional plans to give effect to the RPS. To implement our regional plans, we grant consents and undertake compliance monitoring and enforcement.



In accordance with the Biosecurity Act 1993, we have produced a Regional Pest Management Plan.

Our regional plans are available on our website in [ePlan](#).



Long-Term Plans and Annual Plans

Long-Term Plan

The Long-Term Plan (LTP) provides a strategic vision and a commitment to the community on outcomes Council wants to achieve over the long term. It details Council's organisational priorities and community outcomes and, based on these priorities, sets performance measures and targets to evaluate whether the priorities are being met. The Plan details the expected costs of delivering on the strategic priorities and the statutory and regulatory functions required of a regional council, and explains how the costs will be funded, including the setting of rates. It looks out over a ten-year period.



Every regional, city and district council must have a Long-Term Plan (LTP) under the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA). The LGA sets out the mandatory requirements for LTPs, including audit requirements, and the consultative procedures councils must use in developing and adopting the LTP. It states that the purpose of a long-term plan is to:

- describe the activities of the local authority
- describe the community outcomes of the local authority's district or region
- provide integrated decision-making and co-ordination of the resources of the local authority
- provide a long-term focus for the decisions and activities of the local authority
- provide a basis for accountability of the local authority to the community.

The LTP also sets out how a council intends to finance the activities and services it provides. The Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 provides the ability for a council to rate (general and targeted) for services that have no alternative funding, such as grants or user-payers revenue.

Long-term planning is a continuous process and in the years between LTPs councils must produce an Annual Plan, the council's budget for the next financial year. Councils also monitor and review progress through performance management and annual reporting processes.

The LTP is reviewed and refreshed every three years and is a key opportunity for Councillors to engage with the community, partners and stakeholders. The next LTP will be prepared during 2020 for 2021-31.

Annual Plan

In the years between LTPs, every regional, city and district council must produce an Annual Plan. The Annual Plan sets out how the council intends to finance the activities and services it provides during that year, as directed by its LTP. The Annual Plan identifies the adjustments to what was set out in the 10-year LTP as a result of the previous year's



financial performance and changes in assumptions (such as inflation) or legislative requirements (such as changes to national policy or employment law).

Under the Local Government Act 2002, Councils must consult with their community before finalising the Annual Plan significant or material changes from the LTP are proposed. The Act was amended in 2014 to remove the requirement to consult every year. Now, when no significant or material changes are proposed, a less formal engagement process can be used.

The Annual Plan supports the direction set by the Council's LTP by providing integrated decision making and co-ordination of the Council's resources for each year.

Annual Report

Regional, city and district councils must publish audited Annual Reports for each financial year; i.e. report what was delivered and what the costs were by the end of October each year.



Regional bylaws

Regional bylaws are made in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002 and are to protect infrastructure and regulate activities. Environment Canterbury has two bylaws in place.

Flood Protection and Drainage Bylaw

Environment Canterbury manages 59 river control and drainage schemes from Kaikōura to Waitaki, protecting assets valued at over \$500 million. The purpose of the [Flood Protection and Drainage Bylaw](#) is to manage, regulate and protect these assets, or those under our control, from inappropriate modification, damage or destruction. It was adopted in 2013 and reviewed in 2018.

Navigation Safety Bylaw

The [Navigation Safety Bylaw 2016](#) regulates navigation safety on waterways in the Canterbury region and applies alongside nationally applicable rules in Maritime Rules part 91 and Maritime Rules part 22. In some instances, where allowed by law, the Bylaw rules may go further than those in the Maritime Rules.

Environment Canterbury may grant authority for certain activities under the Flood Protection and Drainage Bylaw or grant a variation to the Navigation Safety Bylaw.

Regional Pest Management Plan

Regional councils have a mandate under Part 2 of the Biosecurity Act 1993 to provide regional leadership in activities that prevent, reduce, or eliminate adverse effects from harmful organisms that are present in their region. Environment Canterbury therefore has this leadership role in the Canterbury region.

The purpose of the [Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan](#) is to provide for the efficient and effective management or eradication of specified harmful organisms in the Canterbury Region. It builds on the 2005–15 Strategy and previous pest management programmes.

The purpose of the Plan is to:

- minimise the actual or potential adverse or unintended effects associated with those organisms
- maximise the effectiveness of individual actions in managing pests through a regionally coordinated approach.

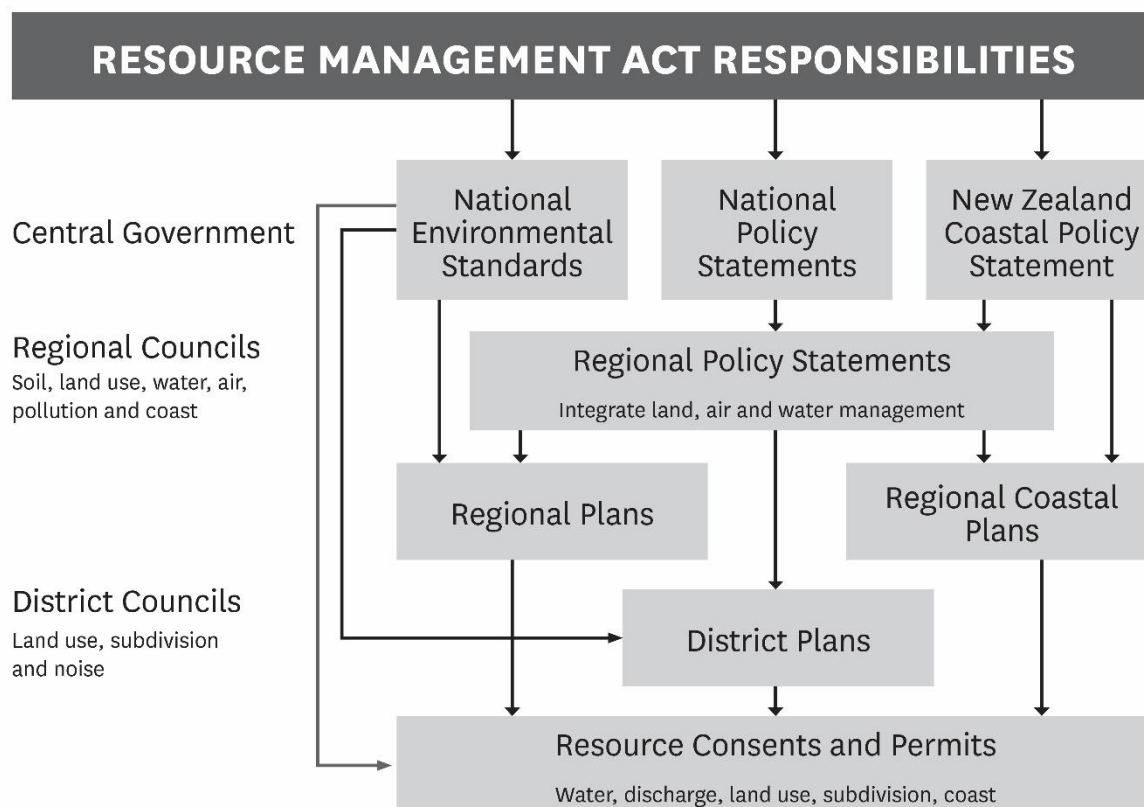
Many plants and animals in the Canterbury region are considered undesirable. This Plan only addresses pests where voluntary action is insufficient due to the nature of the pest or the related costs and benefits of individual action or inaction. The Act specifies criteria that must be met to justify such intervention.

The Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan came into effect on 1 July 2018.

Resource management plans and how we implement them

The regional planning programme is focused on developing plans with the community that deliver positive environmental and community outcomes in a robust and integrated planning framework. The Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) sets the hierarchy of the planning framework and how we develop and implement regional plans. The [Ministry for the Environment's website](#) provides useful information about the RMA.

Planning framework under the Resource Management Act 1991



Resource Management Act plans

Under the RMA Council is required to develop, review and implement the Regional Policy Statement (RPS). In Canterbury, there are regional plans for land and water, air, and the coastal environment. The Council also works closely with the district and city councils on related planning matters.

Canterbury Regional Policy Statement

The [Canterbury Regional Policy Statement](#) (RPS) provides an overview of the significant resource management issues facing the region, including issues of resource management of significance to Ngāi Tahu. The purpose of the RPS is to set out objectives, policies and methods to resolve those resource management issues and to achieve the integrated management of the natural and physical resources of Canterbury.

These methods include directions for provisions in both district and regional plans. The RPS was made operative in January 2013.

Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan and Sub-Regional Plans

Canterbury has substantial fresh water and land resources. Managing land and water is complex and many of the issues are interconnected. This interrelationship of land and water means that effects of any one activity cannot be considered in isolation. The current environment has been modified by both past and current activities, many of which cannot be easily changed or remedied without significant costs to people and communities. There are no 'quick fixes' to remedying the issues we have with Canterbury's land and water resources and it is clear that a range of responses is required.

The purpose of the [Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan](#) (LWRP) is to identify the resource management outcomes or goals (objectives) for managing land and water resources in Canterbury to achieve the purpose of the Resource Management Act 1991; i.e. to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources. It identifies the policies and rules needed to achieve the objectives, and provides direction in terms of the processing of resource consent applications.

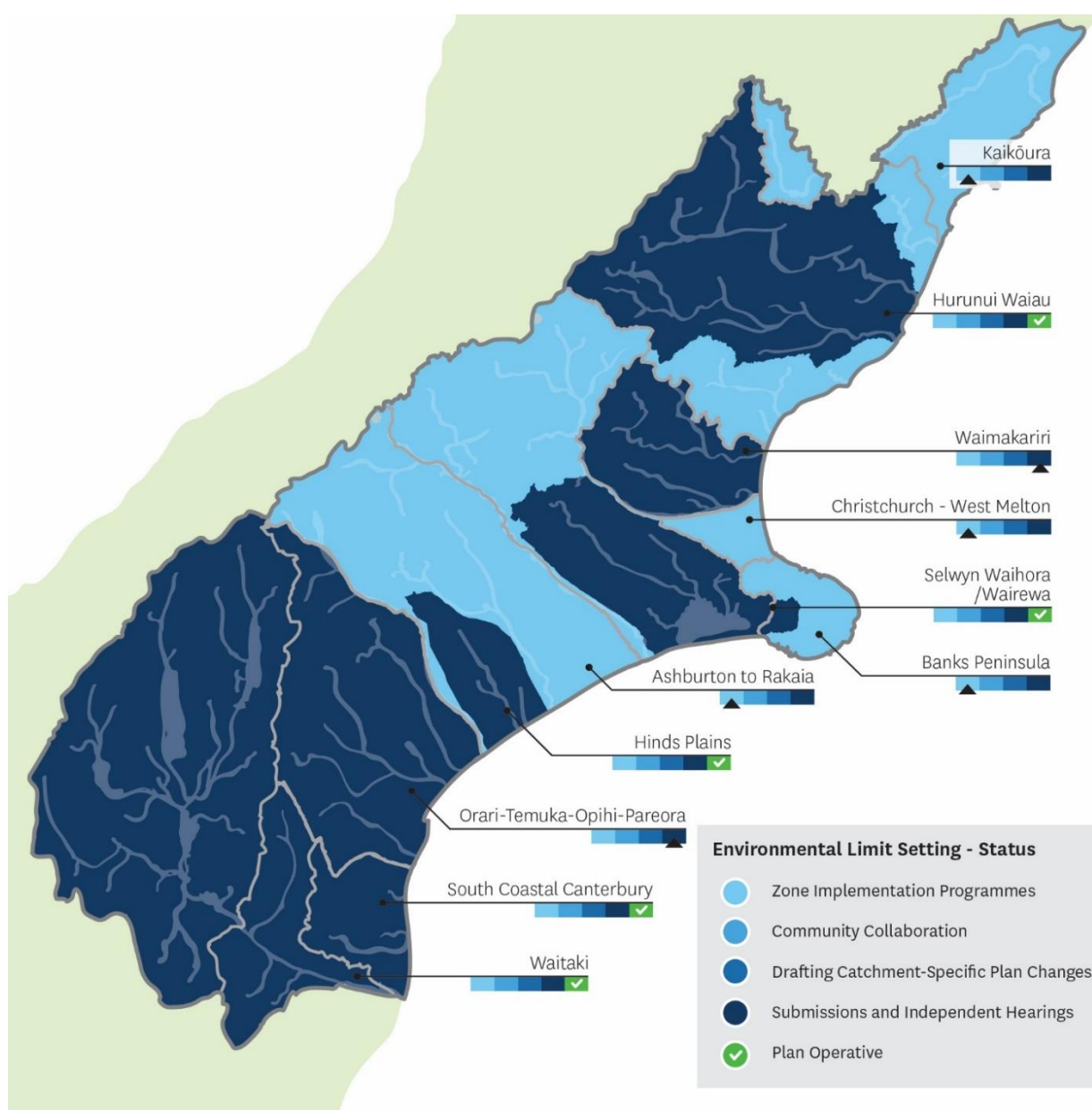
This direction on how land and water are to be managed across the region helps deliver community aspirations for water quality in both urban and rural areas.

The structure of the plan includes region-wide sections and more specific sub-region sections. Sub-region sections are being progressively reviewed as necessary to implement the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management and to reflect zone-specific outcomes sought by Water Management Zone Committees established under the Canterbury Water Management Strategy. These committees follow collaborative processes and make recommendations to councils. Further information about these committees is included in the 'Key partnership meetings' section.

The LWRP was made partially operative on 1 September 2015 and the remainder of the Plan was made operative on 1 October 2015 with the exception of provisions relating to an appeal matter concerning water permits which was resolved in October 2016.

The following plan change processes have introduced catchment-specific planning solutions into sub-region sections of the Land and Water Regional Plan, as well as some region-wide amendments:

- Selwyn Te Waihora (PC1) made operative 1 February 2016
- Hinds/Hekeao Plains (PC2) made operative 1 June 2018
- South Coastal Canterbury (PC3) made operative 1 September 2017
- Omnibus (PC4), which introduced a number of changes to the region-wide provisions in the LWRP, including amendments to better protect inanga spawning habitat. Made operative 11 March 2017
- Nutrient Management and Waitaki (PC5), which introduced 'Good Management Practice' requirements into the region-wide section of the Plan and introduces a catchment-specific solution for the Waitaki, was made operative 1 February 2019
- Wairewa/Lake Forsyth (PC6) made operative 1 February 2017.



Catchment plans

In addition to plans that apply to the whole region, and the sub-regional chapters of the Land and Water Regional Plan, a number of river catchment plans have been prepared. These are statutory plans, prepared under the RMA and outline the resource management outcomes for specific catchments. They must not be inconsistent with regional plans. Current regional catchment plans are:

- [Hurunui Waiau River Regional Plan](#)
- [Opihi River Regional Plan](#)
- [Pareora Catchment Plan](#)
- [Waimakariri River Regional Plan](#)
- [Waipara Catchment Plan](#)
- [Waitaki Catchment Plan.](#)

Canterbury Air Regional Plan

The Canterbury region enjoys good air quality in most places and at most times. However, urban areas suffer from degraded air quality during winter. Ambient air can be polluted by contaminants or localised air quality may be compromised by dust, smoke or odour. The effects vary from pervasive and serious health impacts to nuisance effects that detract from the amenity values of an area.

The [Canterbury Air Regional Plan](#) seeks to manage discharges to air in the best practicable manner. Its principal purpose is to maintain air quality to provide for people's health and wellbeing, or to improve it if it does not, while recognising the investment in, and significant contribution to, the economy and social wellbeing of Canterbury of industrial and trade activities that discharge into air.

The Air Plan sets out how Environment Canterbury manages air pollution from home heating, industry and other sources like outdoor burning, dust and odour. It was made operative 31 October 2017.

Canterbury Regional Coastal Environment Plan

The purpose of the [Canterbury Regional Coastal Environment Plan](#) is to promote the sustainable management of the natural and physical resources of the coastal marine area (as defined by the RMA) and the coastal environment and to promote the integrated management of that environment. In particular, the Plan sets out the issues relating to:

- protection and enhancement of the coast
- water quality
- controls on activities and structures
- coastal hazards.

The Plan sets out objectives, policies, and methods including rules to resolve these issues and to improve the coastal environment now so that future generations can continue to enjoy it. It was made operative in 2005, and includes amendments made under the Christchurch Earthquake Recovery Act in June 2015, and the Lyttleton Port Recovery Plan in November 2015.

Resource management plan changes currently underway

The current focus for the Environment Canterbury planning section is the progress through the submissions, hearing and deliberation stages of:

- Plan Change 7 (PC7) to the Land and Water Regional Plan Regional (LWRP)
- Plan Change 2 (PC2) to the Waimakariri River Regional Plan (WRRP)
- Regional Policy Statement change, Chapter 6.

Plan Change 7 (Land and Water Regional Plan)

Plan Change 7 to the LWRP is in three parts:

- Part A changes region wide provisions relating to the topics of: Ngāi Tahu values, salmon spawning sites, habitats of freshwater species, fish passage and commercial vegetable growing.
- Part B introduces land use and water quality and quantity provisions into the plan for the Orari, Temuka, Opihi and Pareora (OTOP) sub-region.
- Part C introduces land use and water quality and quantity provisions into the plan for the Waimakariri sub-region.

Parts B and C have been developed in collaboration with the Waimakariri and OTOP Zone Committees and will implement recommendations made by the Zone Committees to Council.

Key changes introduced by Parts B and C include:

- new water quality limits for groundwater and surface water
- requirements for farms to further reduce nitrogen losses over time
- increases to minimum flows for rivers and streams
- a cap on the volume of water available for allocation
- requirements to exclude stock from a broader range of water bodies.

Plan Change 2 (Waimakariri River Regional Plan)

Plan Change 2 is occurring alongside Plan Change 7 to the LWRP and is a change to the Waimakariri River Regional Plan to remove provisions that conflict with provisions that are introduced by Part C of Plan Change 7.

Plan changes 2 and 7 were notified on 20 July 2019 and submissions closed on 13 September 2019. Plan Environment Canterbury is now preparing for a public hearing of submissions and evidence to be held in front of an independent hearing panel.

The independent hearing panel will prepare a set of recommendations for Council to consider and potentially adopt as its decision.

The process for these plan changes is the standard Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) process as modified by the Environment Canterbury (Transitional Governance Arrangements) Act 2016. Although the Act is repealed by the October 2019 local elections, plans notified prior to that will proceed under it. For these documents, the Act replaces the usual process of appeals to the Environment Court with a process of appeals to the High Court against planning decisions made by Environment Canterbury. Those appeals must be on points of law.

Regional Policy Statement Change, Chapter 6

A change is required to Chapter 6 of the Regional Policy Statement to implement the urban growth pattern strategy set out in Our Space 2018-2048: Greater Christchurch Settlement Pattern Update, Whakahārunanga o Te Hōrapa Nohanga (Our Space), and give effect to the National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity 2016.

Our Space, which complements the Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy, describes how future housing and business growth will be provided for in greater

Christchurch over the next 10 years to 2048. It was agreed in June 2019 by the Greater Christchurch Partnership Committee following extensive community consultation.

The Minister for the Environment has approved an application by Environment Canterbury to use the streamlined planning process provided for under the Resource Management Act 1991 to progress a Proposed Change to Chapter 6 of the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement. The Minister has issued directions setting out the process steps and timeframes the Council must follow when using the streamlined planning process.

This means that the change to the RPS will follow the streamlined RMA process where no hearing is held, and the decision is ultimately made by the Minister for the Environment.

Working with the city and district councils to give effect to the Regional Policy Statement

Environment Canterbury works with the planning sections of Canterbury's district and city councils providing support and capacity to assist them in the development and review of district and city plans. District and city plans must give effect to the Regional Policy Statement and must not be inconsistent with Regional Plans (Land and Water, Air, Coastal Environment).

Over recent years a strong working relationship has developed between the planning teams of the regional council and those of the district and city councils. Our planners, science staff and others provide advice and technical support during plan development on areas such as biodiversity and natural hazards. This has resulted in improved alignment between regional and district/city plans with less need for us to seek changes through a formal consultation process.

Implementing our plans

Environment Canterbury's Regional Plans provide for the sustainable management of the natural resources of the region. To be effective and achieve the outcomes intended, plans must be implemented. Environment Canterbury staff work with Papatipu Rūnanga, partners, stakeholders and the wider community to develop implementation approaches that achieve the objectives of the plans. For each of our regional plans, there is an implementation work programme that utilises a combination of education, non-statutory and statutory tools to help people take the actions required to comply with the plans. Our overarching approach to implementation is to take an outcomes-focused, prioritised and evidence-based approach based on sound community and stakeholder engagement principles.

Consenting

Regional Plans describe activities that are permitted, controlled, or prohibited. Resource consents are required for an activity which is considered controlled.

Resource consents are permits that allow the holder to use or take water, land or coastal resources. They may also allow the discharge of water or wastes into air, water or onto land.

When granting consents, or setting conditions, councils must be guided by the legislation, and the consents programme is focused on processing consents in a way that is consistent with statutory requirements and timeframes and helps to achieve our plan objectives and community outcomes. We must also consider the special relationship of mana whenua with the land or natural resources affected when considering consent applications. Consents may have conditions attached which reflect local considerations.

Each year the Consents section processes approximately 1500-2000 resource consent applications under the Resource Management Act 1991. The consents section also administers the consents function for large dams in accordance with the Building Act 2004.

The majority of the decision making for resource consents is delegated to experienced staff throughout the organisation, depending on the nature of the application. This is described in the Environment Canterbury Delegations Manual. There are also provisions for the appointment of independent Hearings Commissioners for notified consent applications or where Councillors, the Council or Council staff are the consent applicant.

Compliance monitoring and enforcement

Protecting the environment is our top priority. Environment Canterbury takes its compliance monitoring and enforcement role seriously. We have Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Guidelines, [available on the website](#), that set out the Council's approach. The approach is to work with individuals, industry and the community to achieve voluntary compliance wherever possible and to take enforcement action when voluntary compliance is not achieved.

Each year we publish annual [reports on monitoring and compliance](#) that show the types of consents we monitored, what we found and our response. The reports also show the incidents that were reported to us, what we found when we investigated and the action we took as a result.

The compliance monitoring and enforcement (CME) work programme is focused on pro-active monitoring of consents and compliance with plan rules (permitted activities) as well as responding to pollution reports received from the community. There are around 20,000 active resource consents¹ across Canterbury. Environment Canterbury also receives around 4000 pollution reports a year from the community. Many staff play a role in CME activities, including warranted officers on the ground, zone delivery staff advising landholders, science staff helping to interpret data and evaluate impacts and communications staff designing effective advice and education campaigns.

We take a prioritised, risk based and intelligence-led approach to monitoring compliance and responding to pollution incidents to make the best use of the staff and resources we have available.

Current priorities, as discussed with Council in August 2019, are:

¹ An active consent has been given effect to by the consent holder. An inactive consent has been granted but not yet given effect to by the consent holder.

- regionally significant consents (for example, irrigation schemes, power generation, municipal waste water, large industrial air and land discharges)
- drinking water, waste water and stormwater
- water use monitoring
- farming land use consents – focused on implementing nutrient limits and requiring good management practice
- fish screens
- incident response, in particular relating to stock in waterways, outdoor burns and dust
- zone priorities identified by the water management zone committees.

Collaborative plans and strategies

Overview

A number of plans and strategies, some required by statute, guide our work and which have been prepared in collaboration with other parties.

Environment Canterbury has made a commitment to working to implement these plans and strategies and this is reflected in our Long-Term Plan and Annual Plans.



Canterbury Water Management Strategy (non-statutory)

The [Canterbury Water Management Strategy](#) guides our work to manage the region's freshwater resources. An overview is provided on page 34.

Canterbury Regional Land Transport Plan 2015-2025

The [Canterbury Regional Land Transport Plan 2015-2025](#), prepared in accordance with the Land Transport Management Act 2003, is a statement of transport priorities for the Canterbury region and co-ordinates the region's requests for central government funding for land transport activities. Environment Canterbury, as the regional council, is responsible for convening a regional committee to prepare the Plan.

Canterbury Regional Public Transport Plan 2018-28

The [Canterbury Regional Public Transport Plan 2018-28](#) has been prepared by the Greater Christchurch Public Transport Joint Committee (NZ Transport Agency, Canterbury District Health Board, Christchurch City Council, Selwyn District Council and Waimakariri District Council) on behalf of Environment Canterbury and in accordance with the Land Transport Management Act 2003 and the Land Transport Management Amendment Act 2013. The Regional Public Transport Plan sets out the public transport system that Environment Canterbury, in partnership with local councils in greater Christchurch and Timaru, proposes to fund and operate.

Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy 2008 (non-statutory)

The [Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy 2008](#) establishes a framework of goals and priorities for undertaking biodiversity initiatives. It sets out a collaborative vision for maintaining and enhancing this natural heritage. Environment Canterbury is one of 22 Canterbury organisations represented on the advisory group. Also represented are city and district councils, central government agencies, research and conservation organisations, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, non-governmental organisations, and landowner, industry and

community groups. In 2018/19 a review of the Strategy was undertaken, and Environment Canterbury will be working with our partners to refresh our commitment, integrate pending national policy changes and implement the Strategy.

Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy 2017–19 (non-statutory)

The [Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy 2017–19](#) (CREDS) is a commitment from the 11 local authorities in Canterbury to work together on regional development in Canterbury. Currently in its second iteration, a new regional development strategy will be developed by the incoming Mayoral Forum in 2020.

Te Waihora Co-Governance Strategy (non-statutory)

Adopted in 2018, the [Te Waihora Co-Governance Strategy](#) sets out eight co-governance commitments to guide the Co-Governors in providing leadership for the restoration of the mauri of Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere. The Strategy was developed by the Parties to the Co-Governance Agreement: Environment Canterbury, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Selwyn District Council and Christchurch City Council. Since the Strategy was adopted, in June 2019, the Department of Conservation, Te Papa Atawhai, became a Party to the Te Waihora Co-Governance Agreement.

Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy (non-statutory)

The [Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy](#) (UDS) was produced by the Greater Christchurch Partnership in 2007 (and partially updated in 2016) to provide the strategic direction for urban growth in Greater Christchurch. It is a non-statutory document that promotes an integrated and intergenerational approach to planning for urban growth, and seeks to ensure that development is managed in a way that protects environments, improves transport links, creates liveable areas and sustainably manages population growth.

Our Space 2018-2048: Greater Christchurch Settlement Pattern Update

[Our Space 2018-2048: Greater Christchurch Settlement Pattern Update](#) was produced by the Greater Christchurch Partnership in 2019 (and adopted by each of greater Christchurch's councils) to satisfy the requirements of the National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity for high growth councils to produce a 'future development strategy'. Guided by the strategic direction in the existing Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy, Our Space demonstrates that there will be sufficient, feasible development capacity to support the anticipated housing and business growth needs in greater Christchurch over a thirty year period.

Canterbury Civil Defence and Emergency Management Group Plan

The [Canterbury Civil Defence and Emergency Management Group Plan](#), a requirement of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002, provides direction on how comprehensive, risk-based emergency management will be implemented in the Canterbury

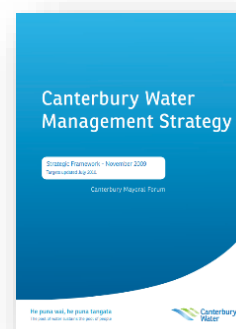
region. It proposes the use of statutory and non-statutory mechanisms, including legislation, policy and plans that provide for the integrated management of hazards and their effects.

Whaka-Ora Healthy Harbour plan (non-statutory)

The [Whaka-Ora Healthy Harbour Plan](#) is a catchment management plan with a vision of restoring the ecological and cultural health of Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour as mahinga kai, for generations to come. Environment Canterbury has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the other four partner organisations and will contribute to implementing the Plan.

Canterbury Water Management Strategy

The [Canterbury Water Management Strategy](#) (CWMS) provides a collaborative framework to help manage the multiple demands on the region's water resources. As the regional council, Environment Canterbury has a statutory role in managing and monitoring the region's water and plays a significant part in implementing the agreed Strategy.



Background

The strategy is the culmination of a process that started in 1999 as the Canterbury Strategic Water Study and was initiated in response to severe droughts in the 1980s and 1990s. At that time the region was trapped in an adversarial approach to water management and it was difficult to find a way forward with a diverse range of groups with opposing views.

Ten years later, in 2009, the CWMS was finalised and signed off by the Mayoral Forum. This signalled an innovative and collaborative way forward that involved a partnership approach between Environment Canterbury, territorial authorities, Ngāi Tahu and a range of organisations with an interest in water.

The strength of the CWMS relies on partnership and the empowerment of communities through water management zone committees. The strategy challenges communities to work collaboratively to develop and deliver solutions to local water management issues.

The CWMS is a long-term strategy as the issues will take a significant time to address given their scale and complexity. It is now ten years into the CWMS journey and the Mayoral Forum continues to provide governance oversight and lead the collaborative approach. The Mayoral Forum recently endorsed a set of CWMS goals for 2025 and 2030.

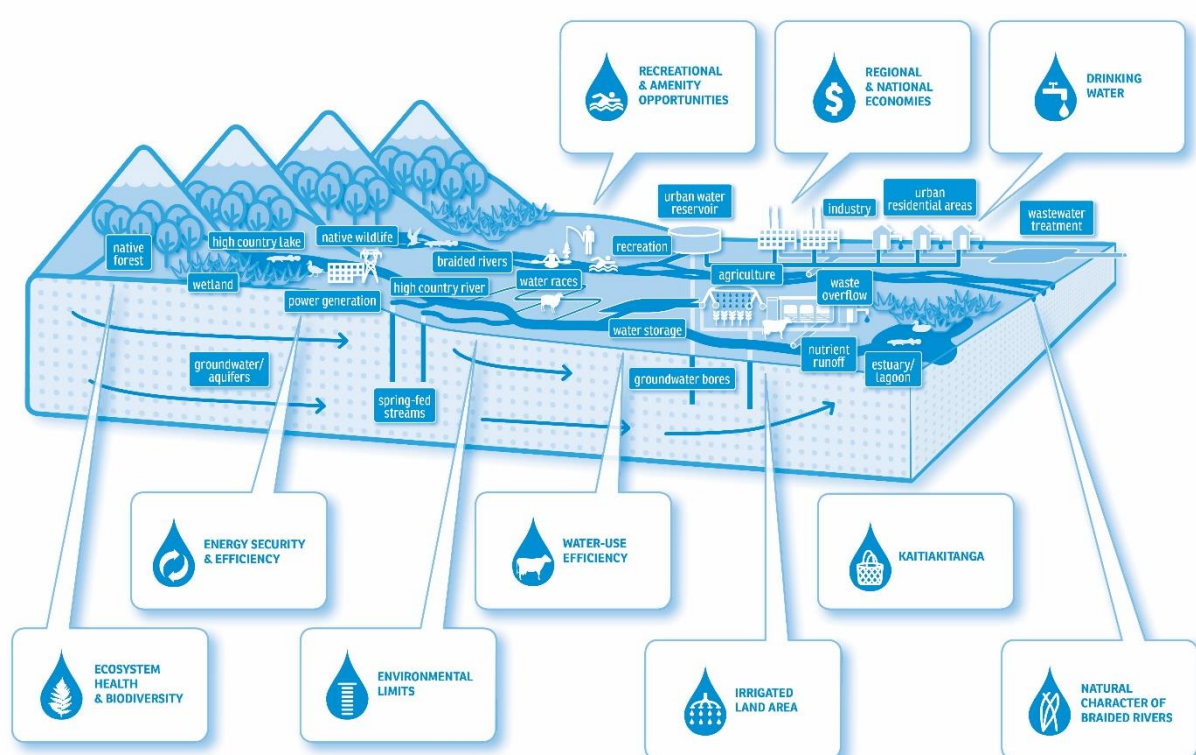
CWMS Vision and Targets

The overarching vision of the strategy is *'to gain the greatest cultural, economic, environmental, recreational and social benefits from our water resources within a sustainable framework both now and for future generations'*.

This vision is supported by a number of fundamental principles including sustainable management, a regional approach, and kaitiakitanga. The strategy also includes first and second order priorities and ten targets areas with timebound goals (refer to the diagram below for the ten target areas).

Every two years Environment Canterbury produces a report on progress towards the ten target areas. The latest Targets Progress Report was prepared over the 2017–2019 period and can be found on the [Environment Canterbury website](#). This report shows that, although we have made progress in some areas, there is still much to do.

The ten targets areas of the CWMS



Environment Canterbury's role in the CWMS

Environment Canterbury does not deliver the CWMS alone as the strategy requires the collective effort and commitment of all CWMS partners including territorial authorities, Ngāi Tahu, stakeholders and communities.

Environment Canterbury implements a range of statutory and non-statutory actions to support the implementation of the CWMS. Examples include:

- developing joint work programmes with CWMS partners
- fostering local CWMS leadership through water management committees
- collaborating with partners, industry and community groups to deliver local actions to improve water quality
- supporting landowners to implement Good Management Practices

- engaging with communities to develop recommendations that inform changes to the freshwater planning framework
- monitoring and enforcing the freshwater planning framework
- monitoring freshwater resources and sharing evidence-based stories with communities.

Environment Canterbury Zone Facilitators and Zone Delivery teams play a key role in supporting water management zone committees, alongside other CWMS partners and stakeholders.

Regional and Zone Committees

The [Regional Water Management Committee and ten water management zone Committees](#) were established to help implement the CWMS across the region. The Regional Committee is a standing committee of Environment Canterbury and the zone committees are joint committees of Environment Canterbury and relevant district/city councils. The committees must include representatives from Environment Canterbury, district/city councils and Papatipu Rūnanga, together with appointed community members. Any Papatipu Rūnanga with mana whenua interests in a zone has membership of that committee as of right.

The Regional Water Management Committee oversees and monitors CWMS progress at a regional level, while zone committees focus locally.

During the last nine years the committees have been focused on developing and implementing Zone Implementation Programmes (ZIPs) and ZIP Addenda (ZIPAs). Both documents are prepared through a collaborative process with the community and include actions and tactics to give effect to the CWMS in the zone.

The function and form of the Regional Water Management Committee and the ten water management zone committees will evolve over time as required.

The ten water management zones in Canterbury



Governance

Environment Canterbury is governed by 14 elected Councillors, from seven constituencies as noted on page 39, having returned to a fully-elected Council in October 2019.

The Minister for the Environment and Minister for Local Government appointed an independent review group in 2009 to investigate the performance of Environment Canterbury and its report was released in early 2010, identifying areas of concern. Parliament then enacted the Environment Canterbury (Temporary Commissioners and Improved Water Management) Act 2010 and seven Commissioners were appointed to replace the elected Councillors.

In 2016 the Environment Canterbury (Transitional Governance Arrangements) Act 2016 replaced the previous Environment Canterbury Act (2010) and created a mixed-model Council with seven elected members and up to six appointed Councillors, two of whom had to be recommended by Ngāi Tahu. This Act expired with the October 2019 local body elections.

Electoral system

Environment Canterbury operates its elections under the First Past the Post electoral system. This form of voting is used in parliamentary elections to elect Members of Parliament to constituency seats. Electors vote by indicating their preferred candidate(s), and the candidate(s) that receives the most votes is declared the winner regardless of the proportion of votes that candidate(s) obtained.

The other option permitted under the Local Electoral Act 2001 is the single transferable vote system (STV). This system is used in district health board elections. Electors rank candidates in order of preference. The number of votes required for a candidate to be elected (called the quota) depends on the number of positions to be filled and the number of valid votes. The necessary number of candidates to fill all vacancies is achieved first by the counting of first preferences then by a transfer of a proportion of votes received by any candidate where the number of votes for that candidate is in excess of the quota, and then by the exclusion of the lowest polling candidates and the transfer of these votes in accordance with voters' second preferences.

Under the Local Electoral Act 2001 the Council can resolve to change the electoral system to be used at the next two elections or conduct a binding poll on the question, or electors can demand a binding poll. A poll can be initiated by at least five percent of electors signing a petition demanding that a poll be held. Once changed, an electoral system must be used for at least the next two triennial elections, i.e. we cannot change our electoral system for one election and then change back for the next election. The matter must be determined not later than 12 September in the year that is two years before the year in which the next triennial general election is held. The determination will then be in place for at least two elections.

The Council's last review of electoral systems was on 25 May 2017. No change was made to Council's electoral system for the 2019 elections. By 12 September 2020, the Council could

resolve to change the system used at the 2022 elections or to conduct a poll, or electors could demand a poll.

Māori Constituencies

The Local Electoral Act 2001 also gives Council the ability to establish separate constituencies for Māori electors. The Council may resolve to create separate Māori constituencies or conduct a poll on the matter, or the community may demand a poll. The demand for a poll can be initiated by a petition signed by five percent of electors within the region. The matter must be determined prior to 23 November of the year that is two years before the next triennial general election. The determination will then be in place for at least two elections.

The Council's last review of Māori constituencies was on 25 May 2017. No change to Māori constituencies were introduced for the 2019 elections. By 23 November 2020, the Council could resolve to adopt Māori constituencies for the 2022 elections. Council or voters can call a poll at any time.

Ngāi Tahu representation

From 2010 until October 2019 Environment Canterbury had two Ngāi Tahu appointed representatives at the Council table. Council considered that this arrangement resulted in significant benefits and in 2018/19 Council progressed a Local Bill to secure these two Ngāi Tahu Councillor positions permanently on Council. Rino Tirikatene, MP Southern Māori, sponsored the Bill in Parliament but it did not gain enough support to achieve a first reading.

Council then commissioned an independent report to recommend how future Ngāi Tahu participation in Environment Canterbury governance arrangements could be provided for by the Council. At the [12 December 2019 Council meeting](#), Council received the report, prepared by Bob Penter and titled: 'Ngāi Tahu Participation within Environment Canterbury Governance Arrangements' also known as Te Ara Whakamua. They endorsed the report as a sound basis for the development of an implementation plan for Ngāi Tahu participation in future governance arrangements within Environment Canterbury and these details are now being worked through.

Representation arrangements

Under the [Environment Canterbury \(Transitional Governance Arrangements\) Act 2016](#) Council was required to complete a [representation review](#) for the 2019 elections. The [Local Electoral Act 2001 \(LEA\)](#) sets the parameters within which the representation review process must be undertaken.

The membership of any regional council cannot be less than six nor more than 14 councillors. The Council considered options and put an initial proposal out for consultation, followed by submissions and hearings. A final proposal was then developed for consideration by the Local Government Commission.

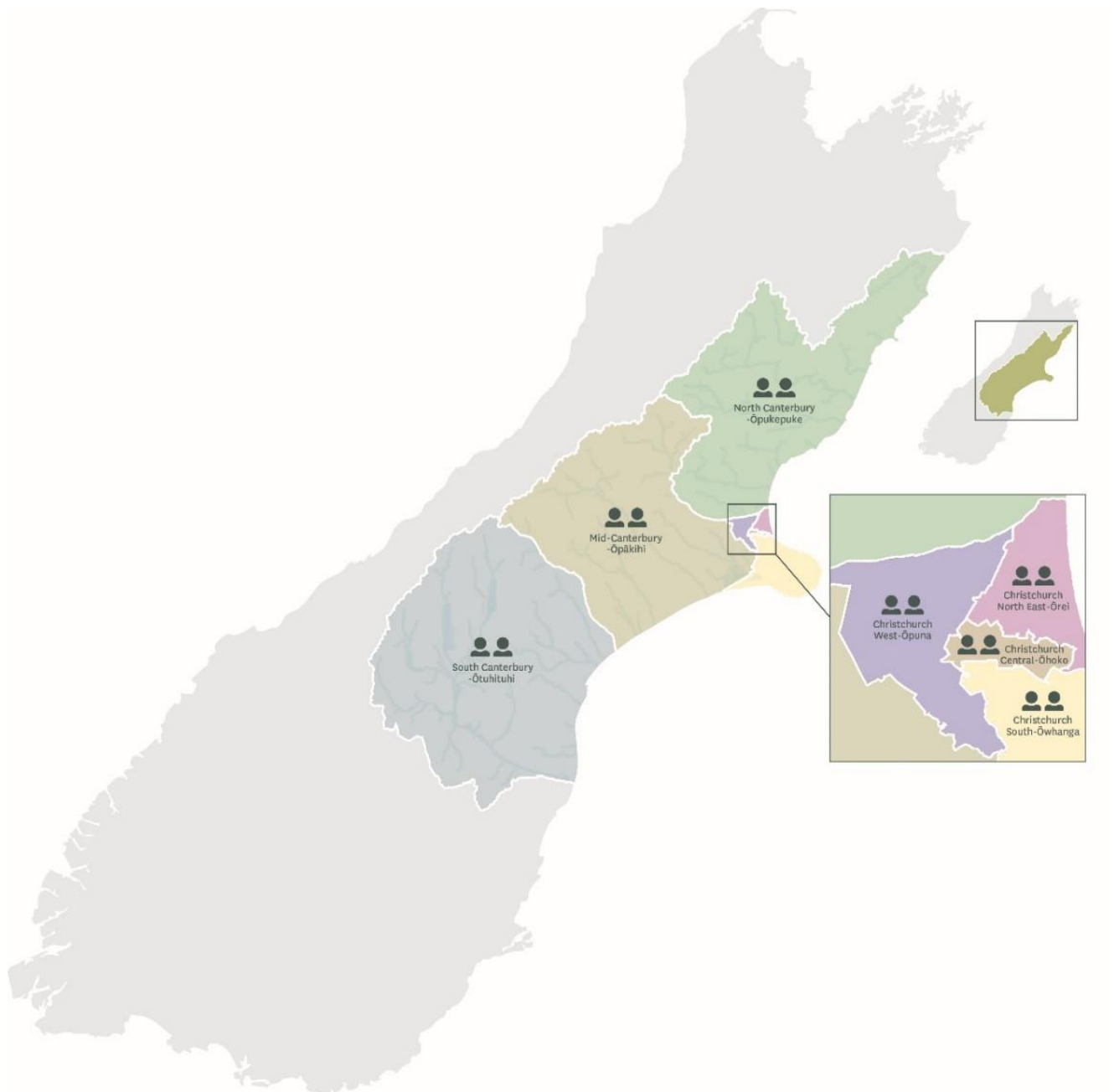
The initial proposal was for 13 seats: two north, two central, eight Christchurch, and one south. Following submissions, the final proposal added an additional seat in the south, meaning two Councillors each for the 'non-Christchurch' north, central and South Canterbury areas, and eight for Christchurch, a total of 14 seats. As there were objections to this final proposal, the Local Government Commission held a hearing at Environment Canterbury's Christchurch offices on 21 March 2019.

Factors required to be considered when forming the proposal are laid out in the Local Electoral Act 2001. These include serving communities of interest and ensuring as far as possible a numerical representation of the population.

The final representation model of 14 councillors with two in each of seven wards, was determined by the Local Government Commission and announced on 11 April 2019.

Constituencies (based on the population at time Representation review commenced)	Councillors	Population
North Canterbury – Ōpukepuke (of rolling hills)	2	75,800
Mid-Canterbury – Ōpākihi (of plains)	2	93,440
South Canterbury – Ōtuhiuhi (of rock drawings)	2	61,320
Christchurch North East – Ōrei (of wetlands)	2	100,400
Christchurch West – Ōpuna (of springs)	2	95,700
Christchurch Central – Ōhoko (of trading)	2	103,300
Christchurch South – Ōwhanga (of bays, inlets, harbours)	2	82,320
Total	14	612,280

Environment Canterbury constituencies



Environment Canterbury Councillors

To contact Councillors, please email Councillors@ecan.govt.nz or call 0800 266 567.



Councillor Jenny Hughey, Chair
Christchurch North East Ōrei

email: Councillor.Hughey@ecan.govt.nz

mobile: 027 347 8734



Councillor Peter Scott, Deputy Chair
South Canterbury Ōtuhituhi

email: Councillor.Scott@ecan.govt.nz

mobile: 027 491 6413



Councillor Claire McKay
North Canterbury Ōpukepuke

email: Councillor.McKay@ecan.govt.nz

mobile: 027 486 4023



Councillor Grant Edge
North Canterbury Ōpukepuke

email: Councillor.Edge@ecan.govt.nz

mobile: 027 229 9529



Councillor Tane Apanui
Christchurch North East Ōrei

email: Councillor.Apanui@ecan.govt.nz



Councillor Megan Hands
Christchurch West Ōpuna

email: Councillor.Hands@ecan.govt.nz

mobile: 021 347 2358



Councillor Craig Pauling
Christchurch West Ōpuna

email: Councillor.Pauling@ecan.govt.nz



Councillor Lan Pham
Christchurch Central Ōhoko

email: Councillor.Pham@ecan.govt.nz



Councillor Nicole Marshall
Christchurch Central Ōhoko

email: Councillor.Marshall@ecan.govt.nz
mobile: 027 296 7346



Councillor Vicky Southworth
Christchurch South Ōwhanga

email: Councillor.Southworth@ecan.govt.nz
mobile: 028 424 6181



Councillor Phil Clearwater
Christchurch South Ōwhanga

email: Councillor.Clearwater@ecan.govt.nz
mobile: 022 394 1073



Councillor Ian Mackenzie
Mid-Canterbury Ōpakihi

email: Councillor.Mackenziei@ecan.govt.nz
mobile: 027 432 8329



Councillor John Sunckell
Mid-Canterbury Ōpakihi

email: Councillor.Sunckell@ecan.govt.nz
mobile: 027 424 3006



Councillor Elizabeth McKenzie
South Canterbury Ōtuhituhi

email: Councillor.McKenzieE@ecan.govt.nz

Committee appointments

Council Committees

The information is correct as at 20 February 2020, which is the date of the Council meeting at which Council completed the allocation of committee appointments.

Committee	Description	Membership	Councillors
Performance, Audit and Risk Committee	Standing Committee of Council - audit, external financial reporting, financial risk management, internal control, strategic performance management and operational performance.	<i>Six appointed Councillors and an independent member</i>	Cr Sunckell Cr McKay Cr Edge Cr Mackenzie Cr Hands Chair Hughey
Regulation Hearing Committee	Standing Committee of Council – appoints independent Hearings Commissioners under Resource Management Act processes and make decisions on resource consent applications in accordance with delegated powers.	<i>Five appointed Councillors</i>	Cr McKay Cr Pauling Cr Edge Cr Pham Cr Marshall
Canterbury Water Management Strategy Regional Committee	Standing Committee of Council. This is a partnership committee – see below.		Cr McKay Cr Pauling
Chief Executive's Employment, Performance and Remuneration Committee	This committee takes responsibility for matters relating to the Chief Executive's employment and performance.	<i>Four appointed Councillors</i>	Chair Hughey Cr Scott Cr Mackenzie Cr Clearwater

Key partnership committees

Committee / group	Description	Portfolio	Membership	Councillors
Te Rōpū Tuia	Joint governance forum of Council and the Chairpersons of the 10 Papatipu Rūnanga of the region.	Regional Leadership	<i>All Councillors</i>	All Councillors
Te Waihora Co-Governance Group	Voluntary co-governance forum between local/central government (Environment Canterbury, Selwyn District Council, Christchurch City Council, Department of Conservation) and Ngāi Tahu.	Regional Leadership	<i>Chairperson of Council appointed Co-Chair by virtue of office, together with</i>	Chair Hughey Cr Pauling

Committee / group	Description	Portfolio	Membership	Councillors
			<i>one other Councillor</i>	
Mayoral Forum	An informal committee established by the Triennial Agreement between local authorities in Canterbury.	Regional Leadership	<i>Chairperson of Council appointed by virtue of office</i>	Chair Hughey
Canterbury Civil Defence and Emergency Management Group Joint Committee	A joint committee under the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002, made up of elected representatives from territorial authorities and Environment Canterbury.	Climate Change, Hazards, Risk & Resilience	<i>An appointed Councillor</i>	Cr Sunckell
Canterbury Regional Transport Committee	Required by Section 105(1) of the Land Transport Management Act 2003 and responsible for preparing the Regional Land Transport Plan, reviewing the Plan and monitoring progress against outcomes.	Transport & Urban Development	<i>Two Councillors appointed, who shall be Chair and Deputy Chair</i>	Cr Scott Cr Apanui
Greater Christchurch Partnership Committee	Voluntary partnership to establish an agreed strategic framework to manage growth and address urban development, regeneration, resilience and wellbeing matters for greater Christchurch.	Transport & Urban Development	<i>Chairperson of Council appointed by virtue of office, together with two other Councillors</i>	Chair Hughey Cr Edge Cr Clearwater
Greater Christchurch Public Transport Joint Committee	Established in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002 to foster a collaborative approach to integrated decision making and provide clear and decisive leadership to the provision of public transport services and infrastructure in greater Christchurch.	Transport & Urban Development	<i>Three appointed Councillors</i>	Chair Hughey Cr Apanui Cr Clearwater
Canterbury Water Management Strategy Regional Committee	Established in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002 to implement the Canterbury Water Management Strategy and champion action at a regional level to support actions at a local level.	Freshwater Management	<i>Two appointed Councillors</i>	Cr McKay Cr Pauling
	Established in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002	Freshwater Management	<i>An appointed Councillor</i>	Kaikōura Cr Edge

Committee / group	Description	Portfolio	Membership	Councillors
Zone Water Committees (10)	to implement the Canterbury Water Management Strategy and they are the primary vehicle for collaborative approach to delivering the strategy in each water management zone.		<i>per committee</i>	Hurunui Waiau Cr McKay
				Waimakariri Cr Hands
				Christchurch West Melton Cr Clearwater
				Banks Peninsula Cr Pham
				Selwyn Waihora Cr Southworth
				Ashburton Cr Mackenzie
				Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora Cr McKenzie
				Upper Waitaki Upper Waitaki Cr Sunckell
				Lower Waitaki – South Coastal Canterbury Cr Marshall
Whakaraupō Governance Group	Voluntary governance group to implement the Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour Catchment Management Plan.	Freshwater Management	<i>An appointed Councillor</i>	Cr Pham
Biosecurity Advisory Groups (4)	Established in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002 to implement the Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan.	Biodiversity & Biosecurity	<i>An appointed Councillor per committee</i>	North Canterbury Cr Edge
				Central Canterbury Cr Mackenzie
				Christchurch & Banks Peninsula Cr Pham
				South Canterbury Cr McKenzie

Committee / group	Description	Portfolio	Membership	Councillors
Avon Heathcote Estuary Ihutai Trust	Non-profit organisation.	Biodiversity & Biosecurity	<i>An appointed Councillor</i>	Cr Southworth

Two working groups were formed in April 2020 and Councillors appointed to these groups at the Council meeting on 16 April.

Committee / group	Description	Portfolio	Membership	Councillors
Public Visibility Working Group	Council working group	Regional Leadership	<i>Chair is ex-officio, five appointed Councillors</i>	Cr Marshall (Chair) Cr Hands Cr Southworth Cr Apanui Cr Clearwater Chair Hughey (ex-officio)
Planting and Regeneration Working Group	Council working group		<i>Chair is ex-officio, five appointed Councillors, (plus Chief Operating Officer)</i>	Cr Pauling (Chair) Cr Pham Cr Mackenzie Cr Southworth Cr Edge Chair Hughey (ex-officio)

Relevant legislation and regulation

Statutes affecting all Regional Councils

In fulfilling its purpose Environment Canterbury exercises powers and fulfils responsibilities conferred on it by a variety of statutes, including:

- Biosecurity Act 1993
- Building Act 2004
- Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 (CDEM Act)
- Environment Canterbury (Transitional Governance Arrangements) Act 2016
- Greater Christchurch Regeneration Act 2016
- Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996
- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015
- Land Drainage Act 1908
- Land Transport Act 1998
- Land Transport Management Act 2003
- Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968
- Local Electoral Act 2001
- Local Government Act 2002 (LGA)
- Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA)
- Local Government (Rating) Act 2002
- Maritime Transport Act 1994
- Public Records Act 2005
- Public Transport Management Act 2008
- Reserves Act 1977
- Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA)

Statutes unique to Environment Canterbury or local authorities in the Canterbury region

In addition to the legislation that applies to all local authorities, Environment Canterbury is also subject to by the following local acts:

- Ashley River Improvement Act 1925
- South Canterbury Catchment Board Act 1946
- Waimakariri River Improvement Act 1922
- Ellesmere Land Drainage Act 1905
- Greater Christchurch Regeneration Act 2016

The Environment Canterbury (Transitional Governance Arrangements) Act 2016 was repealed with effect from the day after the 2019 official election results were declared. It established the mixed model Council with Ngāi Tahu representation and made changes to the usual planning process.

Council policies and processes

A policy is a set of ideas or a plan of what to do or not do in particular situations.

Environment Canterbury has a number of policies in place which describe how Councillors, the Chief Executive and staff will carry out their responsibilities.

Significance and Engagement Policy (consultation policy)

Council decisions are informed by community engagement. Council maintains a Significance and Engagement Policy to meet the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002. It was last reviewed in 2018.

The purpose of the Significance and Engagement Policy is to:

- enable Environment Canterbury and its communities to identify the degree of significance attached to particular issues, proposals, assets, decisions and activities
- provide clarity about how and when communities can expect to be engaged in decisions about different issues, assets or other matters
- inform Environment Canterbury from the beginning of a decision-making process about:
 - the extent of any public engagement that is expected before a particular decision is made
 - the form or type of engagement required.

Public input into significant decisions, policies or programmes undertaken by Environment Canterbury is essential to ensure they reflect the aspirations and priorities of communities, Ngāi Tahu and interested groups throughout the Canterbury region.

The policy includes information on:

- General approach to determining significance and making decisions
- Criteria for assessing significance
- Processes and methods for engagement
- Engaging with communities on other matters
- Ngāi Tahu and Tuia
- Canterbury Water Management Strategy
- Environment Canterbury strategic assets

Policies for liaising with, and memoranda or agreements with, Māori

Tuia Agreement

Above and beyond the statutory obligations of the Local Government Act and Resource Management Act, Environment Canterbury has committed with Ngāi Tahu leadership to engage as partners in a constructive and progressive relationship. This commitment is based on the recognition that the relationship of Ngāi Tahu with their ancestral land within Canterbury is inextricably affected by the powers and functions of Environment Canterbury. It is supported by a formal agreement and work programme called Tuia, which translates as 'working together shoulder to shoulder'. The agreement is described on page 7.

Te Waihora Co-Governance Agreement

Environment Canterbury, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Selwyn District Council, Christchurch City Council and the Department of Conservation are parties to a co-governance agreement over the lake and catchment of Te Waihora. The Parties are jointly committed to maximising and expediting the rejuvenation of the lake and catchment for the benefit of current and future generations, and are confident that working collaboratively in the best interests of the catchment will achieve the greatest outcomes for the catchment and the living relationships people enjoy with the catchment.

Service Agreements with Papatipu Rūnanga environmental advisory companies

Environment Canterbury has entered into service agreements with a number of Papatipu Rūnanga-owned environmental advisory companies. The purpose of these agreements is to provide a clear and consistent funding process that will enable the companies to provide well defined environmental services to Environment Canterbury for work within their rohe.

Māori Participation Policy

Environment Canterbury's Māori Participation Policy, part of the Long-Term Plan 2018-28, recognises that within the Canterbury region Ngāi Tahu is the tangata whenua. The Council seeks to build durable relationships with Māori (Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and Ngā Maata Waka) and give effect to the Council's obligations under the Treaty of Waitangi, Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998, Local Government Act 2002, and related obligations under the Resource Management Act 1991. Environment Canterbury continues to develop its relationship with all ten Papatipu Rūnanga in Canterbury and with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu – the iwi authority. In particular, the Māori Participation Policy recognises and respects the mana whenua (customary tribal authority) status of Ngāi Tahu Whānui set out in section 5 of the Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu Act 1996.

Other policies

Policies included in the Long-Term Plan 2018-28

Adopted 21 June 2018

- Revenue and Financing Policy
- Fees and Charges Policy
- Liability Management and Investment Policy
- Development of Financial Contributions Policy
- Policy on the Remissions and Postponement of Rates on Māori Freehold Land
- Rates Remission Policy
- Rates Postponement Policy
- Māori Participation Policy
- Significance and Engagement Policy

Other Environment Canterbury Policies

- Hearings Policy *2014*
- Privacy Policy
- Enforcement Policy *June 2019*
- Councillors' Expenses, Allowances and Reimbursement Policy *amended September 2019*
- Protected Disclosures Policy *2018*
- Reserves Policy

Staff policies

There are a number of policies and guidelines in place to set the expectations of how we want our staff to operate and to be managed. These provide a framework for consistency and include:

Recruitment Policy

The Local Government Act 2002 has provision for Councils to adopt a remuneration and employment policy. Environment Canterbury adopted a Recruitment Policy in December 2013. This was last reviewed in December 2016.

Environment Canterbury is committed to fair recruitment processes resulting in the employment of talented people who are the best fit for the role and complement the values of our organisation.

Equal Employment Opportunities

The Recruitment Policy covers Equal Employment Opportunities and ensures that employment-related decisions will be made so that people are treated fairly and without discrimination. The Human Rights Act 1991 prohibits discrimination on the grounds of:

- skin colour

- marital status
- race or ethnic background
- sexual orientation
- national origin
- disability
- sex
- religious or ethical beliefs
- age
- political opinion
- employment status
- family status

Areas where equal opportunity must exist are:

- appointments
- training and development
- conditions of employment
- promotion and transfers
- disciplinary action

The Chief Executive is the person responsible for the Equal Employment Opportunities (EEO) programme.

The Human Resources Manager is EEO coordinator responsible for the development and implementation of the programme which will be overviewed by the Director Finance and Corporate Services.

Processes for requests for official information

Under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA), any person may request information from the Council. Any request for information is made under LGOIMA. You do not have to say you are making a request under LGOIMA.

Once a request is made, the Council must supply the information unless reason exists for withholding it. The LGOIMA says that information may be withheld if release of the information would:

- Prejudice the maintenance of the law
- Endanger the safety of any person
- Compromise the privacy of any person
- Reveal confidential or commercially sensitive information
- Cause offence to tikanga Māori or disclose the location of wāhi tapu
- Prejudice health or safety
- Compromise legal professional privilege
- Disadvantage the local authority while carrying out negotiations or commercial activities
- Allow information to be used for improper gain or advantage

The Council must answer requests for information within 20 working days (although there are certain circumstances where this timeframe may be extended). The Council may charge for official information under guidelines set down by the Ministry of Justice.

In the first instance you should address requests for official information to the Chief Executive and to LGOIMA@ecan.govt.nz. There is also a request for information form available on the Environment Canterbury website.

Environment Canterbury publishes requests for information LGOIMA that are deemed to be in the public interest or relating to a subject that has been widely requested in its website. The LGOIMA response is published along with a summary of the request. Personal information is removed from the request and from the response.

Organisational structure

Executive Leadership Team

Stefanie Rixecker, Acting Chief Executive



Bill Bayfield, former Chief Executive

Bill Bayfield resigned from the role of Chief Executive with effect from 1 May 2020.

The Chief Executive implements and manages the Council's policies and objectives within the budgetary constraints established by the Council, supported by the Executive Leadership Team. This team includes a Chief Operating Officer and four Directors (introduced below).



Operations

Operations is headed by **Nadeine Dommissie** as the Chief Operating Officer. The Operations Group is the largest in the organisation, with about half the organisation's staff. It delivers the daily operations for public transport, together with a range of services delivered across the region including river engineering, land management advice, resource consents, compliance and enforcement activities, biodiversity, biosecurity, and the harbourmaster.



Nadeine is also the Director responsible for the Biodiversity & Biosecurity, Climate Change, Hazards, Risk and Resilience, and (jointly with Katherine Trought) Transport & Urban Development portfolios.

Strategy and Planning

Strategy and Planning is headed by **Katherine Trought**. The Group ensures the organisation has a clear strategic direction and robust Long-Term Plan by working with Council, staff and the community to understand the desired outcomes and to develop integrated work plans to deliver these. It is also responsible for creating a robust planning framework under the Resource Management Act and other legislation, for supporting the relationship with Ngāi Tahu, and working with Council on the development of submissions to Central Government proposals.



Katherine is also the Director responsible for the Regional Leadership and (jointly with Nadeine Dommissie) Transport & Urban Development portfolios.

Science

Stefanie Rixecker heads the Science Group and has led current the Science Strategy, integrating quality of science research and monitoring with communications and policy design. The Science Group provides data and interpretation to support the work of the water management zone committees and programmes of work being undertaken through the portfolios. Its work also supports informed decision-making by Council, as well as providing state of the environment reporting required by statute.



Stefanie is also the Director responsible for the Freshwater Management portfolio.

From 4 May 2020 Stefanie Rixecker was appointed Acting Chief Executive and Tim Davie, Chief Scientist, was appointed Acting Director of Science.

Tim Davie, Chief Scientist, was appointed Acting Director of Science, from 4 May 2020.



Communications and Engagement

The Communications and Engagement Group is led by **Tafflyn Bradford-James**. This Group primarily provides communications and engagement support for programmes of work being undertaken through the portfolios, enabling the organisation to reach the people who are required to take action under Environment Canterbury's plans, and to provide education and awareness material to support campaigns. The Group also supports engagement and formal consultation activity and provides media liaison.



Tafflyn is also the Director responsible for the Air Quality portfolio.

Finance and Corporate Services

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services is **Miles McConway**. The Finance and Corporate Services Group maintains the efficient and effective 'machinery' of the organisation, providing services internally to support all activity across the organisation. The Group covers the technologies used, financial management, project management tools, human resources, property management and business support functions, including the frontline customer services teams.



Senior Leadership Team

The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) is comprised of the section managers, zone managers and direct reports to Directors. These leaders collectively lead the delivery of the organisation's work programmes.