



Waitaki

DISTRICT COUNCIL
TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WAITAKI

AHURIRI COMMUNITY BOARD 10 YEAR PLAN

1 JULY 2018 – 30 JUNE 2028





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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this community board plan is to provide a vision for the Ahuriri Community Board over the next ten years. It will help guide Board decisions, action and future engagement with the community and Council.

BACKGROUND

Community workshops were held in Otematata, Omarama and Kurow in March 2018. Approximately 100 people attended the workshops which were run by an external facilitator. The purpose of the workshops was to give the community the chance to tell us their needs and aspirations and the findings have been used to develop this ten year plan.

This plan also incorporates feedback gained from community engagement undertaken as part of the District Plan review. Drop-in sessions were held in Ohau, Omarama, Otematata and Kurow in January 2019, and an online survey was developed for each of the townships.

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ROLE OF COMMUNITY BOARDS

The role of each community board includes:

- Representing and acting as an advocate for the interests of its community
- Considering and reporting on matters referred to it by the Council, or any matter of interest or concern to the community board
- Maintaining an overview of services provided by the Council within the community
- Preparing an annual submission to the Council for expenditure within the community
- Communicating with community organisations and special interest groups
- Undertaking any other responsibilities that are delegated to it by the council

Elected at the same time as Council, each community board consists of five members (including one councillor). Voters living in the Ahuriri Ward are able to vote for their community board members.

WAITAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL VISION

The projects identified in our community plan contribute to the District's vision to make 'WAITAKI – THE BEST PLACE TO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY'.

They support the district's community outcomes of:

- We enable opportunities for new and existing businesses
- We provide and enable services and facilities so people want to stay and move here
- We maintain the safest community we can
- We keep our district affordable
- We understand the diverse needs of our community
- Waitaki's distinctive environment is valued and protected.

AHURIRI COMMUNITY BOARD KEY FOCUS AREAS

Area of focus	What do we want to achieve?	What will the Community Board do?	Timeframe
Grass mowing	Township amenity improvements	Advocate on behalf of community by lodging a submission to Council as part of the 2019/20 Annual Plan engagement to ensure that the community's views are considered when decisions are made about frequency of mowing. Encourage community to lodge CRMs with Council when issues arise.	2019/20 Annual Plan submission lodged by 30 April 2019
Promotion of the Ahuriri ward to attract visitors to the area	Enhance economic development opportunities	Write to Tourism Waitaki requesting they undertake a tourism strategy for the Ahuriri ward	Letter to Tourism Waitaki before 30 June 2019
Improve and upgrade core services in all towns Roads, rubbish, footpaths, solid waste collection and disposal; natural hazards; libraries, museums, reserves and other recreation facilities	Improving infrastructure for community and visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote use of the Waitaki District Council Customer Request Management system to the community (to encourage residents to lodge their own request with Council) Lodge a submission to the 2019/20 Annual Plan requesting a reduction in the green waste tipping fee 	2019/20 Annual Plan submission lodged by 30 April 2019
Long term town planning for Omarama and Otematata <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan the town centres for efficient provision of parking, toilets etc. Make more land available for growth – free up land Rezone land to cater for future growth options 	Planning to provide for growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Council on developing masterplans for Omarama and Otematata which will feed into the Waitaki District Plan review process. The Board has secured funding for this process (\$20,000 for each town). Participate in the Waitaki District Plan review 	<p>Consultation with the community on the masterplans will be undertaken in July/August 2019.</p> <p>Masterplans to be completed before the end of 2019.</p> <p>A draft District Plan will be released early 2020 for consultation and the proposed District Plan will be publicly notified late 2020.</p>

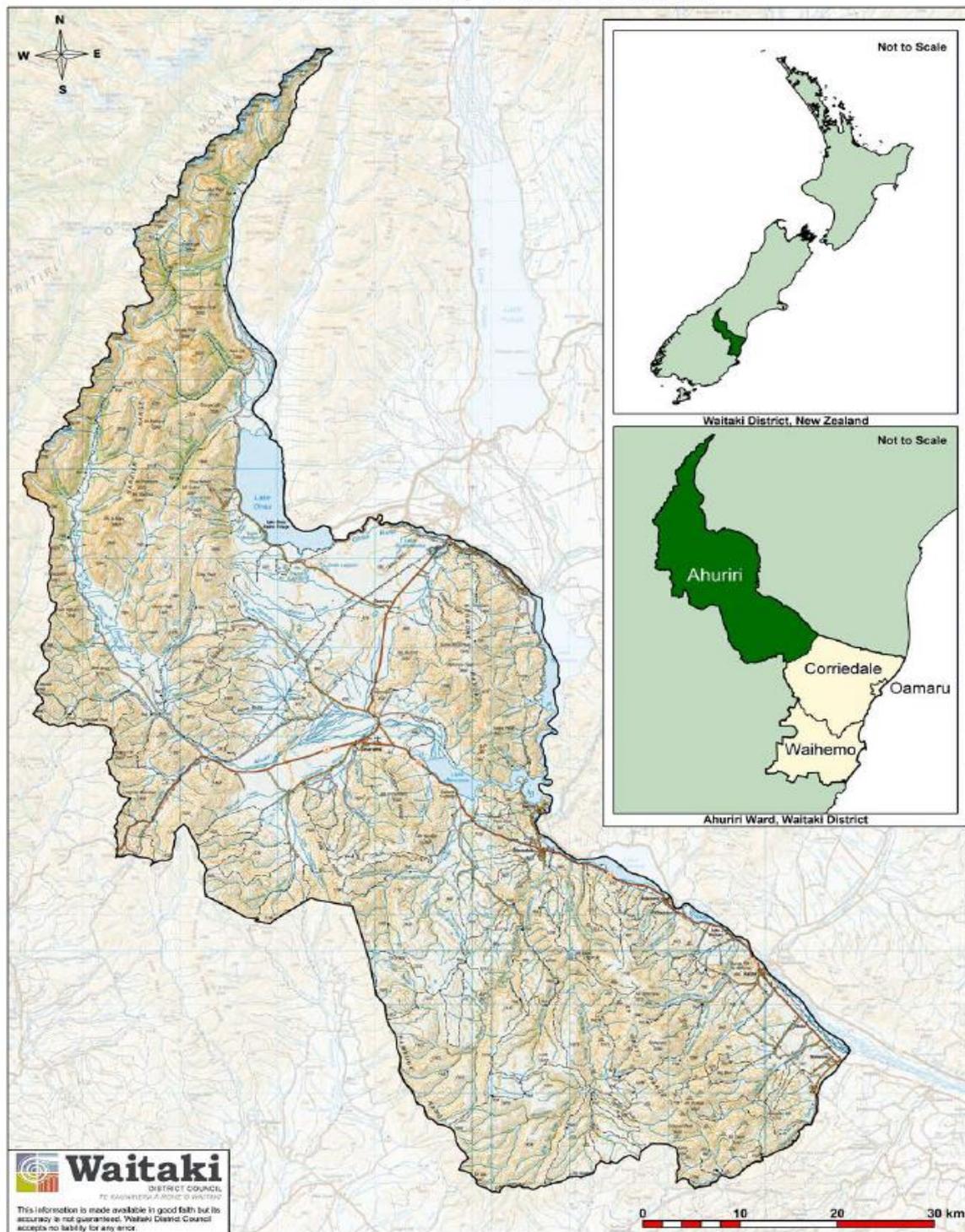
Area of focus	What do we want to achieve?	What will the Community Board do?	Timeframe
Manage growth – Ohau <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tight building criteria – tighter parameters to ensure sensitive buildings that fit in the landscape – but not uniformity • Environmentally sustainable buildings e.g. grey water use, rain water collection, energy efficiency 	Planning to provide for growth	Participate in the Waitaki District Plan review	A draft District Plan will be released early 2020 for consultation and the proposed District Plan will be publicly notified late 2020.
Plan what we want Kurow to look like in the future: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New industrial area • Rezone racecourse for residential – extend Freyberg Ave (for 50 year plan) • Rezone reserves for building? 	Planning to provide for growth	Participate in the Waitaki District Plan review	A draft District Plan will be released early 2020 for consultation and the proposed District Plan will be publicly notified late 2020.
Improved lakes access and parking – needs to be easy/ safe to get in and out in all conditions	Maintaining and enhancing community amenity and safety	Continue to advocate on behalf of the community to Council	On-going

Area of focus	What do we want to achieve?	What will the Community Board do?	Timeframe
Road safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • speed limits in the townships to be reduced • pedestrian safety to be increased • rubbish on side of road 	Improve road safety and amenity	Write a letter to Waitaki District Council's roading manger to advocate on behalf of community to the New Zealand Transport Agency for improved road safety. The request is to include a workshop to be held with New Zealand Transport Agency, Waitaki District Council staff and the Community Board. ¹	Submit a letter to Waitaki District Council before 30 June 2019
Communication between Council, Community Board and Community	Improve the communication channels for two-way communication	<p>Maintain a Community Board Plan that will set out priority actions for the Ahuriri Community Board based on the aspirations of the Ahuriri Community.</p> <p>Request the Waitaki District Council to carry more information about the actions and decisions made by the Ahuriri Community Board on the Waitaki District Council website (including a "have your say" page).</p>	<p>The 10 year plan will be updated annually.</p> <p>Changes made to the Waitaki District Council website by 30 June 2019</p>

Community profile

Ahuriri Ward has a population of 1,310 people.² In Ahuriri 26% of the population is aged over 65 years which is higher than the national average (at 15%).

Ahuriri Ward, Waitaki District



² Stats NZ Dataset: Subnational population estimates (TA, ward), by age and sex, at 30 June 2013-17 (2017 boundaries).

Appendix 1 - What the community told us (Comments received from individuals)

Recreation and Environment:

- Ohau:
 - Outstanding natural landscape (and biodiversity and tussock) requires protection from farm and building development
 - Add the Lake Ohau Basin to the Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve – the Ohau Basin is part of the wider Mackenzie Basin and it would be better for reserve to follow natural boundaries instead of organisational boundaries
 - Manage freedom camping sites and increase in visitors by providing waste facilities, toilets and scenic pull-over areas for photo opportunities (Ohau)
- Omarama:
 - Lighting - want to reduce lighting for the night sky
 - The location of Omarama lends itself well as a great stopover point. I'd like to see many more trees and gardens planted roadside in the immediate future to make the town more attractive, this planting should extend right out to Prohibition Road forming a clear town boundary and linking back to SH8. A cycle / walking track should be incorporated around the same loop linking with the A2O giving locals and tourists a safe area to walk and cycle
- Omarama - Ohau:
 - Freedom campers polluting river; need better signage
 - Protect our water as well as landscape
 - Threats – Hieracium, rabbits, erosion
- Concern about future river floods and impact on adjoining camp and boat harbour (Otematata)
- Otiake Creek needs maintenance to avoid flooding at bridge
- Otematata – attract winter visitors with events; stimulate economic development by providing visitor experience; bring A2O trail off road into Otematata; enhance entrance and exit to town
- Kurow:
 - Low level of maintenance for the township, with lawns not regularly mowed and drainages areas not cleared. Particular areas of concern include culvert beside church and drain by Freyburg Street. Very slow response time from council - suggest village person does maintenance rather than a contractor
 - Issues with the lack of cleaning of the culvert and increasing flood issues
 - Trees planted as a memorial and have died and been removed by council in the past. Council has stopped irrigation and contractor mowed piping and more trees died. Need replanting, protection as memorial trees and watering
 - The reserve land is a disgusting mess. It looks terrible when people come into the town. They can't be used for recreation or walking on or parking as the grass is so long and some should be put into housing so that the rest could be better looked after

Infrastructure:

- Omarama:
 - Toilets inadequate for level of use
 - Lack of public car parks - far more need to be available further down SH 83, with an adjacent toilet block. More public toilets maybe next to the Community Hall

- A cycle-lane should be provided along the hotel side and a bridge over the Ahuriri River for cyclists
- Urban environment needs more care and maintenance. Bins need to be emptied, paths need repair, toilets need an upgrade, better recreational facilities and kids playgrounds. More parking needed for larger vehicles (motorhomes). Dangerous intersection
- Utilise ex rabbit board land for a new business/retail space with car parking etc.
- Otematata - Infrastructure not good enough to support growth:
 - Rubbish collection/ recycling. Potential to be leaders
 - Roothing and footpaths
 - Lighting
 - No toilet facilities on main road
 - Zoning for future growth (Otematata): Commercial, residential and rural residential, more land available for sections, more flexibility with land development, more commercial development, develop a framework for growth/ development to bring in more families and commercial development
- People ashamed of untidiness in town (Kurow-Duntroon)
- Is there a place for Kurow to grow? – no land for industry (all residential)
- Omarama-Ohau:
 - More plantings
 - Appealing, not all native
 - Shelter and shade in a warming climate

Infrastructure – Roads/Footpaths:

- Review the speed limits on State Highways through towns
- Omarama
 - Need better footpaths
 - Footpaths in town are not safe kids walk through two petrol stations to get to school
- Kurow- Duntroon:
 - No decent footpaths along main road
 - Duntroon has only one footpath – need provision for wheelchair users
 - No pedestrian crossings
 - Existing footpaths dangerous and gutters need repair
 - Put in the flashing speed limit signs at entry areas to Kurow along Bledisloe Road. The traffic through the main street can be travelling at much too higher speeds
 - Footpaths are needed on Gordon Street so people don't need to walk on the road
You can't get off the road because of long grass
 - Helipad for emergency services in Kurow

Infrastructure – Waste management and Sewerage:

- Omarama:
 - Not enough rubbish bins in town
 - Dump station needs to be bigger
 - Rubbish – more rubbish bins and recycle bins required. We often pick up such rubbish and bottles from the roadside, streets and walkways. Look at Mossburn township as an example of a good bin system
- Otematata:
 - Provide more flexibility in rubbish disposal for holidaymakers
 - Better waste removal
 - Recycling container available outside of dump hours
 - Recycling bins - to fence ASAP

Infrastructure – Water:

- Poor quality drinking water (Omarama)
- Water supply options (Omarama- Ohau) – water treatment plan. Improve quality of drinking water
- Water pressure review (Otematata) – carry out a pressure review. Improve water pressure
- Ohau:
 - Trying to keep our water supply as good as it always has been and not having to spend a million \$ to upgrade a system that is not actually broken
 - Drinking Water Debate
 - Water supply upgrade
 - Provide a reasonable and affordable water supply
 - Convince Council to provide water that is not chlorinated
 - Water scheme to conform to national standards

Other:

- Feel that Council is spending money on Oamaru projects and not on things that need doing here (Oamaru-centric) (Duntroon- Kurow)
- Use rates from our areas mainly in our areas (Kurow)
- Develop a strategy for halls - What do we do about growing maintenance on halls not being used?
- Otematata:
 - Too costly rates for pitiful services offered
 - For the amount of rates that the council have gathered in comparison to the amount of expenditure on infrastructure this township should be among the wealthiest in the country