

Waitaki District Council  
Oamaru Ward  
Electing 6 Councillors

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**Garry DODD**

My principal place of residence is not in the Oamaru Ward area.

I started involvement in local organisations as a single young farmer with Young Farmers, now with kids the age I was then, I have again gotten involved with local organisations, most recently

as President of the Palmerston & Waihemo A & P Association and now Past President.

Thinking about past and recent experiences I am taken aback at the directionless attitude of our council toward any corner of Waitaki district that doesn't involve Oamaru and its immediate surrounds and have become outspoken around local politics.

We are seeing vast sums of money flowing into the economic development of Oamaru. An Oamaru-centric approach has created an Oamaru District Council mentality, in both council and the town itself. I wonder, how valued are ratepayers on the fringes of Waitaki district? Where is the economic development for our smaller towns? I have been asked to put my money where my mouth is.

Here goes.