

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Adopted by council on the 28th October 2020

(Name of individual Committee) Catchment Liaison Committee

Reporting to

The Community

The Regional Services Committee, Southland Regional Council (or “the Council)

Objective

To be a connection between the catchment community, its rating district and the Council to effectively manage the catchment’s natural resources, and assist the Council to maintain better communications.

Catchment Liaison Committees role:

1. be an advisory group that provides a leadership role in integrated catchment management, developing and supporting projects with agreed principles and structures through which competing interests in natural resources can be discussed.

areas of opportunity are in: water quality and quantity, soil health, river management, land drainage, land management that affects water and flood planning;

2. report to the Council on project initiatives and budgets for projects and maintenance works, including advice on the financial overview of budgets and reserves;
3. make recommendations on behalf of the community to maintain and improve the state and management of the catchment and its environment, with any decisions resting with the Regional Council in terms of its statutory obligations;
4. provide advice to the Council on behalf of the rating district for the annual work programme for these projects, including long-term work programmes, maintenance works, river and flood planning and special projects;
5. provide advice to the Council on the development of any plan or strategy in their catchment;
6. reflect the opinion of the whole catchment, complaints or other matters relating to individual ratepayers must be redirected to the Council.

Standard operating Procedures

Membership

Public membership is limited to ratepayers including lessees (or their representative) who own land within the Catchment. Membership of Industry, Non-Government-Organisations's and Government Organisations that do not own land in the catchment is limited to scope of work.

A Sub-Committee or Technical Advisory group may be appointed at the AGM to deal with specific matters and feedback on financial expenditure when required.

The larger membership and the Sub-Committee/Technical advisory group have the ability to co-opt and are generally open to any ratepayer.

Representation from interest groups and industry groups where appropriate.

Environment Southland will appoint its own representative with the agreement from the committee.

Appointment process

Nominations are to be sought at the Annual General Meeting.

Key considerations will be ensuring Committee interest and geographic balance to enable productive dialogue to occur.

Each committee member reflects the interests of a wider group within the community and preferably have the skills, experience and knowledge to relay information between the (catchment name) committee and different sectors within the community.

Governance

Chairperson

The group will select a Chair and/or Co-Chairs from amongst its members. The Chair will ensure a fair and equitable group process and be responsible for fostering an atmosphere of respect, open mindedness and group learning.

Quorum

A quorum shall include the Chair or Deputy Chair and a total of at least 3 normal committee members. The size of each quorum can change at an Annual General Meeting, on November 1 2020 the following applies;

Aparima Catchment Liaison Committee – 6
Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee – 4
Mataura Catchment Liaison Committee – 3
Makarewa Catchment Liaison Committee – 3
Te Anau Catchment Liaison Committee – 3
Waiau Catchment Liaison Committee – 5
Waimatuku Catchment Liaison Committee – 3
Waituna Liaison Committee - 3

Meeting Frequency

Meet with the relevant Environment Southland staff and/or Councillors when necessary with one Annual General Meeting and workshops and additional meetings as required.

The Chair and/or Co-Chairs will represent their committee at combined liaison meetings and workshops.

Collaborative Decision-making

A credible commitment to the collaborative decision making process by the individuals and organisations involved is required. Decisions will be based on majority voting but consensus should be sought where possible, with the Chair/Co Chairs holding a casting vote.

Principles of Participation

All members of the committee agree to participate in the following ways:

- contributions are made without prejudice – i.e. nothing said within the group may be used in subsequent planning or legal processes except for any recommendations or agreements reached by the group;
- members to show respect for others views and avoid promoting discord within the group;
- any public statements by the group are to be agreed by the group and made through an agreed spokesperson;
- members of the group are expected to support decisions and recommendations reached by consensus by the group in subsequent public discussions;
- the Chair is responsible for fostering the principles of participation and is expected to be respected as a leader in their role.