

Our Ref: A1023655

28 July 2017

Mr Glyn Lewers
Chairman
Frankton Community Association

franktoncommunity@gmail.com

Dear Mr Lewers

2017/18 Annual Plan

Thank you for your submission on our consultation document for our annual plan. Council has considered your submission and has made the following comments;

Civil defence and emergency management

Council has confirmed that civil defence and emergency management will be funded by a uniform targeted rate of approximately \$25.86 per property. This means that everyone in Otago will pay the same amount for civil defence and emergency management, regardless of the value of their property. Council considers that this activity is firstly about people, and that the nature and value of a property is not the key basis for which services are provided.

Public transport in the Wakatipu Basin

Council has confirmed that the subsidy for public transport in the Wakatipu Basin will increase to \$600,000 in 2017/18 to provide for contracting out bus services where previously, commercial bus services have been running. This change follows a network review where it was agreed with the New Zealand Transport Agency and Queenstown Lakes District Council that an integrated approach to the transport issues in this area was needed.

As a result of subsidising bus service, we are able to trial a \$2 bus fare for those using a GoCard, and there will be some changes to routes, timetables and improved frequencies. Along with ORC targeted rates and New Zealand Transport Agency grants, Queenstown Lakes District Council will also contribute funding to assist the introduction of a \$2 fare.

It is also noted that the targeted rating area for public transport will be extended to include Jacks Point, as bus services are extending out to this area.

You commented that we have a surplus of \$1.3 million for transport in our funding statement. This is in fact a deficit in funding, and relates in part to the purchase and implementation of a national ticketing system and implementing a new Real Time Tracking system for both Queenstown and Dunedin.

Queenstown office

Council has decided that it will open an office in Queenstown during the 2017/18 year. Office space will be leased and will include having customer services, consents, and environmental compliance staff there. This will give ORC a better presence in this area, and the community better access to staff. The office will likely be located in the Frankton area.

Lake Snow

Council has confirmed that \$100,000 will be provided in 2017/18 towards research on lake snow.

Lake restoration scoping works

Council's proposal to work with local communities on technical options for Lake Hayes, and on setting environmental visions and plans for Lake Tuakitoto and Tomahawk Lagoon has been confirmed for the 2017/18 year.

Dunedin head office

With respect to the Dunedin head office, Council notes that the building will be consulted on separately once a build option is scoped and costed. Consultation will include options (build, lease, remodel existing site) along with the pro's and con's of each, so an informed decision can be made. Funding in 2017/18 is to complete the design / scoping work to inform the consultation only.

Wilding tree control

Following submissions received, Council has decided to double the contribution made by the Otago Regional Council from \$100,000 to \$200,000 for wilding tree control. This will result in a targeted rate per household of \$2.12, compared to \$1.07 in 2016/17. The full amount collected is to be distributed equally between Central Otago and Queenstown Lakes.

Lagarosiphon

While ORC is not responsible for controlling this weed, Council has decided to provide \$25,000 of funding to LINZ, to assist work being undertaken to reduce the risk of transferring the weed into high value water bodies, in accordance with the pathway management plan for Lake Dunstan. This will be funded from general rates.

Pests

Your comments about pests are noted. We advise that a review of the Pest Management Plan for Otago is planned for the 2017/18 year, and that issues raised will be considered as part of that review.

Flood protection and control works

You suggested that the Shotover flood protection rating area be extended to include Jacks Point / Hanley Farm residential area. We will be undertaking a full review of our Revenue Policy, which considers who benefits from our activities and how they should be paid for, as part of our 2018-28 Long Term Plan process. Consideration will be given to this scheme.

Thank you for your input into our planning process. If you would like to receive a copy of the 2017/18 Annual Plan, it can be found on our website at www.orc.govt.nz, or alternatively a copy can be sent to you when available by phoning (03) 474 0827 or emailing annual.plan@orc.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'S. Bodeker', written in dark ink.

Sharon Bodeker
Manager Projects