

Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū
Banks Peninsula Community Board
MINUTES ATTACHMENTS

Date: Monday 7 July 2025
Time: 10 am
Venue: Akaroa Boardroom, 78 Rue Lavaud Akaroa

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Improving Public Consultation BP Community Board, July 7 2025 ; comments Victoria Andrews
CCC appears to maintain its 'one size fits all' approach with regard to consultation.
However

- Akaroa and The Bays are a rural, isolated and remote community of interest (unlike urban Halswell, Hornby and Merivale).
- Akaroa is positioned between steep hills and a beautiful harbour leaving little land for development and/or community use in the township.
- Climate change, sea level rise and torrential rain have impacted the area in recent years; the situation will only intensify.
- The community values the town's unique and historic setting and is grateful for the Akaroa Health Hub, Volunteer Fire Brigade and community services inclusive of the Akaroa School and Community Library and Service Centre (however, opening hours were greatly reduced in 2021 because the Council viewed it as being underutilized - things have changed since then).

Council consultation often lacks an understanding of these fundamental realities, in my view.
Residents in Akaroa tend to remain firmly in place, for generations, as councils come and go.

Successful consultation was witnessed at the Emergency Response Plan (2pm at The Gaiety, May 25). The Gaiety was completely full with residents who listened to a well formatted program overseen by local resident Harry Stronach and well chaired by Dr.David Miller.
David treated everyone fairly in a courteous and considerate manner and questions were overseen with respect and diplomacy.

Improved consultation is an important element in gaining the trust and confidence of the community.

Open public meetings and workshops that do not allow questions sends a negative signal, in my view, and presents the appearance of controlling a specific narrative.
Detailed Information is best shared with members of the public prior to meetings rather than being presented midway through the session when participants do not have time to read or digest the content.

Consultation is a two way street which requires trust and confidence from all parties involved.
In addition, information must be accurate without prejudice.

To successfully engage the community, meetings and/or workshops should take place over a weekend when holiday homeowners as well as working individuals with families are available to participate.
Otherwise poor scheduling could be seen as intending to reduce the level of public participation.

Some residents have lost confidence in Christchurch City Council after participating in numerous rounds of consultation (examples: the Akaroa Wastewater Treatment Proposal, Akaroa Wharf Redevelopment and the BP Destination Management Plan).

Few bother to respond now because the common belief is that the Council will do whatever it wants so why waste the time and effort.

My suggestion is the Council needs to alter its priorities to ensure the community's long term wellbeing with an emphasis on changing weather patterns and rising sea levels. Economic gain is a secondary. If you don't have an active community base of children, working young adults and retirees then you have misunderstood and neglected the purpose of local government, in my view.

City, district, and regional councils are governed by representatives elected by you and your community. They're responsible for making decisions about local or regional activity to ensure a healthy environment, thriving families and businesses, safe spaces for all and a culture that supports every individual's sense of belonging.

Local government is all about community. It's about ensuring that the needs and wants of you, your family/whānau and the people in your region/rohe are heard and considered when decisions are made — whether that's in community discussions, the council chamber or the highest levels of central government. (www.lgnz.co.nz/local-government-in-nz/local-government-explained)

Coastal flooding during a '1 in 100 year' (rare) storm event with 40cm of sea level rise



Flood depth:

- 10 - 20cm
- 20 - 50cm
- 50cm - 1m
- 1m - 2m
- 2m +

Courtesy Christchurch City Council June 2025

Coastal flooding during a '1 in 100 year' (rare) storm at current sea level

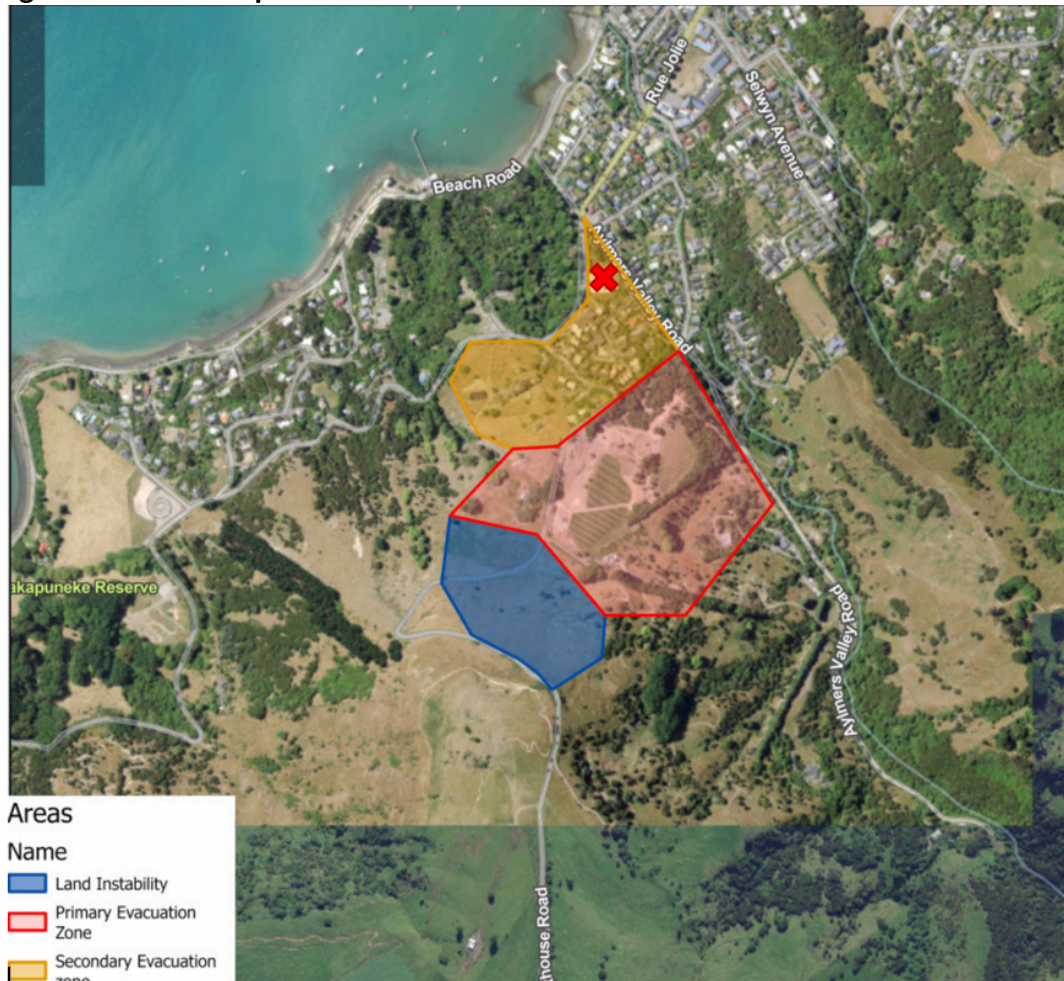


Flood depth:



Courtesy Christchurch City Council June 2025

Lighthouse Road Slip



Courtesy Christchurch City Council, May 3 2025 (The **X** marks the location of the Akaroa Health Hub)



Akaroa and The Bays are an isolated community of interest - Highway 75, April 19, 2014