



Workshop - Council NOTES

Date: Tuesday 16 September 2025
Time: 9.34 am
Venue: Camellia Chambers, Level 2, Civic Offices,
53 Hereford Street, Christchurch

Present

Chairperson	Mayor Phil Mauger
Deputy Chairperson	Deputy Mayor Pauline Cotter
Members	Councillor Kelly Barber
	Councillor Melanie Coker
	Councillor Celeste Donovan (via AV)
	Councillor Tyrone Fields
	Councillor Tyla Harrison-Hunt
	Councillor Victoria Henstock
	Councillor Yani Johanson
	Councillor Aaron Keown
	Councillor Jake McLellan
	Councillor Andrei Moore
	Councillor Mark Peters
	Councillor Sara Templeton

Principal Advisor

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There will be no public admittance into the meeting room. The open session will be recorded and published online.

Note: This forum has no decision-making powers and is purely for information sharing.

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<https://www.ccc.govt.nz/the-council/meetings-agendas-and-minutes/>



The agenda was dealt with in the following order.

1. Apologies Ngā Whakapāha

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor MacDonald and Councillor Gough.

An apology for late arrival was received from Councillor McLellan.

Councillor Donovan joined the workshop at 9:37am during Item 2 – Underground Assets Register.

2. Underground Assets Register

Presented by Richard Wesley – Principal Advisor PMO

Staff presented the Council's current and developing technology solutions for enhancing visibility and coordination of capital projects and underground assets.

Key discussions:

- An overview of the Digital Built Aotearoa Foundation platform was provided, highlighting its mission to foster collaboration and knowledge sharing to enhance infrastructure resilience across New Zealand. The benefits of data sharing were also emphasised.
- The National Forward Works Viewer platform, currently in use at Council, was presented along with its features. It offers a comprehensive overview of upcoming works and facilitates coordination among agencies and organisations. Council leverages this tool to align infrastructure and capital works citywide. A new feature, *Transport Disruption Assessment*, piloted in Auckland, allows users to assess project boundaries and potential disruptions, enabling collaboration with the relevant local Road Controlling Authority (RCA).
- The Underground Assets Register (UAR) was presented to Council for proposed adoption. As New Zealand's first national online map of underground assets, the UAR aims to consolidate this information into a single, accessible platform, enhancing the visibility and management of underground infrastructure.
- Staff noted that data from the platforms can be leveraged to standardise and centralise project information, enhancing stakeholder collaboration through improved sharing, planning, and coordination. It can also facilitate public access to relevant information.

Attachments

A Underground Assets Register - Presentation  

3. Lake Waiwera Lake Level Management

Presented by Paul Devlin – Acting Manager Regional Parks, Tim Drennan – Manager Service Excellence, Iaeen Cranwell – Wairewa Rūnanga, and Wayne Alexander – Waters Agency Ltd

Staff, representative from Wairewa Rūnanga, and representative from Waters Agency Ltd, presented on the collaborative partnership between Council, Wairewa Rūnanga, and Environment Canterbury (ECan) for managing lake levels to support improved water quality and biodiversity outcomes for Lake Wairewa.

Key discussions:

- The current manual procedures for opening and closing the Wairewa River to facilitate drainage and mitigate flood risk were presented and were noted to be costly and involved significant operational hazards.
- The presenters introduced a new innovative infrastructure design aimed at mitigating risk and improving consistency in lake levels. Successful implementation is expected to lower both operational costs and associated risks, particularly Health and Safety concerns operating in a high-risk environment.
- The group aimed to seek feedback from the Council for exploring funding opportunities to progress this partnership development. This information will be provided back to the Council to consider for the 2026/27 Annual Plan.

Attachments

- A Wairewa Rūnanga CCC - Presentation 

The workshop was adjourned at 10:47am and reconvened at 11:06am.

Councillor McLellan and Councillor Johanson joined the workshop at 11:07am during Item 4 – Findings from the latest survey on the Central City.

4. Findings from the latest survey on the Central City


Presented by Aimee Martin – Senior Research Analyst, Adelaine Hansson – Research Analyst

Staff presented an overview of the latest Central City survey findings and confirmed that the results will be published on the Council's website.

Key discussions:

- The survey conducted in February 2025 received 3,759 responses.
- Key findings related to the Central City—covering perceptions of positivity, appearance, pride, liveability, housing, visitation, offerings, safety, and priorities—were presented.
- A separate housing-focused survey had recently closed, with results to be reported to the Council.

Attachments

- A Findings - Survey on Life in Christchurch Central City 2025 - Presentation 

Councillor Harrison-Hunt joined the workshop at 11:30am during Item 5 – Central City Regeneration and Central City Business Association Annual Updates.

5. Central City Regeneration and Central City Business Association: Annual Updates



Presented by Robbie Schmidt – Assistant Planner, Urban Regeneration, and Paul Lonsdale – Manager, Central City Business Association

Presenters provided the annual updates on Central City Regeneration initiatives and Central City Business Association activities.

Key discussions:

- An update was presented on the Central City Regeneration progress for the year ending 30 June 2025, highlighting key statistics, project milestones, and economic commentary. The presentation covered StatsNZ estimates on workforce and population growth, housing development, city vacancy rates, improvements to vacant land, and the influence of national economic trends on local spending.
- An update was provided on the Central City Business Association's (CCBA) activities in supporting and advocating for the Central City business community during the year ending 30 June 2025, along with its work programme for 2025/26. The CCBA Safety Team continued to operate effectively and was well-regarded by local businesses.

Attachments

- A Central City Regeneration Annual Update - Presentation 
- B Central City Business Association Annual Update - Presentation 

6. Council Submission: Local Government Commission Standardised Code of Conduct


Presented by Helen White – General Counsel/ Director of Legal & Democratic Services

Staff presented an overview of the Council's proposed submission on the Local Government Commission's Standardised Code of Conduct, highlighting key differences between the proposed standardised Code and the Council's existing Code of Conduct.

Key discussions:

- The draft Standardised Code aims to: prioritise constructive and proactive dispute resolution; enable early resolution pathways for complaints; assign complaint handling primarily to independent external investigators; balance natural justice with complainant safety; uphold public interest and elected member accountability while respecting privacy rights under the Privacy Act; reconcile freedom of expression with responsible use; minimise the role of Chief Executives in the process; and allow members of the public to lodge complaints.
- The draft Standardised Code does not include provisions for penalties or sanctions, regulation of staff behaviour, disqualification from office as a potential penalty, or the creation of offences.
- The draft submission will be considered for feedback at the Council meeting on 17 September 2025. Subject to approval, the Chief Executive will make any necessary amendments and lodge the submission with the Commission by the due date of 26 September 2025. The Local Government Commission is expected to deliver the Standardised Code to the Minister for Local Government by 20 December 2025.

Attachments

- A Council Submissions - LGC - Code of Conduct Presentation 

Meeting concluded at 12:15pm.