



TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O
ŌTOROHANGA
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Open Agenda

Ōtorohanga Community Board

2 February 2026

Ōtorohanga Community Board

Notice is hereby given that an ordinary meeting of the Ōtorohanga Community Board will be held in Waikowhitiwhiti (Council Chambers), Ōtorohanga District Council, 17 Maniapoto Street, Ōtorohanga on Monday, 2 February 2026 commencing at 4.00pm.

Tanya Winter, Chief Executive

21 January 2026

Ōtorohanga Community Board membership

Chairperson	Bronwyn Tubman
Deputy Chairperson	Craig Thomas
Board Member and Ōtorohanga Ward Councillor	Tayla Barclay
Board Member, Ōtorohanga Ward Councillor and Deputy Mayor	Katrina Christison
Board Member	Leanne Massey
Board Member	Brendon McNeil

Disclaimer

All attendees at this meeting are advised that the meeting will be electronically recorded (audio and video) for the purpose of webcasting to ŌDC's YouTube channel. Attendees are advised they may be recorded as part of the general meeting proceedings.

Public forum

The purpose of the forum is to provide an opportunity at the start of all ordinary public meetings of the Board, for members of the community to speak to their elected members. This reflects the Board's desire to encourage public participation in decision-making.

To speak at the forum please use the [online form](#) on our website. Alternatively, please contact our Customer Experience team on 07 873 4000.

Role of the Ōtorohanga Community Board

The Ōtorohanga Community Board (the Board) is a separate entity to Ōtorohanga District Council (the Mayor and Councillors). The role of a community board is set out in Section 52 of the Local Government Act 2002 and is summarised below.

1. Represent, and act as an advocate for, the interests of the Ōtorohanga township community.
2. Consider and report on all matters referred to it by Ōtorohanga District Council, or any matter of interest or concern to the Board.
3. Maintain an overview of services provided by Ōtorohanga District Council within the Ōtorohanga township community.
4. Prepare an annual submission to Long Term Plan or Annual Plan for expenditure within the community.
5. Communicate with community organisations and special interests' groups within the Ōtorohanga township community.
6. Undertake any other responsibilities that are delegated to it by Ōtorohanga District Council.

Delegations by Ōtorohanga District Council

Ōtorohanga District Council is authorised to delegate powers to the Board and has made the following specific delegations to be exercised in accordance with Council policy.

Power to act – Reserve Funds

Full decision-making authority on the use of Reserve Funds in accordance with Council policy for:

1. Ōtorohanga General Reserve Fund.
2. Ōtorohanga Community Board Property Development Fund.

Power to act – Discretionary Fund

Full decision-making authority on the use of the Board's discretionary fund in accordance with Council policy.

Power to recommend – Long Term Plan/Annual Plan/Policy issues

Authority to make a submission to the Long Term Plan/Annual Plan process on activities, service levels and expenditure (including capital works priorities) with the Board's area or to make a submission in relation to any policy matter which may have an effect with the Board's area.

Power to recommend – Advocacy/Submission to other agencies

Authority to recommend to the Council on inclusions to submissions/advocacy to external organisations.

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There are no reports.		

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Public excluded**Take matatapu****Page #**

There are no reports.

Closing formalities**Nga tikanga whakakapi****Page #**

Closing prayer/reflection/words of wisdom

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Meeting closure

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Workshops**Hui awheawhe****Status**

Item 1 Rotary Park and Bob Horsfall Reserve

Open

Item 2 Monthly discussion on items raised in public forum or outstanding matters.

Open

This Open Agenda was prepared by Manager Governance, Kaia King and approved for distribution by Group Manager Engineering & Assets, Mark Lewis on 21 January 2026.

Commencement of meeting**Te tīmatanga o te hui**

The meeting Chairperson will confirm the livestream to YouTube is active then declare the meeting open.

Opening prayer/reflection/words of wisdom**Karakia/huitao/whakataukī**

The Chairperson will invite a Board Member to provide opening words and/or a prayer or karakia.

Apologies**Ngā hōnea**

A Board Member who does not have a leave of absence may tender an apology should they be absent from all or part of a meeting. The meeting may accept or decline any apologies. For clarification, the acceptance of a Board Members apology constitutes a grant of “leave of absence” for that specific meeting(s).

Should an apology be received, the following is recommended: *That the Ōtorohanga Community Board receive and accept the apology from _____ for _____ (late arrival, early departure, non-attendance).*

Public forum**Hui tūmatanui**

Public forums are designed to enable members of the public to bring matters, not necessarily on the meeting’s agenda, to the attention of Council. Requests to attend the public forum must be made to on the form available on Council’s website: otodc.govt.nz/about-council/meetings/speak-at-public-forum. Alternatively, please call Council’s Customer Experience team on 07 873 4000.

Speakers can speak for up to five (5) minutes. No more than two speakers can speak on behalf of an organisation during a public forum. At the conclusion of the presentation, elected members may ask questions of speakers. Questions are to be confined to obtaining information or clarification on matters raised by a speaker. Following the public forum, no debates or decisions will be made during the meeting on issues raised in the forum unless related to items already on the agenda.

Late items**Ngā take tōmuri**

Items not on the agenda for the meeting require a resolution under section 46A of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 stating the reasons why the item was not on the agenda and why it cannot be dealt with at a subsequent meeting on the basis of a full agenda item.

It is important to note that late items can only be dealt with when special circumstances exist and not as a means of avoiding or frustrating the requirements in the Act relating to notice, agendas, agenda format and content.

Should a late item be raised, the following recommendation is made: *That Ōtorohanga Community Board accept the late item _____ due to _____ to be heard _____.*

Declaration of a conflict of interest

Te whakapuakanga pānga taharua

Members are reminded to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected member and any private or external interest they may have.

A conflict can exist where:

- The interest or relationship means you are biased; and/or
- Someone looking in from the outside could have reasonable grounds to think you might be biased.

Should any conflicts be declared, the following recommendation is made: That Ōtorohanga Community Board receive the declaration of a conflict of interest from _____ for item _____ and direct the conflict to be recorded in Ōtorohanga District Council's Conflicts of Interest Register.

Confirmation of minutes

Te whakaū i nga meneti

The unconfirmed Open Minutes of the previous meeting are attached on the following page.

Staff recommendation

That the Ōtorohanga Community Board confirm as a true and correct record of the meeting, the Open Minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2025 as distributed.



TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O
ŌTOROHANGA
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Open Minutes

ŌTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD

1 December 2025

Open Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Ōtorohanga Community Board held in Waikōwhitiwhiti (Council Chambers), Ōtorohanga District Council, 17 Maniapoto Street, Ōtorohanga on Monday, 1 December 2025 commencing at 4.00pm.

Tanya Winter, Chief Executive

14 January 2026

Ōtorohanga Community Board attendance

Chairperson	Bronwyn Tubman	Attended
Deputy Chairperson	Craig Thomas	Attended
Board Member and Ōtorohanga Ward Councillor	Tayla Barclay	Attended
Board Member and Ōtorohanga Ward Councillor	Deputy Mayor Dow Katrina Christison	Attended
Board Member	Leanne Massey	Attended
Board Member	Brendon McNeil	Attended

Senior staff in attendance

Chief Executive	Tanya Winter	Apology
Group Manager Engineering & Assets	Mark Lewis	Attended

Opening formalities**Ngā tikanga mihimihi**

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Decision reports**Ngā pūrongo whakatau**

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Information only reports**Ngā pūrongo mōhiohio anake**

There are no reports.

Other business**Ētahi atu take**

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Public excluded**Take matatapu**

There are no reports.

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Workshops	Hui awheawhe	
Code of Conduct		Open
Monthly discussion on outstanding matters		Open
Property update		Public excluded

These Open Minutes were prepared by Manager Governance, Kaia King and approved for distribution by Group Manager Engineering & Assets, Mark Lewis on 14 January 2026.

Commencement of meeting**Te tīmatanga o te hui**

Chairperson Tubman declared the meeting open at 4.00am.

Opening prayer/reflection/words of wisdom**Karakia/huitao/whakataukī**

Board Member McNeil led the meeting in a recitation of the karakia provided in the agenda.

Apologies**Ngā hōnea**

There were no apologies.

Public forum**Hui tūmatanui**

No requests to be heard had been received.

Late items**Ngā take tōmuri**

Deputy Mayor Christison requested the Board accept a late item for consideration under the Discretionary Fund. She advised 'Fun-raising Chicks Waikato' were seeking funding to cover the advertising costs for the Christmas Markets which were being held in December 2025. The applicants required confirmation prior to the event and could not wait until the Board's next meeting in February 2026.

Resolved O6: That Ōtorohanga Community Board accept the late item being an application for funding from the Board's Discretionary Fund by Fun-raising Chicks Waikato due to a decision being required prior to the event.

Deputy Chairperson Thomas | Board Member Massey

Declaration of conflict of interest**Te whakapuakanga pānga taharua**

A non-monetary conflict of interest was declared by Deputy Mayor Christison, due to a close personal relationship with the organiser.

Resolved O7: That Ōtorohanga Community Board receive the declaration of a conflict of interest from Deputy Mayor Christison for the Discretionary Fund item and direct the conflict to be recorded in Ōtorohanga District Council's Conflicts of Interest Register.

Board Member Massey | Deputy Chairperson Thomas

Confirmation of minutes

Te whakaū i ngā meneti

Resolved O8: That Ōtorohanga Community Board confirm as a true and correct record of the meeting, the open Minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2025 as distributed.

Deputy Mayor Christison | Deputy Chairperson Thomas

Decision reports

Ngā pūrongo whakatau

Item 6: Adoption of Ōtorohanga Community Board meeting schedule

ŌDC's Manager Governance, Kaia King advised the staff recommendation to approve the dates for the Triennium was to provide certainty for staff, elected members, and the community regarding meeting dates, and to facilitate timely public notification. She advised the February dates in the staff recommendation of the report were incorrect noting the correct dates were 2 February 2026, 1 February 2027 and 7 February 2028. Ms King stated that any resolution needed to include the corrected dates.

Resolved O9: That the Ōtorohanga Community Board **APPROVE** the following meeting schedule to provide both elected members and members of the public with confirmation of dates:

2026	2027	2028
• 2 February	• 1-February	• 7-February
• 2 March	• 1-March	• 6-March
• 13 April	• 5-April	• 3-April
• 4 May	• 3-May	• 1-May
• 8 June	• 14 June	• 12 June
• 6 July	• 5-July	• 3-July
• 3 August	• 2-August	• 7-August
• 7 September	• 6-September	• 4-September
• 5 October	• 4-October	• 2-October
• 2 November	• 1-November	
• 7 December	• 6-December	

Deputy Chairperson Thomas | Deputy Mayor Christison

Information only reports**Ngā pūrongo mōhiohio anake**

There were no reports.

Board Member updates**Ngā kōrero hou a ngā Kaikaunihera**

Deputy Mayor Christison, as ŌDC's representative on the Elevate Board, advised they were seeking expressions of interest for CCTV camera installation. Councillor Barclay spoke on the Young Elected Member hui in Wellington she attended.

Board projects

The new Board had no confirmed projects.

Suggestions from Board Members included playground shade, baby changing facilities, church property discussions, dog signage/enforcement, social media management, and walkway extension. ŌDC's Mark Lewis advised the Board could put forward projects for consideration as part of the Annual Plan process. ŌDC's Tanya Winter suggested the Board consider financial options to fund projects at their next meeting.

Ōtorohanga General Reserve Fund

The Board made no changes to the Fund but noted the funding commitments made by the previous Board for the following projects.

- a) Ōtorohanga Fitness Trail
- b) Ōtorohanga Dog Agility Course.

Ōtorohanga Property Reserve Fund

The Board made no changes to the Fund

Discretionary Fund

Deputy Mayor Christison spoke on behalf of Fun-raising Chicks Waikato who sought funding for the advertising costs of the Christmas Market 2025.

Resolved O10: That the Ōtorohanga Community Board grant \$850.00 including GST to Fun-raising Chicks Waikato to cover the cost of the advertising costs the Christmas Markets and recommend they apply to the Ōtorohanga Community Grants in 2026.

Deputy Mayor Christison | Chairperson Tubman

Resolution Register

Rēhita tatūnga

ŌDC's Mark Lewis advised the Ōtorohanga Exercise Circuit (named as the Ōtorohanga Hauora and Connectivity Trail by the previous Board) was in the Ōtorohanga Reserves Management Strategy and Plan.

Resolved O11: That the Ōtorohanga Community Board approve the removal of Resolutions O1, O2, O3 and O4 from the Register.

Deputy Chairperson Thomas | Board Member McNeil

Public excluded

Take matatapu

There were no reports.

Closing prayer/reflection/words of wisdom

Karakia/huritao/whakataukī

Deputy Chairperson Thomas led the meeting in a recitation of the karakia provided in the agenda.

Meeting closure

Katinga o te hui

Chairperson Tubman declared the meeting closed at 4.44pm.

Workshops**Hui awheawhe**

The following open workshops and briefings were held:

- a) Code of Conduct and
- b) Monthly discussion with staff.

The following public excluded briefing was held:

- c) Property update

There being no further business, the session concluded at 5.33pm.

Decision reports**Ngā pūrongo whakatau****Disclaimer**

The reports attached to this Open Agenda set out recommendations and suggested resolutions only. Those recommendations and suggested resolutions DO NOT represent Ōtorohanga Community Board policy until such time as they might be adopted by formal resolution.

This Open Agenda may be subject to amendment either by the addition or withdrawal of items contained therein.

Item 7 Endorsement of the adopted Code of Conduct

To Ōtorohanga Community Board

From Kaia King, Manager Governance

Type **DECISION REPORT**

Date 2 February 2026



1. Purpose | Te kaupapa

- 1.1. To advise of the formal adoption by Ōtorohanga District Council (ŌDC) of a Code of Conduct (Code) as the authoritative framework governing the conduct of all members in accordance with statutory requirements and advise of the pending the introduction of a national Code under new legislation.

2. Executive summary | Whakarāpopoto matua

- 2.1. When the Local Government System Improvement Bill is enacted, a national Code and Standing Orders will be issued. All councils will be required to adopt those documents. Until the national model is issued, councils must retain and formally adopt their existing Codes.
- 2.2. ŌDC is required to adopt a Code for all members of ŌDC, its committees, subcommittees, and community boards. At their meeting on 9 December 2025, ŌDC made the following Resolution:

Resolved C23: That Ōtorohanga District Council:

- a) **ADOPTS** the current Code of Conduct (as adopted 5 November 2019) as the governing document for all members of ŌDC, its committees, subcommittees, and community boards; and
- b) **NOTES** that this Code of Conduct will remain in force until the national model is issued and adopted in accordance with forthcoming legislative requirements.

Councillor Jeffries | Councillor Carr

- 2.3. Formal endorsement by the Board ensures alignment across all governance bodies and maintains consistent behavioural standards.

3. Staff recommendation | Tūtohutanga a ngā kaimahi

That the Ōtorohanga Community Board:

- a) **ENDORSES** the adoption of the Code of Conduct by Ōtorohanga District Council at their December 2025 meeting; and
- b) **NOTES** that this Code of Conduct will remain in force until the national model is issued and adopted in accordance with forthcoming legislative requirements.

4. Context | Horopaki

- 4.1. The 2019 Code was developed in accordance with clause 15 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 and has provided a robust framework for member conduct, relationships, and complaint resolution.
- 4.2. The Local Government System Improvement Bill, published in mid-2025, will require all councils to adopt a national Code and Standing Orders once issued by the Secretary for Local Government. Until that time, it is necessary for ŌDC to formally adopt and continue to apply the current Code.

5. Discussion | He kōrerorero

- 5.1. The re-adoption of the 2019 Code by ŌDC ensured ongoing compliance with current legislation and provides procedural certainty for all members. The forthcoming national Code will introduce a standardised framework for all councils. In the interim, retaining the current Code supported continuity, clarity, and effective governance for ŌDC, its committees, subcommittees, and community boards.

6. Strategic Considerations | Ngā whai whakaarotanga

Significance and engagement

- 6.1. Adoption of the Code was essential to maintaining statutory compliance and procedural certainty for elected members and staff. While the operational impact is substantial within ŌDC, the direct significance to the wider community is limited. Engagement has been undertaken with elected members and staff to ensure comprehensive understanding and adherence to the adopted framework.

Mana whenua / Māori

- 6.2. ŌDC's Code is founded on values of respect, inclusivity, and ethical behaviour, and is designed to foster constructive relationships with all communities, including mana whenua and Māori. The Code requires elected members to uphold the principles of partnership, participation, and protection, consistent with Te Tiriti o Waitangi and relevant statutory obligations.
- 6.3. Members are expected to engage with mana whenua and Māori in a manner that is fair, honest, and respectful, ensuring that interactions are open, transparent, and uphold the reputation of ŌDC. The Code also emphasises the importance of listening and responding to concerns, representing views accurately, and maintaining a culture of mutual trust and tolerance.

Strategic alignment

- 6.4. Adoption of the Code aligned with ŌDC's strategic objectives of good governance, transparency, and statutory compliance. Endorsement by the Board demonstrates a commitment to those objectives.

Legal

- 6.5. Adoption of the Code was required to ensure compliance with the Local Government Act 2002 and to prepare for the transition to the national model.

Financial

6.6. There are no significant financial implications. Any minor costs related to training or communication will be met within existing budgets.

Risk analysis

6.7. Risks include potential confusion if the Code is not endorsed by the Board, and the need for timely transition to the national model. These risks are mitigated by clear communication, training, and ongoing monitoring.

7. Options analysis | Tātari Kōwhiringa

Options summary of considerations

	Option 1: Endorse the adoption of Code by ŌDC	Option 2 – Do not endorse the adopted Code
Summary	Endorsement of the Code as the governing framework provides support of ŌDC’s strategic objectives of good governance, transparency, and statutory compliance	The Board can choose to not endorse the adopted Code.
Advantages	Ensures coherent governance practice across all decision-making bodies under the Local Government Act 2002. Provides procedural certainty and continuity. Supports effective governance and member conduct.	There are no advantages of this option as the Board would still be required to comply with the Code as adopted by ŌDC.
Disadvantages	There are no disadvantages of this option as the Board are required to comply with the Code as adopted by ŌDC.	May undermine public trust in the governance, transparency, and statutory compliance of the Board and ŌDC.

Recommended option and rationale

7.1. Option 1: Endorse the adopted Code. This ensures ongoing compliance with the Local Government Act 2002, provides procedural certainty for elected members and staff, and maintains a robust framework for governance and complaint resolution. It supports continuity and effective operation of ŌDC until the national Code of Conduct is issued and adopted in accordance with new legislative requirements.

8. Appendices | Ngā āpitihanga

Number	Title
1	Code of Conduct adopted by ŌDC in December 2025.



Otorohanga District Council

Code of Conduct

Adopted on 5 November 2019

Adopted on 21 February 2023

Adopted on 9 December 2025

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1. Introduction

The Code of Conduct (the Code) sets out the standards of behavior expected from elected members in the exercise of their duties. Its purpose is to:

- Enhance the effectiveness of the local authority and the provision of good local government of the community, city, district or region;
- Promote effective decision-making and community engagement;
- Enhance the credibility and accountability of the local authority to its communities; and
- Develop a culture of mutual trust, respect and tolerance between the members of the local authority and between the members and management.

This purpose is given effect through the values, roles, responsibilities and specific behaviors agreed in the code.

2. Scope

The Code has been adopted in accordance with clause 15(1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002) and applies to all members, including the members of any local boards as well as the members of any community boards that have agreed to adopt it. The Code is designed to deal with the behaviour of members towards:

- Each other;
- The Chief Executive and staff;
- The media; and
- The general public.

It is also concerned with the disclosure of information that members receive in their capacity as elected members and information which impacts on the ability of the local authority to give effect to its statutory responsibilities.

The Code can only be amended (or substituted by a replacement Code) by a vote of at least 75 per cent of members present at a meeting when amendment to the Code is being considered. The Code should be read in conjunction with the Council's Standing Orders.

3. Values

The Code is designed to give effect to the following values:

1. **Public interest:** members will serve the best interests of the people within their community, district or region and discharge their duties conscientiously, to the best of their ability.
2. **Public trust:** members, in order to foster community confidence and trust in their Council, will work together constructively in an accountable and transparent manner;
3. **Ethical behaviour:** members will act with honesty and integrity at all times and respect the impartiality and integrity of officials;
4. **Objectivity:** members will make decisions on merit; including appointments, awarding contracts, and recommending individuals for rewards or benefits.
5. **Respect for others:** will treat people, including other members, with respect and courtesy, regardless of their race, age, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.
6. **Duty to uphold the law:** members will comply with all legislative requirements applying to their role, abide by the Code of Conduct and act in accordance with the trust placed in them by the public.
7. **Equitable contribution:** members will take all reasonable steps to fulfil the duties and responsibilities of office, including attending meetings and workshops, preparing for meetings, attending civic events, and participating in relevant training seminars.
8. **Leadership:** members will actively promote and support these principles and ensure they are reflected in the way in which the Council operates, including a regular review and assessment of the Council's collective performance.¹

These values complement, and work in conjunction with, the principles of s14 of the LGA 2002 and the governance principles of s39 of the LGA 2002.

4. Role and responsibilities

The Code of Conduct is designed to strengthen the good governance of your city, district or region. Good governance requires that the complementary roles of the governing body and the administration are understood and respected. These roles involve:

4.1 Members

The role of the governing body includes:

- Representing the interests of the people of the city, district or region;
- Developing and adopting plans, policies and budgets;
- Monitoring the performance of the Council against stated goals and objectives set out in its long term plan;

¹ See Code of Conduct Guide for examples.

- Providing prudent stewardship of the Council's resources;
- Employing and monitoring the performance of the Chief Executive; and
- Ensuring the Council fulfils its responsibilities to be a 'good employer' and meets the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015.

4.2 Chief Executive

The role of the Chief Executive includes:

- Implementing the decisions of the Council;
- Ensuring that all responsibilities delegated to the Chief Executive are properly performed or exercised;
- Ensuring the effective and efficient management of the activities of the local authority;
- Maintaining systems to enable effective planning and accurate reporting of the financial and service performance of the local authority;
- Providing leadership for the staff of the Council; and
- Employing, on behalf of the Council, the staff of the local authority, (including negotiation of the terms of employment for those staff).

The Chief Executive is the only person *directly* employed by the Council itself (s.42 LGA 2002). All concerns about the performance of an individual member of staff must, in the first instance, be referred to the Chief Executive.

5. Relationships

This section of the Code sets out agreed standards of behaviour between members; members and staff; and members and the public. Any failure by a member to comply with the provisions of this section can represent a breach of the Code.

5.1 Relationships between members

Given the importance of relationships to the effective performance of the Council, members will conduct their dealings with each other in a manner that:

- Maintains public confidence;
- Is open, honest and courteous;
- Is focused on issues rather than personalities;
- Avoids abuse of meeting procedures, such as a pattern of unnecessary notices of motion and/or repetitious points of order; and
- Avoids aggressive, bullying or offensive conduct, including the use of disrespectful or malicious language.

Please note, nothing in this section of the Code is intended to limit robust debate.

5.2 Relationships with staff

An important element of good governance involves the relationship between a Council, its chief executive and its staff. Members will respect arrangements put in place to facilitate this relationship, and:

- Raise any concerns about employees, officers or contracted officials with the Chief Executive;
- Raise any concerns about the performance or behaviour of the Chief Executive with the Mayor/Chair or the chairperson of the Chief Executive Performance Review Committee (however described);
- Make themselves aware of the obligations that the Council and the Chief Executive have as employers and observe these requirements at all times, such as the duty to be a good employer;
- Treat all employees with courtesy and respect and not publicly criticise any employee; and
- Observe any protocols put in place by the Chief Executive concerning contact between members and employees.

Please note, elected members should be aware that failure to observe this portion of the Code may compromise the Council's obligations to be a good employer and consequently expose the Council to civil litigation or affect the risk assessment of Council's management and governance control processes undertaken as part of the Council's annual audit.

5.3 Relationship with the public

Given the vital role that democratic local government plays in our communities it is important that Councils have the respect and trust of their citizens. To facilitate trust and respect in their Council members will:

- Ensure their interactions with citizens are fair, honest and respectful;
- Be available to listen and respond openly and honestly to citizens' concerns;
- Represent the views of citizens and organisations accurately, regardless of the member's own opinions of the matters raised; and
- Ensure their interactions with citizens and communities uphold the reputation of the local authority.

6. Media and social media

The media play an important role in the operation and efficacy of our local democracy. In order to fulfil this role the media needs access to accurate and timely information about the affairs of Council. Any failure by member to comply with the provisions of this section can represent a breach of the Code.

1. In dealing with the media elected members must clarify whether they are communicating a view endorsed by their Council, committee or community board, or are expressing a personal view.
2. Members are free to express a personal view to the media or social media at any time, provided the following rules are observed:
 - Comments shall be consistent with the Code;
 - Comments must not purposefully misrepresent the views of the Council or the views of other members;
 - Social media pages controlled by members and used for making observations relevant to their role as an elected members should be open and transparent, except where abusive or inflammatory content is being posted; and
 - Social media posts about other members, council staff or the public must be consistent with section five of this Code. (See **Appendix A** for guidelines on the personal use of social media).

7. Information

Access to information is critical to the trust in which a local authority is held and its overall performance. A failure to comply with the provisions below can represent a breach of the Code.

7.1 Confidential information

In the course of their duties members will receive information, whether in reports or through debate, that is confidential. This will generally be information that is either commercially sensitive or is personal to a particular individual or organisation. Accordingly, members agree not to use or disclose confidential information for any purpose other than the purpose for which the information was supplied to the member.

7.2 Information received in capacity as an elected member

Occasionally members will receive information from external parties which is pertinent to the ability of their Council to properly perform its statutory duties. Where this occurs, and the information does not contravene the privacy of natural persons, the member will disclose such information to other members and/or the chief executive as soon as practicable.

8. Conflicts of Interest

Elected members will maintain a clear separation between their personal interests and their duties as elected members in order to ensure that they are free from bias (whether real or perceived). Members therefore must familiarise themselves with the provisions of the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968 (LAMIA).

Members will not participate in any Council discussion or vote on any matter in which they have a pecuniary interest, other than an interest in common with the general public. This rule also applies where the member's spouse/partner has a pecuniary interest, such as through a contract with the Council. Members shall make a declaration of interest as soon as practicable after becoming aware of any such interests.

If a member is in any doubt as to whether or not a particular course of action (including a decision to take no action) raises a conflict of interest, then the member should seek guidance from the Chief Executive *immediately*. Members may also contact the Office of the Auditor-General for guidance as to whether they have a pecuniary interest, and if so, may seek an exemption to allow that member to participate or vote on a particular issue in which they may have a pecuniary interest. The latter must be done before the discussion or vote.

Please note: Failure to observe the requirements of LAMIA could potentially invalidate a decision made, or the action taken, by the Council. Failure to observe these requirements could also leave the elected member open to prosecution (see **Appendix B**). In the event of a conviction elected members can be ousted from office.

9. Register of Interests

Members shall, at least annually, make a declaration of interest. These declarations are recorded in a public Register of Interests maintained by the Council. The declaration must include information on the nature and extent of any interest, including:

- a) Any employment, trade or profession carried on by the member or the members' spouse/partner for profit or gain;
- b) Any company, trust, partnership etc for which the member or their spouse/partner is a director, business partner or trustee;
- c) A description of any land in which the member has a beneficial interest within the jurisdiction of the local authority; and
- d) A description of any land owned by the local authority in which the member or their spouse/partner is:
 - A tenant; or
 - The land is tenanted by a firm in which the member or spouse/partner is a business partner; a company of which the member or spouse/partner is a director; or a trust of which the member or spouse/partner is a trustee.

- e) Any other matters which the public might reasonably regard as likely to influence the member's actions during the course of their duties as a member (if the member is in any doubt on this, the member should seek guidance from the Chief Executive).

Please note, where a member's circumstances change they must ensure that the Register of Interests is updated as soon as practicable.

10. Ethical behaviour

Members will seek to promote the highest standards of ethical conduct. Accordingly members will:

- Claim only for legitimate expenses as determined by the Remuneration Authority and any lawful policy of the Council developed in accordance with that determination;
- Not influence, or attempt to influence, any Council employee, officer or member in order to benefit their own, or families, personal or business interests;
- Only use the Council's resources (such as facilities, staff, equipment and supplies) in the course of their duties and not in connection with any election campaign or personal interests; and
- Not solicit, demand, or request any gift, reward or benefit by virtue of their position and notify the Chief Executive if any such gifts are accepted. Where a gift to the value of \$50 or more is accepted by a member, that member must immediately disclose this to the Chief Executive for inclusion in the publicly available register of interests.

Any failure by members to comply with the provisions set out in this section represents a breach of the code.

11. Creating a supportive and inclusive environment

In accordance with the purpose of the Code, members agree to take all reasonable steps in order to participate in activities scheduled to promote a culture of mutual trust, respect and tolerance. These include:

- Attending post-election induction programmes organised by the Council for the purpose of facilitating agreement on the Council's vision, goals and objectives and the manner and operating style by which members will work.
- Taking part in any assessment or evaluation of the Council's performance and operating style during the triennium.²
- Taking all reasonable steps to acquire the required skills and knowledge to effectively fulfill their Declaration of Office (the Oath) and contribute to the good governance of the city, district or region.

² A self-assessment template is provided in the Guidance to the code.

12. Breaches of the Code

Members must comply with the provisions of the code (LGA 2002, schedule 7, cl. 15(4)). Any member, or the Chief Executive, who believes that the Code has been breached by the behaviour of a member may make a complaint to that effect. All complaints will be considered in a manner that is consistent with the following principles.

12.1 Principles

The following principles will guide any processes for investigating and determining whether or not a breach under the code has occurred:

- That the approach for investigating and assessing a complaint will be proportionate to the apparent seriousness of the alleged breach;
- That the processes of complaint, investigation, advice and decision-making will be kept separate as appropriate to the nature and complexity of the alleged breach; and
- That the concepts of natural justice and fairness will apply in the determination of any complaints made under the Code. This includes, conditional on the nature of an alleged breach, directly affected parties:
 - Have a right to know that an investigation process is underway;
 - Are given due notice and are provided with an opportunity to be heard;
 - Have confidence that any hearing will be impartial;
 - Have a right to seek appropriate advice and be represented; and
 - Have their privacy respected.

12.2 Complaints

All complaints made under the code must be made in writing and forwarded to the Chief Executive. On receipt of a complaint the Chief Executive must forward the complaint to the Mayor/Chair or, where the Mayor/Chair is a party to the complaint, an independent investigator, drawn from a pool of names or agency agreed in advance.

Please note, only members and the Chief Executive may make a complaint under the code.

Complaint referred to Mayor/Chair

On receipt of a complaint made under the provisions of the Council's Code of Conduct the Mayor/Chair will, as the situation allows:

- Interview the complainant to assess the full extent of the complaint.
- Interview the member(s) subject to the complaint.
- Assess the complaint to determine materiality.

- Where a complaint is assessed by the Mayor/Chair to be trivial, frivolous or minor, either dismiss the complaint, require an apology or other course of action, or assist the relevant parties to find a mutually agreeable solution.
- Where a complaint is found to be material, or no mutually agreed solution can be reached, the Mayor/Chair will refer the complaint back to the Chief Executive who will forward it, along with any recommendations made by the Mayor/Chair, to the Council or an adjudicative body established by the Council to assess and rule on complaints made under the Code.³

If the Mayor/Chair chooses they may, instead of undertaking an initial assessment, immediately refer the complaint to the independent investigator, via the Chief Executive.

Complaint referred to Independent Investigator

On receipt of a complaint from a member which concerns the Mayor/Chair, or from the Mayor/Chair after initial consideration, the Chief Executive will forward that complaint to an independent investigator for a preliminary assessment to determine whether the issue is sufficiently serious to be referred, with recommendations if necessary, to the Council or an adjudicative body for assessing and ruling on complaints.⁴ The process, following receipt of a complaint, will follow the steps outlined in **Appendix C**.

12.3 Materiality

An alleged breach under the Code is material if, in the opinion of the Mayor/Chair or independent investigator, it would bring the Council into disrepute or, if not addressed, adversely affect the reputation of a member.

An alleged breach under this Code is non-material if, in the opinion of the Mayor/Chair or independent investigator, any adverse effects are minor and no investigation or referral is warranted.

13. Penalties and actions

Where a complaint is determined to be material and referred to the Council or an adjudicative body established to consider complaints, the nature of any penalty or action will depend on the seriousness of the breach.

13.1 Material breaches

In the case of material breaches of the Code, the Council, or the adjudicative body with delegated authority, may require one of the following:

1. A letter of censure to the member;
2. A request (made either privately or publicly) for an apology;
3. Removal of certain Council-funded privileges (such as attendance at conferences);

³ Advice on establishing adjudication bodies can be found in the Guide to the Code of Conduct.

⁴ On behalf of the Council the Chief Executive will, shortly after the start of a triennium, prepare, in consultation with the Mayor or Chairperson, a list of investigators for this purpose of undertaking a preliminary assessment. The Chief Executive may prepare a list specifically for his or her council, prepare a list jointly with neighbouring councils or contract with an agency capable of providing appropriate investigators, such as EquiP.

4. Removal of responsibilities, such as committee chair, deputy committee chair or portfolio holder;
5. Restricted entry to Council offices, such as no access to staff areas (where restrictions may not previously have existed);
6. Limitation on any dealings with Council staff other than the Chief Executive or identified senior manager;
7. A vote of no confidence in the member;
8. Suspension from committees or other bodies to which the member has been appointed; or
9. Invitation to the member to consider resigning from the Council.

A Council or adjudicative body with delegated authority may decide that instead of a penalty, one or more of the following may be required:

- Attend a relevant training course; and/or
- Work with a mentor for a period of time; and/or
- Participate in voluntary mediation (if the complaint involves a conflict between two members); and/or
- Tender an apology.

The process is based on the presumption that the outcome of a complaints process will be made public unless there are grounds, such as those set out in the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA), for not doing so.

13.2 Statutory breaches

In cases where a breach of the Code is found to involve regulatory or legislative requirements, the complaint will be referred to the relevant agency. For example:

- Breaches relating to members' interests (where members may be liable for prosecution by the Auditor-General under LAMIA);
- Breaches which result in the Council suffering financial loss or damage (where the Auditor-General may make a report on the loss or damage under s.44 LGA 2002 which may result in the member having to make good the loss or damage); or
- Breaches relating to the commission of a criminal offence which will be referred to the Police (which may leave the elected member liable for criminal prosecution).

14. Review

Once adopted, the Code continues in force until amended by the Council. The Code can be amended at any time but cannot be revoked unless the Council replaces it with another Code. Amendments to the Code require a resolution supported by 75 per cent of the members of the Council present at the Council meeting at which the amendment is considered.

Councils are encouraged to formally review their existing Code and either amend or re-adopt it as soon as practicable after the beginning of each triennium in order to ensure that all members have the opportunity to provide their views on the Code's provisions.

Appendix A: Guidelines on the personal use of social media⁵

There's a big difference in speaking "on behalf of Council" and speaking "about" the Council. While your rights to free speech are respected, please remember that citizens and colleagues have access to what you post. The following principles are designed to help you when engaging in **personal or unofficial online** communications that may also refer to your Council.

1. **Adhere to the Code of Conduct and other applicable policies.** Council policies and legislation, such as LGOIMA and the Privacy Act 1993, apply in any public setting where you may be making reference to the Council or its activities, including the disclosure of any information online.
2. **You are responsible for your actions.** Anything you post that can potentially damage the Council's image will ultimately be your responsibility. You are encouraged to participate in the social media but in so doing you must exercise sound judgment and common sense.
3. **Be an "advocate" for compliments and criticism.** Even if you are not an official online spokesperson for the Council, you are one of its most important advocates for monitoring the social media landscape. If you come across positive or negative remarks about the Council or its activities online that you believe are important you are encouraged to share them with the governing body.
4. **Let the subject matter experts respond to negative posts.** Should you come across negative or critical posts about the Council or its activities you should consider referring the posts to the Council's authorised spokesperson, unless that is a role you hold, in which case consider liaising with your communications staff before responding.
5. **Take care mixing your political (Council) and personal lives.** Elected members need to take extra care when participating in social media. The public may find it difficult to separate personal and Council personas. Commenting online in any forum, particularly if your opinion is at odds with what Council is doing, can bring you into conflict with the Code should it not be clear that they are your personal views.
6. **Never post sensitive and confidential information** provided by the Council, such as confidential items, public excluded reports and/or commercially sensitive information. Such disclosure will contravene the requirements of the Code.
7. **Elected Members' social media pages should be open and transparent.** When commenting on matters related to the local authority no members should represent themselves falsely via aliases or differing account names or block. Neither should they block any post on any form of social media that they have control over unless there is clear evidence that the posts are actively abusive. Blocking constructive debate or feedback can be seen as bringing the whole Council into disrepute.

⁵ Based on the Ruapehu District Council Code of Conduct.

Appendix B: Legislation bearing on the role and conduct of elected members

This is a summary of the legislative requirements that have some bearing on the duties and conduct of elected members. The full statutes can be found at www.legislation.govt.nz.

The Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968

The Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968 (LAMIA) provides rules about members discussing and voting on matters in which they have a pecuniary interest and about contracts between members and the Council.

A pecuniary interest is likely to exist if a matter under consideration could reasonably give rise to an expectation of a gain or loss of money for a member personally (or for their spouse/partner or a company in which they have an interest). In relation to pecuniary interests the LAMIA applies to both contracting and participating in decision-making processes.

With regard to pecuniary or financial interests, a person is deemed to be "concerned or interested" in a contract or interested "directly or indirectly" in a decision when:

- A person, or spouse/partner, is "concerned or interested" in the contract or where they have a pecuniary interest in the decision; or
- A person, or their spouse/partner, is involved in a company that is "concerned or interested" in the contract or where the company has a pecuniary interest in the decision.

There can also be additional situations where a person is potentially "concerned or interested" in a contract or have a pecuniary interest in a decision, such as where a contract is between an elected members' family trust and the Council.

Determining whether a pecuniary interest exists

Elected members are often faced with the question of whether or not they have a pecuniary interest in a decision and if so whether they should participate in discussion on that decision and vote. When determining if this is the case or not the following test is applied:

"...whether, if the matter were dealt with in a particular way, discussing or voting on that matter could reasonably give rise to an expectation of a gain or loss of money for the member concerned." (OAG, 2001)

In deciding whether you have a pecuniary interest, members should consider the following factors:

- What is the nature of the decision being made?
- Do I have a financial interest in that decision - do I have a reasonable expectation of gain or loss of money by making that decision?
- Is my financial interest one that is in common with the public?

- Do any of the exceptions in the LAMIA apply to me?
- Could I apply to the Auditor-General for approval to participate?

Members may seek assistance from the Mayor/Chair or other person, to determine if they should discuss or vote on an issue, but ultimately it is their own judgment as to whether or not they have pecuniary interest in the decision. Any member who is uncertain as to whether they have a pecuniary interest is advised to seek legal advice. Where uncertainty exists members may adopt a least-risk approach which is to not participate in discussions or vote on any decisions.

Members who do have a pecuniary interest will declare the pecuniary interest to the meeting and not participate in the discussion or voting. The declaration and abstention needs to be recorded in the meeting minutes. (Further requirements are set out in the Council's Standing Orders.)

The contracting rule

A member is disqualified from office if he or she is "concerned or interested" in contracts with their Council if the total payments made, or to be made, by or on behalf of the Council exceed \$25,000 in any financial year. The \$25,000 limit includes GST. The limit relates to the value of all payments made for all contracts in which you are interested during the financial year. It does not apply separately to each contract, nor is it just the amount of the profit the contractor expects to make or the portion of the payments to be personally received by you.

The Auditor-General can give prior approval, and in limited cases, retrospective approval for contracts that would otherwise disqualify you under the Act. It is an offence under the Act for a person to act as a member of the Council (or committee of the Council) while disqualified.

Non-pecuniary conflicts of interest

In addition to the issue of pecuniary interests, rules and common law govern conflicts of interest more generally. These rules apply to non-pecuniary conflicts of interest, including common law rules about bias. In order to determine if bias exists or not members need to ask:

"Is there a real danger of bias on the part of the member of the decision-making body, in the sense that he or she might unfairly regard with favour (or disfavour) the case of a party to the issue under consideration?"

The question is not limited to actual bias, but relates to the appearance or possibility of bias reflecting the principle that justice should not only be done, but should be seen to be done. Whether or not members believe they are not biased is irrelevant.

Members focus should be on the nature of the conflicting interest or relationship and the risk it could pose for the decision-making process. The most common risks of non-pecuniary bias are where:

- Members' statements or conduct indicate that they have predetermined the decision before hearing all relevant information (that is, members have a "closed mind"); and
- Members have a close relationship or involvement with an individual or organisation affected by the decision.

In determining whether or not they might be perceived as biased, members must also take into account the context and circumstance of the issue or question under consideration. For example, if a member has stood on a platform and been voted into office on the promise of implementing that platform, then voters would have every expectation that the member would give effect to that promise, however he/she must still be seen to be open to considering new information (this may not apply to decisions made in quasi-judicial settings, such as an RMA hearing).

Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

The Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 sets out a list of meetings procedures and requirements that apply to local authorities and local/community boards. Of particular importance for the roles and conduct of elected members is the fact that the chairperson has the responsibility to maintain order at meetings, but all elected members should accept a personal responsibility to maintain acceptable standards of address and debate. No elected member should:

- Create a disturbance or a distraction while another Councillor is speaking;
- Be disrespectful when they refer to each other or other people; or
- Use offensive language about the Council, other members, any employee of the Council or any member of the public.

See Standing Orders for more detail.

Secret Commissions Act 1910

Under this Act it is unlawful for an elected member (or officer) to advise anyone to enter into a contract with a third person and receive a gift or reward from that third person as a result, or to present false receipts to Council.

If convicted of any offence under this Act a person can be imprisoned for up to two years, and/or fines up to \$1000. A conviction would therefore trigger the ouster provisions of the LGA 2002 and result in the removal of the member from office.

Crimes Act 1961

Under this Act it is unlawful for an elected member (or officer) to:

- Accept or solicit for themselves (or anyone else) any gift or reward for acting or not acting in relation to the business of Council; and
- Use information gained in the course of their duties for their, or another person's, monetary gain or advantage.

Elected members convicted of these offences will automatically cease to be members.

Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013

Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013 (previously the Securities Act 1978) essentially places elected members in the same position as company directors whenever Council offers stock to the public. Elected members may be personally liable if investment documents such as a prospectus contain untrue statements and may be liable for criminal prosecution if the requirements of the Act are not met.

The Local Government Act 2002

The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002) sets out the general powers of local government, its purpose and operating principles, and details the personal liability of members.

Although having qualified privilege, elected members can be held personally accountable for losses incurred by a local authority where, following a report from the Auditor General under s44 LGA 2002, it is found that one of the following applies:

- a) Money belonging to, or administered by, a local authority has been unlawfully expended; or
- b) An asset has been unlawfully sold or otherwise disposed of by the local authority; or
- c) A liability has been unlawfully incurred by the local authority; or
- d) A local authority has intentionally or negligently failed to enforce the collection of money it is lawfully entitled to receive.⁸⁹⁰

Members will not be personally liable where they can prove that the act or failure to act resulting in the loss occurred as a result of one of the following:

- a) Without the member's knowledge;
- b) With the member's knowledge but against the member's protest made at or before the time when the loss occurred;
- c) Contrary to the manner in which the member voted on the issue; and
- d) In circumstances where, although being a party to the act or failure to act, the member acted in good faith and relied on reports, statements, financial data, or other information from professional or expert advisers, namely staff or external experts on the matters.

In certain situation members will also be responsible for paying the costs of proceedings (s47 LGA 2002).

Appendix C: Process where a complaint is referred to an independent investigator

The following process is a guide only and Councils are encouraged to adapt this to their own specific circumstances.

Step 1: Chief Executive receives complaint

On receipt of a complaint under the Code, whether from a member (because the complaint involves the Mayor/Chair) or from the Mayor/Chair after an initial assessment, the Chief Executive will refer the complaint to an investigator selected from a list agreed at the start of the triennium. The Chief Executive will also:

- Inform the complainant that the complaint has been referred to the independent investigator and the name of the investigator, and refer them to the process for dealing with complaints as set out in the Code; and
- Inform the respondent that a complaint has been made against them, the name of the investigator and remind them of the process for dealing with complaints as set out in the Code.

Step 2: Investigator makes preliminary assessment

On receipt of a complaint the investigator will assess whether:

1. The complaint is trivial or frivolous and should be dismissed;
2. The complaint is outside the scope of the Code and should be re-directed to another agency or institutional process;
3. The complaint is minor or non-material; or
4. The complaint is material and a full assessment is required.

In making the assessment the investigator may make whatever initial inquiry is necessary to determine their recommendations, including interviewing relevant parties, which are then forwarded to the Council's Chief Executive. On receiving the investigator's preliminary assessment the Chief Executive will:

1. Where an investigator determines that a complaint is trivial or frivolous, inform the complainant, respondent and other members (if there are no grounds for confidentiality) of the investigator's decision.
2. In cases where the investigator finds that the complaint involves a potential legislative breach and outside the scope of the Code, forward the complaint to the relevant agency and inform the Chief Executive who will then inform the complainant, the respondent and members.

Step 3: Actions where a breach is found to be non-material

If the subject of a complaint is found to be non-material, but more than trivial or frivolous, the investigator will inform the chief executive and, if they choose, recommend a course of action appropriate to the breach, such as:

- That the respondent is referred to the Mayor/Chair for guidance; and/or
- That the respondent attend appropriate courses or programmes to increase their knowledge and understanding of the matters resulting in the complaint.

The Chief Executive will advise both the complainant and the respondent of the investigator's decision and any recommendations, neither of which are open to challenge. Any recommendations made in response to a non-material breach are non-binding on the respondent and the Council.

Step 4: Actions where a breach is found to be material

If the subject of a complaint is found to be material, the investigator will inform the Chief Executive, who will inform the complainant and respondent. The investigator will then prepare a report for the Council on the seriousness of the breach. In preparing that report, the investigator may:

- Consult with the complainant, respondent and any directly affected parties; and/or
- Undertake a hearing with relevant parties; and/or
- Refer to any relevant documents or information.

On receipt of the investigator's report, the Chief Executive will prepare a report for the relevant Council body charged with assessing and ruling on material complaints, which will meet to consider the findings and determine whether or not a penalty, or some other form of action, will be imposed. The Chief Executive's report will include the investigator's full report.

Step 5: Process for considering the investigator's report

The investigator's report will be considered by the Council or adjudicative body established for considering reports on Code of Conduct complaints, or any other body that the Council may resolve, noting that the process will meet the principles set out in section 12.1 of the Code.

The Council, or adjudicative body, will consider the Chief Executive's report in open meeting, except where the alleged breach concerns matters that justify, in accordance with LGOIMA, the exclusion of the public. Before making any decision on a specific complaint, the relevant body will give the respondent an opportunity to appear and speak in their own defense. Members with an interest in the proceedings, including the complainant and the respondent, should not take part in these proceedings in a decision-making capacity.

The form of penalty that might be applied will depend on the nature of the breach and may include actions set out in clause 13.1 of the Code.

The report, including recommendations from the adjudicative body, should that body have no formal delegations, will be heard and accepted by the Council in open session, unless grounds for excluding the public exist, without debate.

Information reports

Ngā pūrongo mōhiohio anake

There are no reports.

Board Member updates

Board Members will be invited by the Chairperson to provide a verbal update to the meeting.

Board projects

The new Board have no confirmed projects at this time.

Ōtorohanga General Reserve Fund

The Reserve Fund should only be used to fund expenditure¹ within the Ōtorohanga township area. Any surplus in the General Reserve can be used to fund one off items of unforeseen expenditure for which there is no approved budget.

When considering any request for funding from the General Reserve Fund, the Board should ensure that any distribution from the Reserve:

- a. is appropriately targeted,
- b. occurs in a consistent, efficient and effective manner,
- c. Is fair and transparent, and
- d. promotes accountability.

The Fund had a balance of \$133,260 as at 31 December 2025. The previous Board committed a total of \$95,000 to two projects. These commitments have not yet been taken out of the balance above.

Ōtorohanga Property Reserve Fund

The Reserve Fund should only be used to fund capital expenditure¹ within the Ōtorohanga township area. Any surplus in the Fund can be used to fund one off items of unforeseen expenditure for which there is no approved budget.

¹ Any acquisition of an asset must be recommended to ŌDC for a final decision. The Board are unable to own assets.

When considering any request for funding from the Property Reserve Fund, the Board should ensure that any distribution from the Reserve:

- e. is appropriately targeted,
- f. occurs in a consistent, efficient and effective manner,
- g. Is fair and transparent, and
- h. promotes accountability.

The Fund had a balance of \$1,402,454 as at 31 December 2025.

Discretionary Fund

Any decision to allocate the Board's funds must be made to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of the Ōtorohanga community in the present and for the future.

Date	#	Recipient	Purpose	Amount (excl. GST)
01/12/25	O10	Fun-raising Chicks Waikato	Christmas Markets advertising	\$739.13
Total granted				\$739.13
Total remaining				\$ 8,404.87

Request for funding

No requests have been received.

Resolution Register

Resolutions of Ōtorohanga Community Board which are not yet finalised are outlined below.

#	Date	Resolution	Staff update
O7	1/12/25	That the Ōtorohanga Community Board APPROVE the following meeting schedule to provide both elected members and members of the public with confirmation of dates: (refer to Minutes)	The meeting dates have been scheduled and are now on ŌDC's website.

Staff recommendation

That the Ōtorohanga Community Board approve the removal of Resolution O7 from the Register.

Public excluded

There are no reports.

Closing prayer/reflection/words of wisdom

The Chairperson will invite a Member to provide the closing words and/or prayer/karakia.

Meeting closure

The Chairperson will declare the meeting closed.

Workshops

Rotary Park and Bob Horsfall Reserve	Open
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Monthly discussion with staff on items raised in public forum or outstanding matters	Open
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For use in both opening and closing meetings

A Member will provide the words of their preference or may choose to use the following:

Mā te whakapono	<i>By believing and trusting</i>
Mā te tūmanako	<i>By having faith and hope</i>
Mā te titiro	<i>By looking and searching</i>
Mā te whakarongo	<i>By listening and hearing</i>
Mā te mahi tahi	<i>By working and striving together</i>
Mā te manawanui	<i>By patience and perseverance</i>
Mā te aroha	<i>By all being done with compassion</i>
Ka taea e tātou	<i>We will succeed</i>