



Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust
Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū

Statement of Intent

For the year
1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024
FY 2024

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The list of Trustees is current as of 27 June 2023.

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1 Introduction

Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū (RDBPT, the Trust) is a Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) as defined in the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA), and is a Trust for charitable purposes. It is governed by Trustees, the majority of whom are appointed by Christchurch City Council (CCC, the Council).

The negotiation and determination of a Statement of Intent (SOI) is a public and legally required record of the accountability relationship between the Trust and the Council.

This SOI is prepared in accordance with Section 64(1) of the LGA. It sets out the objectives, governance, nature and scope of activities, and targets and performance measures.

The SOI is reviewed annually by the Council and covers a three-year period.

2 Objectives

RDBPT exists for the benefit of the present and future inhabitants of Banks Peninsula and for visitors to Banks Peninsula.

Its founding deed gives it a wide set of objectives of sustainable management, and the protection, preservation and enhancement of the environment, recreation, culture and heritage. The objectives are listed in full in Appendix A.

In pursuing the objectives of the RDBPT, the Trustees are required to have regard to:

- a) the views of Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke (Rāpaki), Te Rūnanga o Koukourārata, Wairewa Rūnanga, Te Taumutu Rūnanga and Ōnuku Rūnanga in respect to the value of Banks Peninsula's Mana Whenua, Mana Moana and Mana Tangata;
- b) the potential for alignment between the activities of the Trust and any existing or future projects or initiatives of the Council;
- c) whether other sources of funding or support are available, including assistance provided through industry or regional development policies and programmes of local authorities or central government;
- d) the objectives, roles and activities of any other organisation engaged in similar activities on Banks Peninsula.

3 Governance statement

RDBPT is governed by up to nine Trustees, with up to seven Trustees appointed by the Council. The Trustees manage the affairs of RDBPT in accordance with their legal obligations, the objectives of the Trust and the terms of the RDBPT Trust Deed.

3.1 Guiding Principles

The Trustees' decisions reflect the following values:

- Leading - the RDBPT is a trusted and credible body making unique and courageous decisions and instigating projects
- Linking - the RDBPT focusses on the big picture issues of Banks Peninsula and links people and projects supporting their passion for Banks Peninsula.
- Enhancing - the RDBPT works as an entrusted steward/guardian enhancing the historic work of previous generations
- Enduring - the funds and work of the Trust are to be used to create an enduring legacy for Banks Peninsula.

In furthering these values, RDBPT adheres to the following principles:

- Respecting and engaging with Banks Peninsula communities
- Building high-trust relationships
- Transparency between partners
- No surprises, full disclosure
- Behaving in an ethical manner
- Being formal in its processes – with agreements documented and approved
- Assessing and measuring all its projects against its four strategic pillars
- Keeping the public and the Council informed through its website and annual newsletter.

3.2 Responsibility to the Christchurch City Council

In accordance with the LGA, the RDBPT will submit an annual SOI to the Council for consultation and approval. The SOI sets out the Trust's objectives, intentions and performance targets.

The Trustees will ensure that the Council is informed of all major developments affecting the Trust's state of affairs. Information will be communicated to the Council by the RDBPT through the annual report and the half-yearly report.

The Trust will endeavour to operate on a 'no surprises' basis for all issues of relevance to the Council. Early notice will be given to the Council of issues requiring its consent.

3.3 Subsidiary and Monitored Companies

The RDBPT has no investments in other companies.

3.4 Financial Results

The Trustees will receive and review the RDBPT's financial and other reports regularly, and will provide financial statements to the Council on a 6-monthly basis.

3.5 Distributions

RDBPT developed an investment policy in 2012 based on the eventual distribution of its entire capital fund and signalled then that the rate and method of this distribution would depend on the opportunities arising that matched the objectives. The investment policy is available on the Trust's website.

The Trust will update its investment policy to take into account the Council's capital and operational grant funding signalled in the Long Term Plan commencing in FY24.

4 Nature and Scope of Activities

RDBPT was named to honour the memory of former MP Rod Donald and his commitment to Banks Peninsula. The Trust's hallmark has been entrepreneurship and practical achievement, important values to Rod Donald. The RDBPT has and will continue to manage its funds well and use them to achieve outcomes that individual groups and projects cannot achieve on their own.

The RDBPT has crystallised its wide objectives into four strategic pillars; **Access, Biodiversity, Knowledge and Partnership**. These pillars are used as criteria to select and assess projects and underpin day-to-day work, and are set out in its Strategic Plan "**Striding Forward | Hikoi Whakamua 2020-2030**" available on its website.

The Trust held a Strategy Day in February 2023. The decisions at that meeting provide direction to this SOI. The Trust has a 2015 draft Walking and Cycling Strategy designed to more specifically guide its decision making on access projects. This strategy will be reviewed, updated and finalised in the 2023-24 year. The

CCC Public Open Space Strategy 2010-2040 provides a guiding framework for the this. The Trust anticipates working closely with the Council regarding the walking and biking framework for Banks Peninsula as the Public Open Space Strategy is reviewed and implemented.

RDBPT has identified securing public access as the most important enduring legacy for Banks Peninsula, and the one which it is uniquely positioned to progress. The Trust’s independence and its capital base give it the ability to work more flexibly and rapidly to secure opportunities as they become available than many government bodies.

Access is often achieved in conjunction with protecting native biodiversity, developing well-marked tracks, providing public information, and always with partner participation.

Over the next three years RDBPT intends to continue carrying out activities of based on its four key pillars:

- Taking a leadership role to secure and extend public walking and biking **access** on a network of well-marked and managed tracks;
- Taking a support role to assist others to secure and enhance areas of native **biodiversity**;
- Taking a leadership role in the dissemination of **knowledge** with regard to public walking access and a support role with regard to biodiversity, culture and heritage
- Working in **partnership** with statutory and community bodies as appropriate on all of its projects.

Information on the projects and social enterprises through which the Trust intends to deliver on its four pillars are given in Appendix C.

4.1 Impacts of Covid-19

The Trust considers that its work is even more important in the period since Covid-19 restrictions ended. The lockdowns demonstrated the importance and popularity of walking for mental and physical health for the people of Christchurch. Similarly, the opportunities presented on Banks Peninsula, close to the large urban population of Christchurch, benefit people now more often choosing to recreate and explore close to home. The benefits of this proximity and associated low costs of access have been amplified by the increased cost of fuel and travel, and the increased cost of living currently being experienced in New Zealand and worldwide.

The work of the Trust provides more and enhanced opportunities for outdoor recreation on Banks Peninsula within easy distance of the urban city, and provides a drawcard to bring more domestic visitors and international visitors to the area. This is being recognised in work being led by ChristchurchNZ to develop a Destination Management Plan for Banks Peninsula, with regenerative tourism, natural amenity, the natural environment, outdoor recreation, sustainability, and proximity to the large urban population of Christchurch and its airport and other transport links being a key focus of discussions to develop the Plan.

5 Meeting Council’s Enduring Expectations

RDBPT intends to meet the Expectations set out by the Council in the following ways:

5.1 Supporting Council strategic directions

5.1.1 Community Outcomes and Strategic Framework

The linkages between the Christchurch City Council Community Outcomes and Strategic Framework and the Trust’s four pillars were worked through with the Council in 2019 and captured in a “Synergies, Priorities and Gaps” analysis. In summary RDBPT supports the Framework as follows:

Table 1 Linkages between Council's Strategic Framework and RDBPT projects supporting its four pillars

Council Framework	Rod Donald Trust project
Strong Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Running the Banks Peninsula Walking Festival • Mapping and promoting all of the walks on Banks Peninsula • Working with all agencies and landowners that provide walking and cycling

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to co-ordinate access links • Securing long term access on public tracks • Providing low costs facilities such as tramping huts • Encouraging families and young people to explore and develop skills on Banks Peninsula • Valuing the participation of children and young people by encouraging them to experience the outdoors and better understand the environment • Strengthening the identity of the area by creating iconic long distance walks including Te Ara Pātaka • Encouraging widespread participation and support of indigenous biodiversity conservation, including pest control, through grant funding to partner organisations • Participating in a multi-agency group to open more opportunities for biodiversity recovery through carbon income, with a focus on Banks Peninsula as an exemplar
Liveable City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting outdoor recreation opportunities close to the city • Creating outdoor recreation opportunities that connect with public transport, where possible • Assisting rural centres by developing, improving and promoting walking and cycling opportunities from these centres resulting in economic and other benefits • Encouraging equitable access by securing public access to tracks and new reserve areas so that the opportunity to enjoy these natural assets is available to all • Working to improve waymarking and signage on tracks and trails making it easier for people to use them
Healthy Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting water catchment areas through land purchase • Supporting purchase of land for biodiversity reserves with full public access, including significant landscape features and a range of indigenous habitats • Creating connection for people with landscape and responsibility for natural environment through improved public access combined with biodiversity and promoting knowledge in these areas • Demonstrating sustainable use of resources through the Rod Donald Hut experience • Promoting low footprint activities on Banks Peninsula for Christchurch residents and visitors • Supporting Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust and Pest Free Banks Peninsula enabling more biodiversity to be protected and implementation of the Ecological Vision for Banks Peninsula • Supporting Conservation Volunteers NZ Whaka Ora Pest project • Encouraging widespread participation in support of indigenous biodiversity by private landowners
Prosperous economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing a marketing tool, its website www.bpwalks.co.nz, used by organisations such as ChristchurchNZ, Akaroa District Promotions and the Lyttelton Harbour Information Centre to attract visitors to the area • Providing a range of safe, well documented family friendly and more challenging outdoor recreation on the doorstep of Christchurch, contributing a drawcard for new residents and visitors

5.1.2 Carbon neutral by 2030

The Trust signals its intention to be carbon neutral by 2030. It already:

- Minimises travel through use of on-line meetings

- Minimises travel through the use of car sharing
- Encourages recreation close to home to help the public to minimise travel
- Educates people about the environment through real-life experiences, particularly at Rod Donald Hut
- Supports sequestration in biodiverse native forest
- Supports and promotes regenerative and sustainable tourism and visitor experiences

In FY2024 the Trust intends to develop a plan with clear targets for reducing carbon in its own operations for implementation from FY2025.

5.1.3 Value for Money

In its first 10 years the Trust has provided good value for money to Council and people of Christchurch, having almost the same equity in June 2021 as it at the end of first year of operation in June 2011 while achieving large gains for public access and biodiversity, promoting knowledge about the Peninsula and leveraging supportive partnerships pooling partner contributions for public benefit. The Trust intends to continue with these projects but notes that it is difficult to quantify the value of things such as enduring public access in financial terms.

5.1.4 Health and Safety

The Trust maintains and regularly reviews its Health and Safety Plan, with updates being made as required. Health and Safety is a standing item on every Trust Board meeting agenda.

The Plan includes a provision to inform the Council of any events notified to Worksafe.

5.2 Accountability

The Trust welcomes the opportunity to present annually to the Council and/or the Banks Peninsula Community Board.

The Trust meets its statutory deadlines and will make efforts to report earlier where possible. The Trust publishes its Statement of Intent and Annual Report on its website.

As listed above in Section 5.1.1, the Trust's four pillars link to and support the Council's Strategic Framework, and in turn support the four well-beings in the LGA.

Transparency and no surprises are core governance principals.

All contractors engaged by the Trust are paid at rates above the minimum wage. The Trust has no employees.

5.3 Governance

The Trust complies with all relevant Acts in running its business.

A 10 year asset plan is not considered necessary for the relatively low value of assets owned by the Trust.

The Trust engages skilled locally based contractors wherever possible.

5.4 Trustee Appointments

The Trust regularly turns its attention to succession planning.

The Trust aims to appoint as diverse a board as possible, while maintaining a good diversity of skills. The Trust currently reports to Council on the skillset of its Trustees at the time of appointing new Trustees, but does not report on any diversity measures. The Trust will consider skill aspects as well as mana whenua representation, gender and age in making its next set of appointments, expected to be in FY2024 when up to three new Trustees will be appointed. Discussions currently taking place regarding how best to engage mana whenua in governance and governance appointments will inform our approach, including consideration of a mana whenua identified Board intern.

New Trustees undergo an effective induction process.

5.5 Engagement and consultation

The Trust has worked with Christchurch Foundation and Lyttelton Port Company on the Te Ahu Pātiki land purchase, and signals its intention to strengthen its relationship with other CCOs in the coming year, including exploring opportunities for assistance or partnership in local carbon offset initiatives through its contribution to the Banks Peninsula Native Forest Climate Change group of partners.

The Trust will notify the Council of any property purchase or disposal while retaining the power to make its own sovereign decisions.

The Trust will seek approval from the Council if it intends to carry out activities outside of the Nature and Scope listed above.

The Trust will inform the Council External Governance manager of any submissions it makes.

The Trust's Risk Policy includes informing the Council of any issues or risks that might impact the Council.

5.6 Engagement with mana whenua

The Trust has worked with mana whenua to name the Te Ara Pātaka tramping network, to celebrate the opening of new public facilities and reserves such as Rod Donald Hut and Purple Peak Curry Reserve, and to develop a new shared governance arrangement for Te Ahu Pātiki.

The Trust believes it does apply the principles of Te Tiriti to its everyday practices, but will continue to learn and embrace these principles further, and is working with the Council's Principal Advisor Treaty Relations to develop its relationships with mana whenua, consider how it can increase its bicultural knowledge, and how it can best involve mana whenua in its governance.

6 Performance targets and measures

6.1 Non-financial performance targets

This section lists the Trust's non-financial key performance indicators, and the goals from its 10-year Strategic Plan that the Trust intends to progress in the FY24 year.

See table below:

Indicator 1	<i>The Trust has determined four key pillars on which its projects will be based; Access, Biodiversity, Knowledge, and Partnerships.</i>
	Assess potential projects brought to the Trust’s attention against these four pillars to determine whether they should be added as a Trust project, and action those that are deemed a priority
	Make submissions to relevant policy documents in support of the pillars.
Indicator 2	<i>Provide leadership and tangible support for the projects achieving Access through implementing the CCC Public Open Space Strategy.</i>
	A network of well managed walking and biking trails with long term secure public access that provide free walking and connect major communities.
	Te Ara Pātaka is nationally recognised as a walking route from Christchurch to Akaroa with a network of track connections.
	The Head to Head Walkway connecting Godley Head to Adderley Head is completed as a continuous and principally coastal pathway around Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour.
	Unformed legal roads are valued and effective as a delivery tool for walking and biking.
	The assets and responsibilities of the Little River Rail Trail are transferred to the Trust
Indicator 3	<i>Provide tangible support for biodiversity</i>
	Increase protection for areas with high biodiversity value in conjunction with public walking/cycling access; purchasing land if necessary.
	Active support for Banks Peninsula Ecological Vision goals to protect all old-growth forest remnants of more than 1ha, examples of all rare ecosystems and four indigenous forest areas of more than 1000ha each.
	Support the Pest Free Banks Peninsula group in its work toward Banks Peninsula being effectively free of pest animals.
	Address the Climate and Ecological Emergency through encouraging native biodiversity to regenerate on a landscape scale, assisted by its income from carbon sequestration where possible.
	Take a strategic approach to actively supporting the biodiversity work of other organisations, including ecological restoration and pest control projects
Indicator 4	<i>Provide tangible support for projects building the Knowledge pillar, and leadership around walking access knowledge.</i>
	Trails are used to educate people and connect them to the natural environment and mātauranga Maori with the aim of building environmental guardians.
	Regularly publish and update material on the walking and biking trails and work with other agencies to enhance their publications.
	Develop methods to transfer knowledge through events, on-line information channels and support for a Banks Peninsula Geopark.
	Promote information about the biodiversity, culture, heritage and geology of Banks Peninsula and its potential for carbon sequestration.
Indicator 5	<i>Provide tangible support for and work with a range of partners</i>
	Working in partnership with others to achieve greater outcomes than we could individually.
	Relationships with key stakeholders are formalised with appropriate agreements and delivering as agreed.
	Ngai Tahu’s role as kaitiaki is acknowledged and supported through productive partnerships with Papatipu Rūnanga on Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū

6.2 Financial performance targets

The financial performance targets for the next three years are based on the following assumptions

- Capital and operational fund injections take place as allocated in the current CCC Long Term Plan.

Table 2 Financial Performance Targets

	Note	FY24 2023-24	FY25 2024-25	FY26 2025-26
Operating Surplus				
Revenue	1	\$1,519,865	\$166,093	\$166,093
Trust Management	2	-\$100,341	-\$102,348	-\$104,394
Operating costs	3	-\$69,842	-\$70,998	-\$72,154
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)		\$1,349,682	-\$7,254	-\$10,455
Trusts Funds				
Opening funds	4	\$708,384	\$1,683,066	\$1,370,812
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)		\$1349,682	-\$7,254	-\$10,455
Strategic grants and project expenditure	5	-\$375,000	-\$305,000	-\$305,000
Closing balance		\$1,683,066	\$1,370,812	\$1,055,356

Notes to Financial performance targets

1	Revenue in all years consists of interest income plus sales. In FY24 it also includes a capital grant of \$1,350,000 from Christchurch City Council. In FY24, FY25 and FY26 it includes an operating grant of \$100,000 per annum from Christchurch City Council
2	Trust Management reflects the cost of the current management contract and Trust administration contract
3	Operating costs include accountancy, insurance, audit fees, meeting costs, web hosting, strategic planning, minor projects (such as advocacy or web development), professional fees not separately budgeted, and the costs of goods and services sold, including the Trust's social enterprises.
4	The FY24 Opening Balance is based on the Trust's financial position at 29 June 2023 less an estimate for expenses and income in June 2022.
5	Strategic grants and project expenditure in 2023-24 includes projected funding for Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust and progressing the projects listed in Appendix C

The Trustees will report financial results as set out below in the 'Information to be provided to Council' section.

7 General matters

7.1 Information to be provided to the Christchurch City Council

The RDBPT will provide an annual Statement of Intent and a half-yearly report to the Council in accordance with Section 64(1) of the LGA.

The RDBPT will provide an annual report including audited financial and performance statements in accordance with Section 67 of the LGA.

The RDBPT has an Information and Records Management Strategy meeting its obligations under the Public Records Act 2005.

A separate annual newsletter will provide more information about the Trust's projects and will include any other information the Trustees consider appropriate.

The RDBPT will provide its annual report and newsletter to the Banks Peninsula Community Board for their information and, if invited by the Community Board, will attend an annual workshop or other meeting to discuss its activities and the respective Board activities. If called on by the Council it will hold up to two additional meetings per year with Community Board representatives.

7.2 Accounting policies

The current accounting policies are consistent with NZ accounting standards and can be found in detail in the Trust's last annual report on its website.

The financial statements are prepared on the basis of historical cost, except for the revaluation of certain non-current assets.

7.3 Acquisition of shares in any company

RDBPT will notify the Council before acquiring securities or debt shares in any company.

7.4 Ratio of consolidated Trust funds to total assets

RDBPT's funds are equal its total assets.

7.5 Estimate of distributions of accumulated profits and capital reserves

The Trustees will explore options to attract funds from other sources to grow the trust fund and/or to serve the trust objectives.

7.6 Commercial value of the investment

The commercial value of the investment is equal to the net assets of the RDBPT. The current cash asset of the RDBPT (as of December 2022) is approximately \$946,634 including cash and investments. The value of its equity including property and intangible assets is \$1,276,098 (at December 2022). The commercial value will be reviewed on a 6-monthly basis when the financial reports for the RDBPT are prepared.

7.7 Activities for which compensation is sought from any local authority

Currently there are no activities for which compensation will be sought from any local authority.

Appendix A Trust objectives

The RDBPT is a Trust for charitable purposes.

The RDBPT exists for the benefit of the present and future inhabitants of Banks Peninsula and for visitors to Banks Peninsula.

The RDBPT's activities will focus on the area within the district which was administered by the Banks Peninsula District Council immediately prior to its amalgamation with the Christchurch City Council (the Banks Peninsula area). A map of the Banks Peninsula area is included as Appendix B to this Statement of Intent.

The objectives of the RDBPT are:

- (a) to promote sustainable management and conservation (consistent with the purposes and principles of the Resource Management Act 1991 and the Conservation Act 1987 and any replacement legislation) of the natural environment in the Bank Peninsula area;
- (b) to establish, support or facilitate environmental based projects that are focussed on:
 - (i) the maintenance and development of recreation facilities including parks, reserves, walkways and affordable camping grounds in the Bank Peninsula area;
 - (ii) providing public access to recreation facilities including parks, reserves, walkways and affordable camping grounds in the Bank Peninsula area;
 - (iii) the reinstatement and preservation of native vegetation in the Bank Peninsula area;
 - (iv) the enhancement of the natural biodiversity of the Bank Peninsula area;
 - (v) the restoration of the Bank Peninsula area waterways to their natural state; and
 - (vi) the protection of native endangered species present in the Bank Peninsula area;
- (c) to establish, support or facilitate projects that are focussed on the protection, preservation and enhancement of areas of historical or cultural significance, or the built heritage of the Bank Peninsula area;
- (d) to undertake or facilitate in any other way research projects or scientific enquiries to carry out the Objects;
- (e) to provide educational opportunities to further the public's understanding or enjoyment of the natural, historical and cultural qualities of the Bank Peninsula area;
- (f) to commission or otherwise support research and monitor projects relating to the status and quality of the natural and physical environment throughout the Bank Peninsula area;
- (g) to purchase or lease land to:
 - (i) carry out any improvements on land for the sustainable management of the environment or more general environmental or conservational purposes of the Trust,
 - (ii) provide facilities or opportunities for the educational purposes of the Trust;
- (h) to source and allocate funds for projects which support, promote or otherwise contribute to the Objects;
 - (i) to seek the support and involvement of appropriate persons, organisations and agencies, (including the Christchurch City Council) and work alongside or collaboratively with such persons, organisations and agencies to carry out the Objects;
 - (j) to hold seminars, tutorials and lectures within the Bank Peninsula area and throughout Canterbury to demonstrate research relating to the objects, and to encourage the public to become involved with or to generally promote the aims and purposes of the Trust to the community;

- (k) to carry out any other charitable purpose which is capable of being carried out in connection with the Objects or may directly, or indirectly, advance the Objects;
- (l) to raise money and to seek, accept and receive gifts, donations, grants, endowments, legacies and bequests of money or in kind for the Objects; and
- (m) to do all such other acts and things that are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the Objects.

In pursuance of the objectives of the RDBPT, the Trustees are required to have regard to:

- (a) the views of Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke (Rāpaki), Te Rūnanga o Koukourārata, Wairewa Rūnanga, Te Taumutu Rūnanga and Ōnuku Rūnanga in respect to the value of Banks Peninsula's Mana Whenua (Land), Mana Moana (Waterways) and Mana Tangata (People);
- (b) the potential for alignment between the activities of the Trust and any existing or future projects or initiatives of the Christchurch City Council;
- (c) whether other sources of funding or support are available, including assistance provided through industry or regional development policies and programmes of local authorities or central government;
- (d) the objectives, roles and activities of any other organisation engaged in similar activities on Banks Peninsula.

Appendix B Trust's area of interest

The map below shows the area formerly administered by Banks Peninsula District Council. The Trust's deed directs that its funds are to be used to achieve objectives within this area. Opportunities to potentially expand this area of interest to include the whole Banks Peninsula geological landform were discussed recently by Trustees and are currently being explored with Christchurch City Council.



Appendix C Project detail

The following are projects which are either in progress and will continue into FY2024 and beyond, or new projects to be implemented in FY2024.

C.1 Te Ahu Pātiki Conservation Park

The Te Ahu Pātiki Conservation Park came about as the result of a land acquisition and fundraising campaign undertaken by the Trust. On 1st July 2021 this resulted in the Trust becoming the owner of approximately 500ha of land, including the summits of Mt Herbert and Mt Bradley, the two highest summits in the Christchurch City territorial area. This has allowed for the creation of a public conservation park protecting biodiversity and with full public access.

During 2021-22 the Trust achieved protection of the land in perpetuity and its native biodiversity by way of a QEII conservation covenant and secured non-motorised public access on all tracks on the land by way of an easement with the Walking Access Commission, both registered on the land title. The Trust formed a close partnership with Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke, who hold mana whenua over the area and the neighbouring property Orton Bradley Park. The partnership set up a new Te Ahu Pātiki Charitable Trust to own, govern and manage the land. The land, and all remaining donations and grants, were transferred to this new Trust in September 2022.

The Rod Donald Trust may continue to be involved by way supporting particular projects on the property at the request of the Te Ahu Pātiki Trust, and with its work to support the Te Ara Pātaka walkway which passes through Te Ahu Pātiki. It is intended that an agreement will be signed between the four parties involved in Te Ara Pātaka – the Christchurch City Council, the Department of Conservation, the new Te Ahu Pātiki Trust, and the Rod Donald Trust. The Rod Donald Trust appoints two members to the Te Ahu Pātiki Trust Board, and has recently assisted in a search and recruitment process to appoint new Trustees to this Board.

C.2 Te Ara Pātaka (Summit Walkway)

This is a multi-day tramp connecting Lyttelton and Akaroa craters via the summit ridgelines of Banks Peninsula, with a network of tracks linking to valleys below. The tramp was formally opened in 2016 and is proving popular, including with many families and youth groups from Christchurch. Overnight accommodation is provided at the Rod Donald Hut and the Sign of the Packhorse Hut.

Ongoing work includes securing an easement from the new Te Ahu Pātiki park to the Sign of the Packhorse Hut across neighbouring land as well as the maintenance of tracks not covered by DOC or the Council. A new track from Orton Bradley Park to the Mount Herbert Saddle has created improved year-round access from Orton Bradley Park. Standardisation, minimisation or the removal of seasonal closures for lambing is a high priority, and track improvements and signage improvements will be areas of particular focus.

The Trust seeks to extend Te Ara Pātaka to Akaroa. Options to do so will be the subject of reporting and consideration by the Trust. One option is to extend the track to Wainui with a water taxi to Akaroa and/or around the Southern Bays. Other routes on the Akaroa side of the Harbour are also being considered, and decisions on the preferred route will be made in FY2024. Connections to Little River and synergies with the High Bare project are to be explored, including the use of unformed legal road to link Te Ara Pātaka to High Bare when public access across the High Bare land and on to Little River has been secured.

The Trust has recently agreed a new Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Conservation regarding Te Ara Pātaka, and a new four way agreement is being developed to document the complexities of a network of tracks which crosses multiple land ownerships which is jointly marketed by DOC and the Trust.

C.3 Managing and maintaining existing assets

The Trust has built up a suite of assets that it intends to continue managing and maintaining. These include the Rod Donald Tramping Hut on Te Ara Pātaka, walking information products, and the Banks Peninsula Walking Festival.

C.3.1 Rod Donald Hut

Rod Donald Hut is owned and managed by the Trust and provides one of the overnight stays on Te Ara Pātaka. Fees are charged through the Department of Conservation booking system. The Trust intends to continue running the hut as a social enterprise on an ongoing basis, to use it to build goodwill with youth groups and other organisations, act as a front face for the Trust and work toward meeting all of its costs, including oversight by the Trust Manager.

Major maintenance on the Hut is carried out on an annual basis. In FY24 this will include maintenance of water systems, toilet facilities and work to improve the interior and deck of the Hut. Consideration will also be given in FY2024 to whether accommodation provision could be extended to provide a small number of tent camping sites for walkers, and whether a short nature walk suitable for families could be created allowing passive education of Banks Peninsula biodiversity.

C.3.2 Walking information products

The Trust has developed the Banks Peninsula Walks Directory, available both in print and on-line, and a suite of walking brochures. These products operate as a social enterprise, and the Trust intends to continue this as it also builds goodwill and enhances the Trust's profile.

Work over the three-year timeframe may include a new brochure for Wairewa, particularly if the High Bare project and associated linkages to Te Ara Pātaka are successfully developed.

C.3.3 Banks Peninsula Walking Festival

The Banks Peninsula Walking Festival is a community collaboration led by the Trust and Little River/Wairewa Community Trust. It has been run annually in November since 2013 and built up a strong reputation and following. The Festival aims to cover its costs through grants and ticket sales. Grant funding has been provided by the Christchurch City Council and Selwyn District Council. The main cost is the Festival Co-ordinator, a position contracted through the Trust. The Trust has recently committed to running the Festival for a further three years, this longer timeframe allowing for better planning, and greater certainty of resources. From the FY2024 year, the Festival will be run in February and March, to avoid the large number of cancellations of walks in the November Festivals.

C.4 Supporting Head to Head walkway in in Whakaraupō Lyttelton Harbour

The Trust participates in the Head to Head Working Party, a sub-committee of the Banks Peninsula Community Board. The Trust's primary role is finding access routes to connect existing Head to Head walkway sections where there is currently no public access available, subject to the agreement of the Working Party in which it participates. It does not anticipate purchasing land to facilitate the Head to Head walkway, but may negotiate easements or make use of formed and unformed legal roads. The Trust is currently working towards being able to progress an easement across Living Springs, and has investigated other opportunities on the south side of Lyttelton Harbour which could be pursued, including at Purau and Ripapa. The Trust will look to formalise its relationship around the Head to Head walkway with an MOU or other appropriate agreement with Council. The Trust has made an offer of partnership in this area to the Banks Peninsula Community Board and the Council, particularly regarding the creation of new access, and intends to play a full role in the Head to Head Working Party subject to appropriate partnership arrangements being agreed.

C.5 Supporting Banks Peninsula Ecological Vision

The Trust is a signatory to the Banks Peninsula Ecological Vision. The Te Ahu Pātiki conservation park in the Lyttelton Harbour/Whakaraupō basin fills the missing link to create over 1700ha of continuous land

protected for biodiversity. It therefore significantly contributes to the Banks Peninsula Ecological Vision's goal of securing four areas of contiguous 1000ha protected land.

The Trust has an ongoing grant commitment to the Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust running through to March 2024 to support its Volunteer and Habitat Protection programmes, in support of the Ecological Vision.

C.5.1 Banks Peninsula Pest Free 2050

The Trust along with Department of Conservation, Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust, Christchurch City Council and others have signed the Banks Peninsula Pest-Free Memorandum of Understanding, incorporating the government's NZ Predator Free programme. The Trust has supported this initiative to date with grants for the now near-complete feral goat eradication programme, grants enabling trialling of a new feral pig eradication methodology and the feral pig control programme, and an interim Pest Free co-ordinator position managed by Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust. The Trust will keep a watching brief on progress and will consider allocation of funding and funding mechanisms to support future initiatives to control pests on Banks Peninsula, including control and eradication of feral pigs, feral deer and feral goats.

C.6 Building knowledge of carbon sequestration income to support native biodiversity

The Trust is involved in the Banks Peninsula Native Forest Climate Change Group, an informal group of representatives of various organisations developing knowledge about carbon sequestration using native biodiversity. A particular consideration is how income derived via the ETS system may be used to assist with leveraging more native regeneration across Banks Peninsula along with supporting Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust and landowners involved with conservation activities. Members of this collaborative group include representatives from DOC, CCC, ECAN, QEII National Trust, BPCT, Manaaki Whenua/Landcare Research, Federated Farmers, Hinewai Reserve, Lucas and Associates landscape planners, Carbon Crop and High Bare Peak Ltd.

C.7 Developing new walking/biking opportunities around Little River

There are currently no public off-road walks departing directly from Little River except for the Little River Rail Trail. The Trust is seeking to create an off-road connection to Rod Donald Hut and links to Te Ara Pātaka from Little River.

C.7.1 High Bare

This large block of land near Little River has been acquired by a group of owners who have formed a Company, High Bare Peak Limited - a privately held company which was created to acquire and restore the land. The land will be managed in a way that allows it to regenerate naturally with native bush and the intention is to covenant the land, or parts of it, for protection under the QEII Trust. The invasive species on this land, the public conservation land beside the Little River Rail Trail, and another adjacent large block of land bordering Lake Forsyth (also planned for covenanting under QEII) are being managed under one overarching conservation project. This project will not actively plant native species, as there are local seed sources nearby. Continually removing the invasive species creates space for the native plants to grow into, and the less noxious exotic species may be left temporarily as nursery plants.

The owners of the land have approached the Trust regarding creation of public access, recognising that this is a particular strength of the Trust and an opportunity to work in partnership. There have been a number of site visits, most recently in December 2022 when some Trustees and the Trust Manager explored the land including walking to the High Bare summit. Access opportunities include the opportunity for off-road access from the Little River township to the Little River Hotel, access from Morrisons Road, Council Hill Road and SH75, a short walk parallel with the highway, a shorter family-friendly loop track, a longer loop track not including the peak, a loop walk including the peak, and access opportunities to link with Te Ara Pātaka along the ridgeline from the High Bare summit using unformed legal road.

The owners of the High Bare Peak land are keen to pursue opportunities for public access, potential for camping or hut accommodation, and the creation of public access over parts of the land. They are clear in their intention to partner with the Trust in doing so. The opportunity to link with Te Ara Pātaka allows for side tracks to and from Little River to be created as part of a wider network, and could potentially link Little River with Lyttelton and Akaroa as Te Ara Pātaka is further developed and completed.

It is the Trusts' intention to pursue this access and biodiversity project as a high priority in FY2024.

C.7.2 Little River Rail Trail

The Little River Rail Trail links the City's Major Cycle Routes with Little River across land administered by the Christchurch City Council, the Selwyn District Council, the Department of Conservation, and Environment Canterbury. These agencies also maintain and upgrade the Rail Trail as necessary. The Rod Donald Trust (RDT) has been approached by the Trustees of the Little River Rail Trail Trust (LRRTT) with a view to the LRRTT being formally wound up, and the assets and responsibilities of the LRRTT being transferred to the RDT. The RDT has agreed in principle to do so, subject to certain conditions. The transfer of the promotional and coordinating responsibilities associated with the Little River Rail Trail to the RDT, with appropriate agreements put in place with the landowning agencies, would allow for the current arrangements to continue under the administration of RDT. The Little River Rail Trail is an important recreational access route from the City to Banks Peninsula, and links with other recreational opportunities being considered in the Little River area. Decisions regarding the future geographical scope of the Trust's responsibilities, may influence the role the Trust takes with respect to the Rail Trail.

It is the Trust's intention to finalise matters relating to the transfer of the Little River Rail Trail in FY2024, and to complete the transfer of assets and responsibilities to the Trust.

C.8 Partnering with the Summit Road Society

The Summit Road Society is developing the John Jameson lookout as a viewpoint and highly accessible entranceway to its Ōhinetahi Reserve and network of associated tracks. The Trust supports this project through track improvements undertaken by the Summit Road Society, and has acted as agent in procuring funding to do so.

C.9 Building stronger relationships with Council and others

The Trust sees the need for an ongoing entity to advocate for Banks Peninsula tracks and trails, support agencies, develop an associated volunteer network, and to ensure that Banks Peninsula's role as a walking and biking destination for residents and visitors grows with high quality and well-maintained tracks, and enhanced biodiversity and is seeking ongoing funding from the Council so that it can continue to fulfil this role.

The Trust is working to build a stronger relationship with the Council through shared projects, including:

- working with Council staff to improve the signage, waymarking and maintenance of peri-urban tracks around Akaroa, Diamond Harbour and the Lyttelton settlements to match the Trust's popular brochure series.
- working with Strategic Planning staff to improve walking linkage planning through the Council's current Public Open Space and Biodiversity strategies, and making use of unformed legal roads where appropriate.
- Working with ChristchurchNZ as it develops the Banks Peninsula Destination Management Plan.

The Trust has formalised its relationship with Department of Conservation through a shared MOU, and this is a living document that is added to as new projects develop. It has also developed an MOU with the Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū/Banks Peninsula GeoPark Trust and with Stuff Limited.

The Trust has recently acted as agent in procuring funding for the Geopark Trust to install interpretation signage in Governors Bay, and has passed this funding through to the Trust to implement its projects.

