

**Place-Based groups are not just service providers; we are the catalysts for meaningful, long-term change within Dunedin's communities.** Place-Based groups represent a strategic investment in **collaborative, community-led initiatives** that directly align with Dunedin City Council's broader vision for a connected, vibrant city where all residents thrive. Place-Based groups are requesting the resources we need to amplify our impact, achieve shared goals, and create lasting change that benefits the city as a whole.

### **Driving Transformation Through Collaboration**

- **Empowering Community-Led Change:** Place-Based groups are the bridge between the **city's strategies and the lived experiences** of residents. We enable **grassroots solutions** that address local needs, foster resilience, and create social cohesion. Rather than top-down approaches, the work of our groups is deeply rooted in community input, ensuring that **the solutions are relevant, effective, and sustainable**. We don't just deliver services; Place-Based Groups create environments where people can participate in shaping the future of our neighbourhoods and city. Place-Based Funding is essential in establishing Place-Based groups who are best placed to respond to the unique needs of our local communities.
  - *"Place-based groups create a network that ensures no one falls through the cracks. Collaboration with Community Boards and DCC departments makes decisions more grounded and ensures community voices are not just heard but actioned."*
- **A Multiplying Effect:** The funding decision you make doesn't just support individual groups; it **multiplies its value** through the collaborative efforts that are sparked when our Place-Based groups come together. These collaborations **strengthen relationships, pool resources, and create a powerful network**, helping DCC achieve its community wellbeing and inclusion.
  - *"Place-Based groups create powerful ripples of care that reach far beyond their immediate spaces... they provide a lifeline of connection, safety, and belonging."*

### **Achieving Long-Term, Sustainable Impact**

- **Investing in Resilience:** Place-Based groups are not only interested in short-term fixes—we are focused on building **long-term, resilient communities**. Our approach is **proactive**, meaning we're already working with communities to **identify and address future needs**. A dollar invested in these groups is a dollar spent on sustainable development that will have **a compounding impact** over time.

- *“We’re not about quick fixes – we’re here for the long haul, committed to change that lasts and grows from the ground up.”*
- *“The impact of this funding isn’t always seen in reports but is felt in the warm meals shared, the arms opened in welcome, and the safe spaces where people can show up as they are.”*
- **Changing the Fabric of Communities:** Place-Based groups are essential to achieving **Dunedin’s vision** of cohesive, thriving neighbourhoods. We don’t simply offer a service—we act as the **connective tissue** that binds people together, creating **social capital** that enriches every corner of the city. We strengthen communities at their core, enabling them to **respond to challenges, adapt, and thrive** in the face of uncertainty or crisis.
  - *“Without funding, we lose our ability to offer safe spaces and regular check-ins... It risks isolating vulnerable groups and would impact mental health, youth engagement, and the overall wellbeing of our people.”*

### **Delivering on City-Wide Priorities: Place-Based Groups as Enablers of Shared Goals**

- **Supporting DCC’s Broader Goals:** Place-Based funding is not just about supporting individual groups, it is about **directly contributing to Dunedin’s overarching goals** for social inclusion, wellbeing, and community engagement. Place-Based groups are aligned with strategic priorities like **creating vibrant neighbourhoods**, ensuring **equal access to services**, and fostering a culture of **community participation**.
  - *“Place-Based groups are critical to enacting the vision of a city with connected people and vibrant neighbourhoods... they support people in the city to feel included and participate in community affairs.”*
- **Achieving Collective Success:** The funding provided for Place-Based groups ensures that **every dollar goes further** in achieving **city-wide shared goals**. By supporting Place-Based groups, DCC maximises the return on investment—not just in individual outcomes, but in **collective community development** that contributes to the city’s future vision.
  - *“Place-based funding helps groups create a lasting, positive change by responding to local needs with heart and purpose. This funding doesn’t just support programmes—it strengthens the very fabric of our communities.”*

### **A Strategic Response to Growing Community Needs**

- **Scaling Impact with Growing Demand:** As demand for community-led initiatives increases, the need for **proportional increases in funding** becomes

more urgent. **Without increased funding**, Place-Based groups will be forced to scale back, limiting their ability to respond to emerging needs and opportunities. **The city's investment in these groups is a direct investment in a more equitable and connected Dunedin.**

PB funding also provides a great seeding fund. By having this available to Placed Based Communities, it allows a community to get started. As their programme develops and grows, they have the confidence to reach out to other funders.

- *“As the number of community groups seeking support continues to grow, it's essential that this fund increases proportionately to meet demand.”*

### **Overall - A Smart and Strategic Investment for Dunedin's Future**

Place-Based groups represent a **strategic investment in the future** of Dunedin—one that will generate **multifaceted returns** in the form of **stronger communities, greater resilience**, and **long-term, sustainable change**. The work these groups do isn't just about keeping things running—it's about **enabling transformation**, driving collaboration, and helping Dunedin achieve its shared goals for an inclusive, vibrant, and cohesive city.

Within the DCC's functions, it is important for the DCC to provide the resources and personnel to support the DCC Community Partnership team. This team enables Place-Based Groups to better connect with the DCC in a mutually beneficial relationship. Additionally, by continuing to invest in Place-Based funding, you are ensuring that Dunedin becomes a city that **thrives on local leadership, community-driven solutions**, and **long-term sustainability**. Place-Based groups are the heart of our communities; your investment ensures they can keep making the city a better place for all.

**We support the continuation of, and \$30,000 annual increases to the Place-Based Group Fund. Investing in Place-Based funding isn't just funding for now—it's an investment in Dunedin's future.**

### **Additional point on submission -**

Application to the pool of unallocated funding of \$272,000 (as per minutes in 28-30 January council meeting).

We, the Place-Based Groups making this group submission respectfully request that a proportion be allocated to Place-Based Groups so they can continue the important mahi as described in this submission.