

SUBMISSION	
TO:	Dunedin City Council
DATE:	30 April 2025
PLAN:	Dunedin City Council 9 Year Plan: 2025-2034
Submitter: Aukaha (1997) Ltd.	
This submission supports the following aspects of Dunedin City Council's 9-year plan 2025-2034:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The implementation of Te Taki Haruru – Māori Strategic Framework2. Revision of the Significance and Engagement Policy to reference Te Taki Haruru – Māori Strategic Framework	
We do wish to be heard via an oral submission.	

1.0 Scope of Submission

- 1.1 This submission relates to the following elements of Dunedin City Council's 9-year Plan 2025-2034:
1. The implementation of Te Taki Haruru – Māori Strategic Framework
 2. Revision of the Significance and Engagement Policy to reference Te Taki Haruru – Māori Strategic Framework.

2.0 The implementation of Te Taki Haruru – Māori Strategic Framework

- 2.1 This submission **supports** the implementation of Te Taki Haruru – Māori Strategic Framework under Dunedin City Council's 9-year Plan 2025-2034. Te Taki Haruru aims to establish mana whenua principles and values that will guide the DCC's contribution to Māori wellbeing across the city. It envisions a future for Ōtepoti Dunedin that ensures the wellbeing of future generations and the sustainability of the environment from a te ao Māori perspective.
- 2.2 Kāi Tahu as mana whenua has worked long and hard to build a strong Treaty relationship with the Dunedin City Council that lays the foundation for the future. Through the establishment of Te Pae Māori and the ensuing development of Te Taki Haruru, the Council

has established a foundation for mana whenua and Council to work together to advance shared aspirations that will benefit all of our communities, now and into the future.

- 2.3 Under the Local Government Act 2002 and the Resource Management Act 1991, local authorities must engage with mana whenua actively and in good faith. The requirements under these Acts provide some acknowledgement of the fundamental compact embodied in Te Tiriti o Waitangi, which has been expressed in the Waitangi Tribunal and the courts through the overarching principle of exchange. This principle recognises Te Tiriti as a reciprocal relationship in which the right to govern was exchanged for the right of Māori to retain their tino rakatirataka. Tino rakatirataka can be interpreted as the full tribal authority of iwi, including control over the lands and taoka.
- 2.4 Te Pae and the development of Te Taki Haruru are expressions of these commitments. Mana whenua have worked in good faith with Council staff to breathe life into this relationship, as have Council and Aukaha kaimahi. It is the submitter's position that, by implementing Te Taki Haruru, the Council will ensure that their adherence to good faith engagement with mana whenua is clearly evident.
- 2.5 Te Pae Māori and Te Taki Haruru provide invaluable opportunities for Council to benefit from the mātauraka of mana whenua as the first people of the land. According to the whakataukī, Ka mua, ka muri, we must look back in order to move forwards, building on the knowledge and experience of the past generations to navigate a pathway forward. This fundamental component of te ao Māori, and arguably a fundamental role of local authorities, is underpinned by the need to make decisions that benefit our communities today and for our mokopuna to come.
- 2.6 Now more than ever, mokopuna decisions need to guide our actions and reactions, as we face significant issues related to climate change, infrastructure deficits, and economic pressures.
- 2.7 Funding provided through Te Taki Haruru supports Aukaha staff to undertake a range of activities with Dunedin City Council with and on behalf of Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki and Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou, including relationship building, scoping for capital projects, and work on Three Waters and environmental programmes.

- 2.8 The submitter believes in the power of genuine partnerships and the benefits they can deliver, for all of us and for our children after us.

3.0 Revision of the Significance and Engagement Policy to reference Te Taki Haruru – Māori Strategic Framework

- 3.1 Under the Local Government Act 2002, local authorities are required to develop a Significance and Engagement Policy that outlines how councils will assess the significance of issues, proposals, and decisions. The aim of the policy is to ensure transparency, fairness, and community involvement in decision-making processes.
- 3.2 In alignment with the position outlined in 2.0 above, the submitter **supports** the revision of the Significance and Engagement Policy to reference Te Taki Haruru – Māori Strategic Framework, in order to ensure that the policy appropriately meets these stated policy aims.

4.0 Conclusion

- 5.1 These submissions are focused on ensuring that effective provision is made for the engagement of Kāi Tahu as mana whenua in Ōtepoti Dunedin.

Nāku noa,

nā



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