

Statement of Proposal Otago Harbour Reserves Management Plan Review 2024



Introduction

The Dunedin City Council (DCC) is seeking submissions on the proposed Draft Otago Harbour Reserves Management Plan (the Draft Plan) (link here).

This statement of proposal sets out background information, what is being proposed, reasons for the proposal, how submissions on the proposal can be made and how long the consultation period will run for.

Management plans are a requirement under the Reserves Act 1977 to ensure proper management of reserves and they must be regularly reviewed.

The DCC's previous Otago Harbour Reserve Management Plan 2006 (The 2006 Plan) is now out of date (see attachment B). The new plan's aim is to better honour the site's recreational, biodiversity, cultural and mana whenua values to help it receive the care and attention it requires (see attachment A). We would like your views on this.

Background

Otago Harbour is a significant natural feature in Dunedin and a place of special importance to Dunedin and the region.

The 14 Council-owned or managed reserves surrounding Otago Harbour are integral to its overall attractiveness and are included in the Otago Harbour Reserves Management Plan. They include reserves at Andersons Bay Inlet, Bayfield, Broad, Careys and Deborah Bays, Glenfalloch jetty, Kitchener Street, Macandrew Bay, Otago Boat Harbour, Port Chalmers, Roseneath, Te Rauone, Vauxhall and Wellers Rock.

The reserves are well-used, enjoyed and appreciated by Dunedin people as they provide access to and encourage use of the harbour for a wide range of aquatic recreation activities, including fishing, boating, windsurfing, paddleboarding, swimming, walking, driving, picnicking and bird-watching.

The Council owns and maintains many facilities around the harbour, such as wharfs, jetties and ramps which provide good access to the harbour for recreation. Many boat and yacht clubs lease Council land for their club activities and have jetties or ramps available for club and often public use.

The reserves have a number of historic structures and features associated with Dunedin's early history, such as sea walls and middens. The historic sites are important to the Ōtākou rūnaka and they place special importance on the spiritual values of the harbour and place names.

The harbour is important to the Dunedin tourism industry and part of its overall scenic attraction. Reserves are often used by the harbour's abundant wildlife as roosting and haul-out areas.

What we're proposing for consultation

In accordance with the requirement of the Act, we publicly notified our intention to review the 2006 Plan and invited feedback from interested parties earlier in 2024 (stage 1) to review. As well as advertising in the Otago Daily Times and the Star, we notified the media and encouraged feedback through social media and the DCC's website.

We are about to open Stage 2 of the consultation process which seeks submissions on the Draft Plan. Beginning on 21 August, this will run for two months.

Have your say

We would like to know what you think about Otago Harbour reserves, what the issues are and how these issues can be resolved. We would like to hear how you think harbour reserves can be best used and managed. We are interested in your thoughts on the future use of harbour reserves.

Your feedback will help shape the Draft Plan. Parks and Recreation Services staff will be available to discuss the Draft Plan and explain how to make submissions.

The submission period runs from 21 August – 23 October 2024.

How to give feedback

Feedback can be made via:

- Online: www.dunedin.govt.nz/consultation
- Email to: parksconsulting@dcc.govt.nz
- Post to

Otago Harbour Reserves Management Plan Submissions Parks and Recreation Services Attention: Katie Eglesfield Dunedin City Council PO Box 5045 Dunedin 9054

Hand delivery to a DCC service centre or library.

For any queries, please email parksconsulting@dcc.govt.nz

What happens next?

- The submission period for stage 2 is from 21 August 2024 to 23 October 2024.
- Parks and Recreation staff have prepared the Draft Otago Harbour Reserves Management Plan
- The Draft Plan will be notified for public consultation, with details about how to make submissions.

Please note: Your name and submission will be made public as part of the DCC's decision-making process. This information will be included in papers available to the public and the media but will only be used for the Otago Harbour Reserves Management Plan consultation.

Late submissions may not be accepted.