

APPENDIX J

Otago Regional Council Operative Regional Policy Statement Objectives and Policies

Relevant objectives and policies in the Otago Regional Policy Statement

5 Land

5.4 Objectives

- 5.4.1. *To promote the sustainable management of Otago's land resources in order:*
- (a) *To maintain and enhance the primary productive capacity and life-supporting capacity of land resources; and*
 - (b) *To meet the present and reasonably foreseeable needs of Otago's people and communities.*
- 5.4.2. *To avoid, remedy or mitigate degradation of Otago's natural and physical resources resulting from activities utilising the land resource.*
- 5.4.3. *To protect Otago's outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.*
- 5.4.4. *To ensure that public access opportunities exist in respect of activities utilising Otago's natural and physical land features.*

5.5 Policies

- 5.5.1 *To recognise and provide for the relationship Kai Tahu have with Otago's land resource through:*
- (a) *Establishing processes that allow the existence of heritage sites, waahi tapu and waahi taoka to be taken into account when considering the subdivision, use and development of Otago's land resources; and*
 - (b) *Protecting, where practicable, archaeological sites from disturbance; and*
 - (c) *Notifying the appropriate runanga of the disturbance of any archaeological site and avoiding, remedying, or mitigating any effect of further disturbance until consultation with the kaitiaki runanga has occurred.*
- 5.5.2. *To maintain and enhance Otago's land resource through avoiding, remedying or mitigating the adverse effects of activities which have the potential to, amongst other adverse effects:*
- (a) *Reduce the soil's life supporting capacity*
 - (b) *Reduce healthy vegetative cover*
 - (c) *Cause soil loss*
 - (d) *Contaminate soils*
 - (e) *Reduce productivity*
 - (f) *Compact soils*
 - (g) *Reduce soil moisture holding capacity.*

- 5.5.3. *To promote the diversification and use of Otago's land resource to achieve sustainable landuse and management systems for future generations.*
- 5.5.4. *To minimise the adverse effects of landuse activities on the quality and quantity of Otago's water resource through promoting and encouraging the:*
- (a) *Creation, retention and where practicable enhancement of riparian margins; and*
 - (b) *Maintaining and where practical enhancing, vegetation cover, upland bogs and wetlands to safeguard land and water values; and*
 - (c) *Avoiding, remedying or mitigating the degradation of groundwater and surface water resources caused by the introduction of contaminants in the form of chemicals, nutrients and sediments resulting from landuse activities.*
- 5.5.6 *To recognise and provide for the protection of Otago's outstanding natural features and landscapes which:*
- (a) *Are unique to or characteristic of the region; or*
 - (b) *Are representative of a particular landform or land cover occurring in the Otago region or of the collective characteristics which give Otago its particular character; or*
 - (c) *Represent areas of cultural or historic significance in Otago; or*
 - (d) *Contain visually or scientifically significant geological features; or*
 - (e) *Have characteristics of cultural, historical and spiritual value that are regionally significant for Tangata Whenua and have been identified in accordance with Tikanga Maori.*
- 5.5.7 *To promote the provision of public access opportunities to natural and physical land features throughout the Otago region except where restriction is necessary:*
- (i) *To protect areas of significant indigenous vegetation and/or significant habitats of indigenous fauna; or*
 - (ii) *To protect Maori cultural values; or*
 - (iii) *To protect public health or safety; or*
 - (iv) *To ensure a level of security consistent with the purpose of a resource consent or in circumstances where safety and security concerns require exclusive occupation; or*
 - (v) *In other exceptional circumstances sufficient to justify the restriction notwithstanding the importance of maintaining that access.*

9 Built Environment

9.4 Objectives

- 9.4.1. *To promote the sustainable management of Otago's built environment in order to:*
- (a) *Meet the present and reasonably foreseeable needs of Otago's people and communities; and*
 - (b) *Provide for amenity values; and*
 - (c) *Conserve and enhance environmental and landscape quality; and*
 - (d) *Recognise and protect heritage values.*

9.4.2. *To promote the sustainable management of Otago's infrastructure to meet the present and reasonably foreseeable needs of Otago's communities.*

9.4.3. *To avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of Otago's built environment on Otago's natural and physical resources.*

9.5 Policies

9.5.1 *To recognise and provide for the relationship Kai Tahu have with the built environment of Otago through:*

- (a) *Considering activities involving papatipu whenua that contribute to the community and cultural development of Kai Tahu; and*
- (b) *Recognising and providing for the protection of sites and resources of cultural importance from the adverse effects of the built environment.*

9.5.2 *To promote and encourage efficiency in the development and use of Otago's infrastructure through:*

- (a) *Encouraging development that maximises the use of existing infrastructure while recognising the need for more appropriate technology; and*
- (b) *Promoting co-ordination amongst network utility operators in the provision and maintenance of infrastructure; and*
- (c) *Encouraging a reduction in the use of non-renewable resources while promoting the use of renewable resources in the construction, development and use of infrastructure; and*
- (d) *Avoiding or mitigating the adverse effects of subdivision, use and development of land on the safety and efficiency of regional infrastructure.*

9.5.4 *To minimise the adverse effects of urban development and settlement, including structures, on Otago's environment through avoiding, remedying or mitigating:*

- (a) *Discharges of contaminants to Otago's air, water or land; and*
- (b) *The creation of noise, vibration and dust; and*
- (c) *Visual intrusion and a reduction in landscape qualities; and*
- (d) *Significant irreversible effects on:*
 - (i) *Otago community values; or*
 - (ii) *Kai Tahu cultural and spiritual values; or*
 - (iii) *The natural character of water bodies and the coastal environment; or*
 - (iv) *Habitats of indigenous fauna; or*
 - (v) *Heritage values; or*
 - (vi) *Amenity values; or*
 - (vii) *Intrinsic values of ecosystems; or*
 - (viii) *Salmon or trout habitat.*

- 9.5.5 *To maintain and, where practicable, enhance the quality of life for people and communities within Otago's built environment through:*
- (a) *Promoting the identification and provision of a level of amenity which is acceptable to the community; and*
 - (b) *Avoiding, remedying or mitigating the adverse effects on community health and safety resulting from the use, development and protection of Otago's natural and physical resources; and*
 - (c) *Avoiding, remedying or mitigating the adverse effects of subdivision, landuse and development on landscape values.*
- 9.5.6 *To recognise and protect Otago's regionally significant heritage sites through:*
- (a) *Identifying Otago's regionally significant heritage sites in consultation with Otago's communities; and*
 - (b) *Developing means to ensure those sites are protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.*

11 Natural Hazards

11.4 Objectives

- 11.4.1 *To recognise and understand the significant natural hazards that threaten Otago's communities and features.*
- 11.4.2 *To avoid or mitigate the adverse effects of natural hazards within Otago to acceptable levels.*
- 11.4.3 *To effectively and efficiently respond to natural hazards occurring within Otago.*
- 11.4.4 *To avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of hazard mitigation measures on natural and physical resources.*

11.5 Policies

- 11.5.2 *To take action necessary to avoid or mitigate the unacceptable adverse effect of natural hazards and the responses to natural hazards on:*
- (a) *Human life; and*
 - (b) *Infrastructure and property; and*
 - (c) *Otago's natural environment; and*
 - (d) *Otago's heritage sites.*
- 11.5.3 *To restrict development on sites or areas recognised as being prone to significant hazards, unless adequate mitigation can be provided.*
- 11.5.4 *To avoid or mitigate the adverse effects of natural hazards within Otago through:*
- (a) *Analysing Otago's natural hazards and identifying their location and potential risk; and*
 - (b) *Promoting and encouraging means to avoid or mitigate natural hazards; and*

- (c) *Identifying and providing structures or services to avoid or mitigate the natural hazard; and*
- (d) *Promoting and encouraging the use of natural processes where practicable to avoid or mitigate the natural hazard.*