

# Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū

**Statement of Intent** 

For the year 1 July 2024 - 30 June 2025 FY 2025

#### **Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust Contact Details**

Registered office	Christchurch City Council, 53 Hereford Street, Christchurch
Postal Address:	P.O. Box 5, Little River, Banks Peninsula 7546
Email:	manager@roddonaldtrust.co.nz
Phone	027 294 5219
Physical Address:	c/o Sidekick, 34 Allen Street, Christchurch Central City, Christchurch 8013

#### Current Trustees as of 1 July 2024

Richard Suggate – Co-chair Jennifer Chowaniec – Co-chair Tyrone Fields Maureen McCloy Paul McNoe Duncan Bright Francesca Brown Anna Cameron Piper Pengelly

Special Trust Advisor: Kamala Hayman

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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
- Acting 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. This was updated in 2013, and again in 2024 to take into account the Council's capital and operational grant funding signalled in the Long Term Plan commencing in FY24. Our Investment and Capital Expenditure policy is available on the Trust's website.

# 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 January 2024. 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 and its purpose will now be reviewed. The CCC Public Open Space Strategy 2010-2040 provides a guiding framework for this. The Trust also contributed to the preparation of

the Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū Banks Peninsula Destination Management Plan and the Walking and Cycling strategy will contribute towards its implementation. 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 wellmarked 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.

# 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 Council's Draft Strategic Framework as follows below:

Rod Donald Trust projects		
<ul> <li>Providing a range of safe, well documented family friendly and more challenging outdoor recreation experiences that benefit the physical and mental wellbeing of today's residents and future generations</li> <li>These are low cost activities and many tracks can be accessed without need to use private vehicles</li> <li>Providing low costs facilities such as tramping huts</li> <li>Encouraging families and young people to explore and develop skills on Banks Peninsula. We are starting to create an educational nature trail for children near Rod Donald Hut</li> <li>Valuing the voices of children and young people by encouraging them to experience the outdoors and better understand the environment</li> <li>Running the Banks Peninsula Walking Festival</li> <li>Providing mapping, and promoting all the walks on Banks Peninsula</li> <li>Working with all agencies and landowner that provide walking and cycling to co-ordinate access links</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>Providing recreation opportunities that enable Otautahi Christchurch residents and organisations to showcase arguably the city's greatest asset -</li> </ul>		

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

collaborate to build our role as a leading New Zealand city. Build trust and	<ul> <li>the landscapes, biodiversity and communities of Banks Peninsula</li> <li>Strengthening the identity of Ōtautahi-Christchurch by creating iconic long distance walks including Te Ara Pātaka</li> <li>Taking over the role of coordination and promotion of the Little River Rail Trail from the Little River Rail Trail Trust</li> <li>Confirming where cycling is allowed on Te Ara Pātaka and liaising with landowners about cycling being allowed in the future about parts where currently not allowed</li> <li>Through the Truct's collaborative relationship with Christchurch City Council</li> </ul>
confidence in the Council through meaningful communication, listening to and working with residents	<ul> <li>Through the Trust's collaborative relationship with Christchurch City Council, we help build confidence in the Council through the meaningful communication we have with our audience about the positive walking, biking, biodiversity and knowledge initiatives that result from Christchurch City Council being involved</li> </ul>
Reduce emissions as a Council and as a city, and invest in adaptation and resilience, leading a city- wide response to climate change while protecting our indigenous biodiversity, waterbodies and tree canopy	<ul> <li>Creating outdoor recreation opportunities that connect with public transport, where possible</li> <li>Protecting water catchment areas through land purchase</li> <li>Supporting purchase of land for biodiversity reserves with full public access, including significant landscape features and a range of indigenous habitats</li> <li>Creating connection for people with landscape and responsibility for natural environment through improved public access combined with biodiversity and promoting knowledge in these areas</li> <li>Demonstrating sustainable use of resources through the Rod Donald Hut experience</li> <li>Promoting low footprint activities on Banks Peninsula for Christchurch residents and visitors</li> <li>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</li> <li>Encouraging widespread participation and support of indigenous biodiversity conservation, including pest control, through grant funding to partner organisations</li> <li>Supporting Conservation Volunteers NZ Whaka Ora Pest project</li> <li>Encouraging widespread participation in support of indigenous biodiversity by private landowners</li> <li>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</li> </ul>
Manage ratepayers' money wisely, delivering quality core services to the whole community and addressing the issues that are important to our residents.	<ul> <li>Trust has provided good value for money to Council and people of Christchurch while achieving large gains for public access and biodiversity, promoting knowledge about Banks Peninsula and leveraging supportive partnerships</li> </ul>
Actively balance the needs of today's residents with the needs of future generations, with the aim of leaving no one behind	<ul> <li>Promoting outdoor recreation opportunities close to the city</li> <li>Managing the Little River Rail Trail linking the city to Banks Peninsula</li> <li>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</li> <li>Working to improve way marking and signage on tracks and trails making it</li> </ul>

	<ul><li>easier for people to use them</li><li>Securing long term improved public walking and biking access</li></ul>
Economic Ambition	<ul> <li>Walking and biking experiences we provide time and space for play. This enhances residents and visitor wellbeing and harmony, helping lead to a balanced life</li> </ul>
City Narrative	<ul> <li>Recreation opportunities we create enable a regenerative economy. Carefully located and built trails are good for people, the planet and the economy. They spark creativity and play in our community and help ensure our city is liveable. We collaborate with partners to value and share knowledge</li> </ul>
Destination Management Plan (Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū Banks Peninsula)	<ul> <li>Developing walkways and cycleways such as extensions to Te Ara Pātaka, assisting with Head to Head Walkway, Little River Rail Trail and working towards the long-term aspiration for a Christchurch to Akaroa walkway</li> <li>Walkways and cycleways enable biodiversity as a tourism drawcard</li> <li>Offering low carbon impact ways for visitors to enjoy and learn about the unique landscapes, biodiversity and community of Banks Peninsula through recreation during all four seasons</li> <li>Exploring ideas to connect existing reserves into multi-day guided or self-guided itineraries that tell the natural and cultural stories of the place</li> <li>Providing a marketing tool, its website www.bpwalks.co.nz, used by organisations such as Christchurch NZ, Akaroa District Promotions and the Lyttelton Harbour Information Centre to attract visitors to the area</li> <li>Assisting rural centres by developing, improving and promoting walking opportunities from these centres resulting in economic and other benefits</li> </ul>

#### 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 the use of electric vehicles where possible
- encourages recreation close to home (on Banks Peninsula rather than further afield)
- educates people about the environment through real-life experiences, particularly at Rod Donald Hut
- supports sequestration in biodiverse native forest.

In FY2024 the Trust undertook a basic assessment of its current carbon footprint using the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment's 'Climate Action Toolbox', with the intention of using this as a baseline to monitor its emissions. The Trust is continuing to take advice on appropriate measures.

#### 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 surprise are core governance principles.

All contractors and employees engaged by the Trust are paid at rates above the minimum wage.

### 5.3 Governance

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

The Trust will comply with recent changes introduced through the Charities Amendment Act 2023.

A 10 year asset plan is not considered necessary for the relatively low value 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 considers skill aspects as well as mana whenua representation, gender and age when making appointments, with a Trustee recruitment process in 2024 resulting in four new members of the Board being appointed from 1 July 2024. These are Duncan Bright, Francesca Brown, Anna Cameron and Piper Pengelly, with Kamala Hayman being appointed as a Special Trust Advisor until 31 December 2024. The Trust will then either co-opt Kamala or recommend her for appointment as Trustee from 1 January 2025, as Richard Suggate has indicated he will retire from the Board on 31 December 2024.

New Trustees undergo an effective induction process, with a Trustee Induction Workshop taking place in June 2024.

### 5.5 Engagement and consultation

The Trust 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 believes it does apply the principles of Te Tiriti to its everyday practices, but will continue to learn and embrace these principles further, and work with the Council's Principal Advisor Treaty Relations to develop its relationships with mana whenua. The Trust has now included 'bicultural understanding' as a regular agenda item at Board meetings, and a bicultural workshop with an external trainer is being scheduled to assist in gauging where the Trust is at in its journey, identify gaps and build understanding.

### 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 FY25 year.

See table below:

Indicator 1	The Trust has determined four key pillars on which its projects will be based; Access, Biodiversity, Knowledge, and Partnerships.		
	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	Provide leadership and tangible support for the projects achieving Access through implementing the CCC Public Open Space Strategy.		
	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.		
Indicator 3	Provide tangible support for biodiversity		
	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.		
Indicator 4	Provide tangible support for projects building the Knowledge pillar, and leadership around walking access knowledge.		
	Trails are used to educate people and connect them to the natural environment and mātauranga Māori 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 Provide tangible support for and work with a range of partners

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
A mutually supportive partnership with Christchurch City Council recognising the Trust as an effective delivery vessel.

### 6.2 Financial performance targets

Financial forecasts are provided for the next three years.

- Capital and operational funding injections from the Christchurch City Council were allocated in the Council's Long Term Plan beginning in FY24. Ongoing operational funding of \$100,000 per annum will continue in FY25, FY26 and FY27. A capital grant from the Council of 1.35M is itemised in the LTP for FY27.
- Operating costs include employment and contractor costs where not otherwise included, 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 cost of goods and services sold, including the Trust's social enterprises.
- Strategic grants and project expenditure in 2024-25 includes projected funding for Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust and progressing the projects listed in Appendix C.
- Project expenditure cost estimations are based on the midpoint cost between the high and low capital expenditure costs listed in the Trust's 'Striding Forward/Hikoi Whakamua 2020-2030 Implementation Plan' dated 3 March 2020, which was developed as a result of the CCC/RDT Joint Working Party.
- The Trustees will report financial results as set out below in the "information to be provided to Council" section.

# **Financial Forecasts**

Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust

Account	Budget 2025	Forecast 2026	Forecast 2027
			-
Income			
Revenue	155,280	157,349	1,509,501
Total Income	155,280	157,349	1,509,501
Other Income			
Interest Income	93,851	88,892	61,808
Total Other Income	93,851	88,892	61,808
Total Revenue	249,131	246,241	1,571,309
Expenses			
Trust Management	155,829	162,028	168,474
Operating Costs	116,850	118,638	121,251
Strategic Grants and Project Expenditure	331,250	766,417	744,044
Total Expenses	603,929	1,047,083	1,033,769
Net Profit	(354,798)	(800,842)	537,540

## **Profit and Loss**

Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust - For the year ended 30 June 2025

Account	FY 2025
Income	
Operational Income	100,000
Capital Funding	C
Banks Peninsula Walking Festival	12,500
Hut Fee Revenue	22,700
Donations	10,000
Te Ara Pātaka Lease Income	8,050
Walking Products	2,030
Total Income	155,280
Other Income	
Interest Income	93,851
Total Other Income	93,851
Total Revenue	249,131
Trust Management Trust Management Salary	120,000
	100.000
Manager Travel Allowance	3,429
Trust Administrator Contract	32,400
Total Trust Management	155,829
Operating Costs	
Administration Costs	55,378
Banks Peninsula Walking Festival	12,000
Hut Operating & Maintenance Costs	24,115
Te Ara Pataka Maintenance costs	10,000
Minor Administrative Projects	2,419
Walking Product Minor Update & Production Costs	1,426
Website Hosting and Minor Updates	2,620
Depreciation	8,892
Total Operating Costs Strategic Grants & Project Expenditure	116,850
Grants (Commitment to Partners)	89,550
Project Expenditure	241,700
Total Strategic Grants & Project Expenditure	331,250
Total Expenses	603,929

### **Profit and Loss**

Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust - For the year ended 30 June 2026

Account	FY2026
Income	
Operational Income	100,000
Banks Peninsula Walking Festival	13,125
Hut Fee Revenue	23,381
Donations	10,500
Te Ara Pātaka Lease Income	8,211
Walking Products	2,132
Total Income	157,349
Other Income	
Interest Income	88,892
Total Other Income	88,892
Total Revenue	246,241
Expenses	
Trust Management	
Trust Management Salary	124,800
Manager Travel Allowance	3,532
Trust Administrator Contract	33,696
Total Trust Management	162,028
Operating Costs	
Administration Costs	56,831
Banks Peninsula Walking Festival	12,360
Hut Operating & Maintenance Costs	24,597
Te Ara Pataka Maintenance costs	10,300
Minor Administrative Projects	2,491
Walking Product Minor Update & Production Costs	1,468
Website Hosting and Minor Updates	2,699
Depreciation	7,892
Total Operating Costs Strategic Grants & Project Expenditure	118,638
Grants (Commitment to Partners)	89,550
Project Expenditure	676,867
Total Strategic Grants & Project Expenditure	766,417
Total Expenses	1,047,083
Net Profit	(800,842)

## **Profit and Loss**

Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust - For the year ended 30 June 2027

Account	FY2027
lu como	
	100.000
Operational Income	100,000
Capital funding - CCC LTP	1,350,000
Banks Peninsula Walking Festival Hut Fee Revenue	13,781
Donations	24,082
Te Ara Pātaka Lease Income	11,025
	8,375
Walking Products Total Income	2,238
l otal income	1,509,501
Other Income	
Interest Income	61,808
Total Other Income	61,808
Total Revenue	1,571,309
	,- ,
Expenses	
Trust Management	
Trust Management Salary	129,792
Manager Travel Allowance	3,638
Trust Administrator Contract	35,044
Total Trust Management	168,474
Operating Costs	
Administration Costs	58,572
Banks Peninsula Walking Festival	12,731
Hut Operating & Maintenance Costs	25,089
Te Ara Pataka Maintenance costs	10,609
Minor Administrative Projects	2,566
Walking Product Minor Update & Production Costs	1,512
Website Hosting and Minor Updates	2,780
Depreciation	7,392
Total Operating Costs	121,251
Strategic Grants & Project Expenditure	00.477
Grants (Commitment to Partners)	90,177
Project Expenditure	653,867
Total Strategic Grants & Project Expenditure	744,044
Total Expenses	1,033,769
Net Profit	537,540

# 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.

Newsletters are provided to the Council when produced. Trust information and projects are recorded on our website, with social media being another medium for providing information.

The RDBPT will provide its annual report 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 2023) is approximately \$2,297,418 including cash and investments. The value of its equity including property and intangible assets is \$2,622,727 (at December 2023). 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 currently 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), although the Trust has now requested the Council consider extending this area to include the entire Banks Peninsula landform within the Christchurch City Council territory. A map of the existing Banks Peninsula boundary area is included as Appendix B to this Statement of Intent, along with map showing the requested boundary adjustments.

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;

(I) 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 primarily within this area.



# Appendix C Project detail

The following are projects which are either in progress and will continue into FY2025 and beyond, or new projects to be implemented in FY2025.

### C.1 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 negotiating an easement from the new Te Ahu Pātiki park to the Sign of the Packhorse Hut across neighbouring land as well as the maintenance or upgrade of tracks not covered by DOC the Council, or Te Ahu Pātiki Trust. 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 total 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. The Trust aims to begin exploration of this in 2024, with the hope to finalise a preferred route in FY2025. Connections to Little River and synergies with the High Bare/Te Whenua Ora 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 five way agreement to also include the Christchurch City Council, Te Ahu Pātiki Trust and Orton Bradley Park is being developed to document the complexities of a network or tracks which crosses multiple land ownerships which is jointly marketed by DOC and the Trust.

### C.2 Te Ahu Pātiki Conservation Park

Te Ahu Pātiki Conservation Park came about as the result of a land acquisition and fundraising campaign undertaken by the Trust, who became the owner of the 500ha block on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021. This allowed for the creation of a public conservation park protecting biodiversity and with full public access. 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 of supporting particular projects on the property at the request of 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 five parties involved in Te Ara Pātaka surrounding track maintenance and responsibilities – the Christchurch City Council, the Department of Conservation, the new Te Ahu Pātiki Trust, Orton Bradley Park and the Rod Donald Trust. The Rod Donald Trust appoints two members to Te Ahu Pātiki Trust Board.

### 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 FY25 this will include replacing and extending the main deck, repair to rotten weatherboards, replacing the solar water pump batteries and updating some of the older mattresses. Consideration will also be given in FY25 to whether accommodation provision could be extended to provide a small number of tent camping sites for walkers.

A plan to construct a short 1km nature walk suitable for families has been agreed, and work began on this in April 2024. Stage one of the project is due to be completed late in 2024 to enable the track to be opened that summer, with further work on developing concepts around interpretation then planned to enable greater educational opportunities relating to Banks Peninsula biodiversity.

#### C.3.2 Walking information products

The Trust has developed the Banks Peninsula Walk Directory, available both in print and on-line, and a suite of walking brochures. Again, 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/Te Whenua Ora 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 assisted by the Little River/Wairewa Community Trust. It has been run annually in November since 2013 and built up a strong reputation and following. Due to uncertain weather conditions that has often threatened the financial viability of a November Festival the decision has now been made to hold the event annually from the last weekend in February to the second weekend in March starting in 2024.

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.

### 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 to assist the Council in 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. Landowners and community organisations are key parties to getting new sections of the route completed. The Trust will engage with them and the Council where its experience as an enabler of access can best be utilised.

### 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 had 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. Continuing support has now been agreed for a further five year period until March 2029, with a

more broad based funding agreement currently being drafted to enable the Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust to use the grant for its priorities.

#### 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, a grant enabling trialling of a new feral pig eradication methodology, grants to the Feral Pig Control Committee for eradication work and an interim Pest Free co-ordinator position managed by Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust. Further funding has not been allocated or forecast but the Trust will keep a watching brief on progress and will consider allocation of funding and funding mechanisms to support future innovative 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 has provided ongoing support to 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 additional walking and biking opportunities including an off-road connection to Te Ara Pātaka from Little River.

#### C.7.1 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.

Rod Donald Trust (RDT) was approached in 2022 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 RDT. RDT agreed in principle to do so, subject to certain conditions, all of which have now been met and the 'Deed of Winding Up' document signed by both parties. Responsibility of all assets and intellectual property has now been handed over to RDT, who are now overseeing general administration of the Rail Trail, including coordination and promotion. Current agreements with the landowning agencies will be updated. Communication and marketing options for the trail will be considered going forward.

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 long-term role the Trust takes with respect to the Rail Trail. The Trust's primary initial focus for improvement and upgrade will be on the section from Motukarara to Little River. We hope to start preparing a strategic plan in association with papatipu rūnanga and the governing agencies to guide the Trust's work.

#### C.7.2 High Bare/Te Whenua Ora

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 (HBPL) - 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 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. 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, and access opportunities to link with Te Ara Pātaka along the ridgeline from the High Bare summit using unformed legal road.

RDT have agreed to make a financial commitment to scope out and mark a basic poled route through HBP land to the ridge, on the condition that this ultimately be developed to become a public access walking route. This route can then be used as an access point to connect High Bare via paper roads and easements to the Te Ara Pātaka track network. 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 Trust's intention to explore this access and biodiversity project as a high priority in FY2024.

### C.8 Partnering with the Summit Road Society

The Summit Road Society has completed the John Jameson lookout, providing a viewpoint and highly accessible entranceway to its Ōhinetahi Reserve and network of associated tracks. The Trust intends to support this project through track improvements, and has already acted as agent in procuring funding to do so. The Trust has also agreed to provide further funding to the Summit Road Society for this work.

### 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 some unformed legal roads where appropriate.
- Working with ChristchurchNZ as it implements 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.

The Trust has recently acted as agent in procuring funding for the Geopark Trust to install interpretation signage in Governors Bay, and will work with the Geopark Trust when it is ready to do so.