



ATTACHMENTS MINUTES

Council Meeting

Wednesday, 28 January 2026

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Strategy Delivery & Accountability Update

Five Museums, One Region

Strengthening the Central Otago Museums Sector

The five museums contribute to:



Preserving Central Otago's Story

Regional Identity Through Local Stories

Community Engagement and Education

Deliverables in the performance agreement



1. Foster greater sharing of resources
2. Improve consistent policy development
3. Enhance connections with visitors and community
4. Action plan of agreed goals based on CODC museum strategy



Foster greater sharing of resources

COMT works towards

- Shared governance and policy frameworks
- Collection management standards
- Centralised data on museums, collections, visitors, volunteers, risks and capability
- Volunteer workforce support
- Joint funding applications and reporting

Improve consistent policy development



COMT supports this through

1. Shared templates, policies and systems
2. Connecting to national networks (Te Papa, Otago Museum, Museums Aotearoa)
3. Professional development
4. Planning for inventory and digitisation



Enhance connections with visitors and community

COMT is developing a unified digital presence including:

- A coordinated regional website (information is currently spread across multiple platforms)
- Consistent visitor information, events and exhibitions
- Integrated social media and professional imagery
- Education and research resources
- Regional storytelling through Heritage Central Otago podcasts



Action plan for 2026

Network Coordination & Systems

- Embedding shared policies across all museums
- Research and development of the District Disaster Management Plan
- Sector audit and contact database
- Consistent visitor survey tools



Action plan for 2026

Professional Development

- Te Papa Collections Management course
- Textile Care Workshops with Jane Malthus
- Facilitating the easy delivery of the Service IQ training program
- Specialist contractor support for individual museums guided by Te Papa and the Regional Museum Development Officer



Action plan for 2026

Digital & Engagement

- Website launch and social media coordination
- Online collection highlights and news
- Education partnerships and youth pathways



Action plan for 2026

Foundational Sector Document

- A comprehensive regional profile covering collections, facilities, governance, risks, visitor trends and future needs to support evidence-based planning and funding.



Action plan for 2026

- District-wide exhibitions building textiles and fashion focus linked to the Eden Hore Collection
- Heritage and tourism integration with Central Otago Heritage and Tourism Central Otago
- Podcast Project
A working group has formed to develop a Central Otago podcast series, including 100 Objects mini-episodes and longer-form stories. Heritage Trust has offered seed funding, with a pilot planned on the Hyde Railway Disaster.



Thank you for your support to date.

We seek your continued support for the full realisation of the strategy, long-term resilience, and maximum return on Council's investment in Central Otago's heritage.

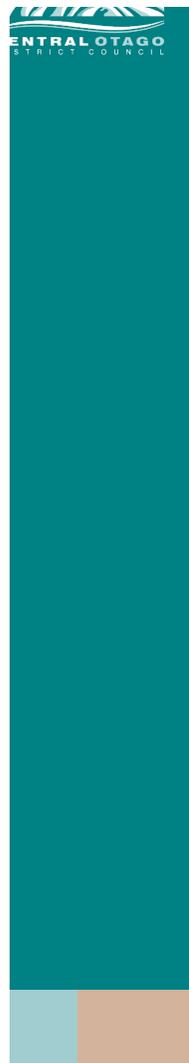


2x Submissions

Simplifying Local Government; Earthquake-Prone Buildings

January 2026

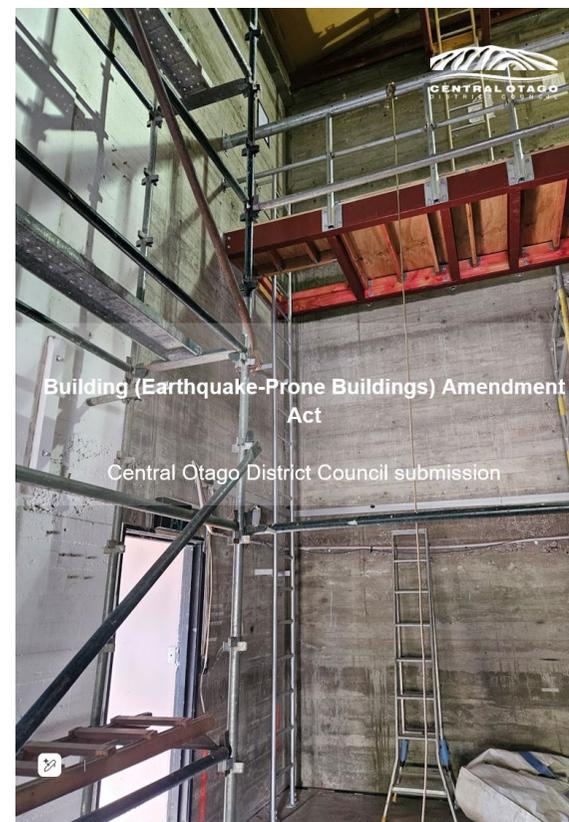


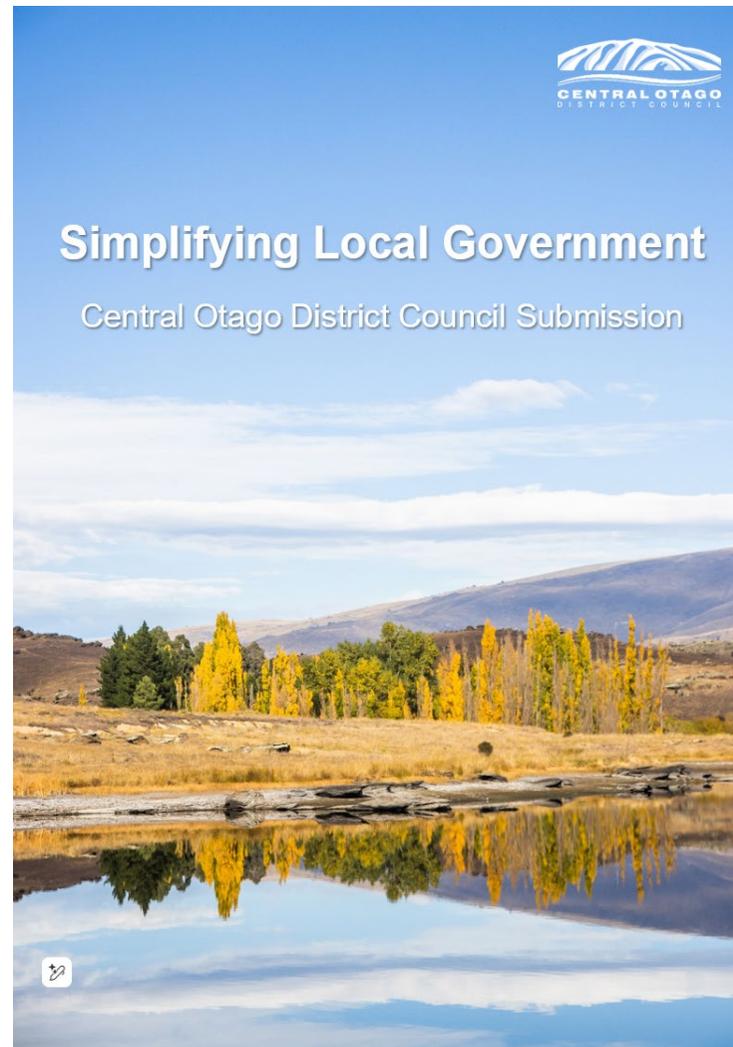


Earthquake-Prone Buildings

Building Amendment Act Submission

- Short submission reflecting the November 2025 meeting
- Supports the tired and cost-effective mitigation requirements & risk based approach
- Emphasises a need for community safety
- Discusses challenge of heritage buildings being measured against the New Building Standard, and the associated cost of remediation
- Discusses costings for remediation in current Long-term Plan and potential for these to reduce under the new approach



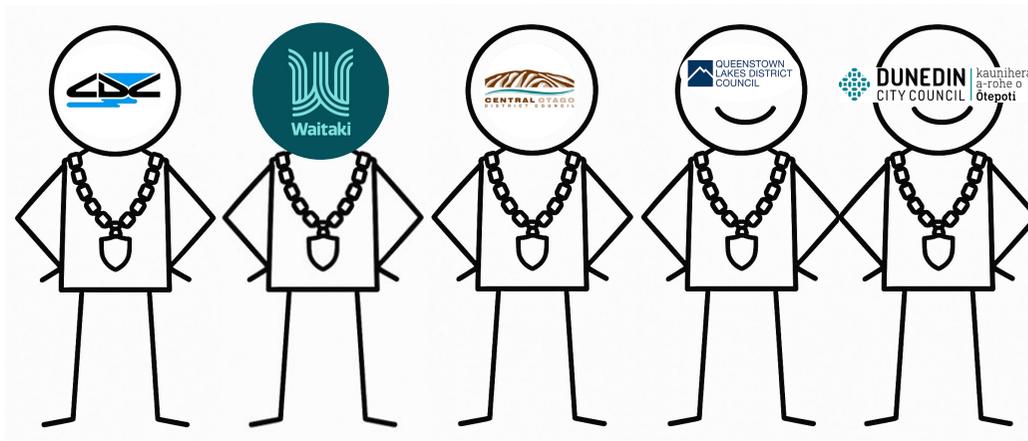


Simplifying Local Government



- Two key proposals:
 1. Abolish regional councillors and replace them with Combined Territories Boards (CTBs) made up of Mayors

Simplifying Local Government



- Two key proposals:
 2. CTB to create 'locally led reorganisation plans' within two years. Crown Commissioner has unclear role.

Criteria

Big picture fit

Affordable now and into the future

Better services

Clear leadership

Local say

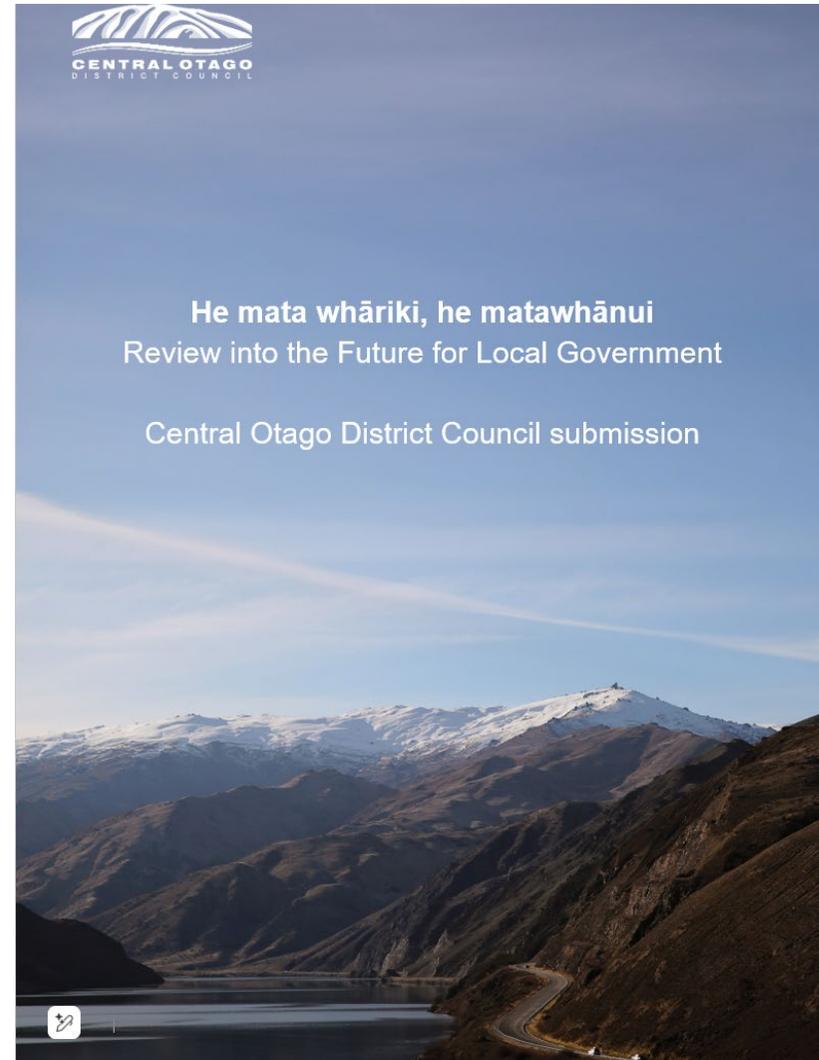
Treaty arrangements

Can it be done?

The Minister is seeking feedback on...

- The Role of Crown Commissioners
- Voting arrangements on CTBs
- Do you support the proposal to develop a regional reorganisation plan?
- What do you think about the criteria to assess reorganisation plans?

Submissions close 20 February 2026.



CTB voting model – Option A



Population	18,315	23,472	24,306	47,808	128,901
Option A	1	1	1	1	1
	Majority – can outvote rest			Outvoted by minority population	
	66,093			176,709	
	27%			73%	

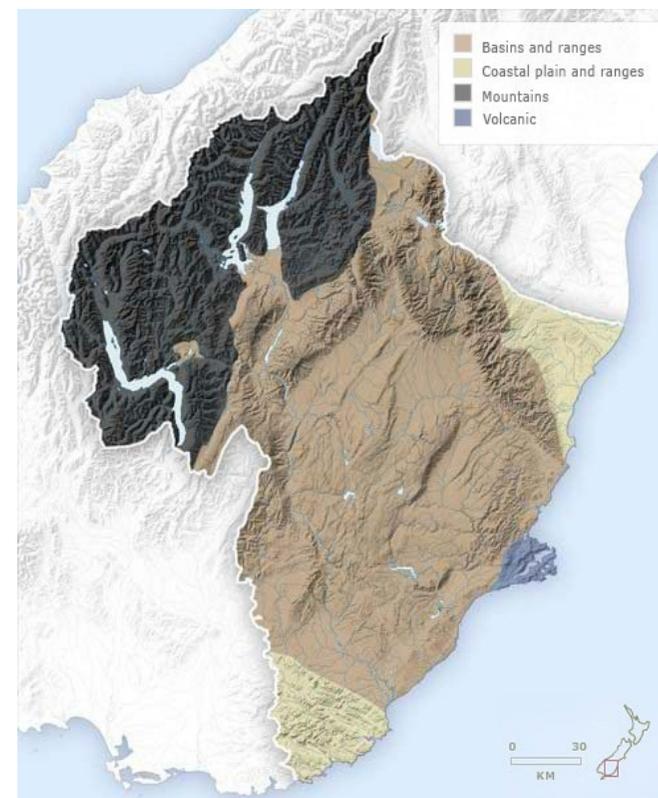
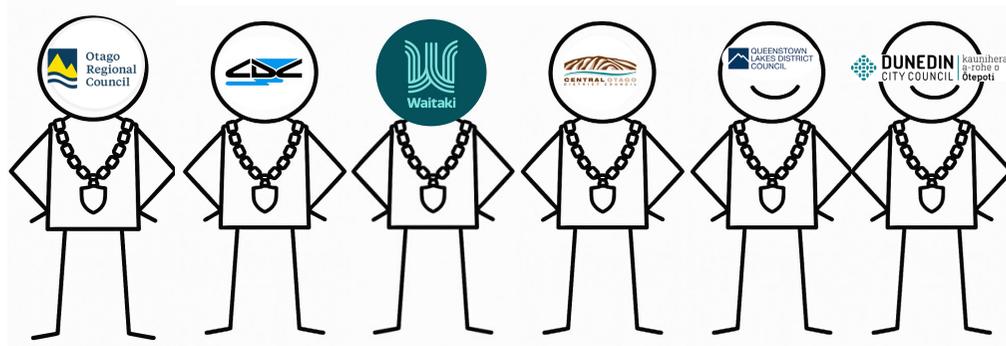
CTB voting model – option B



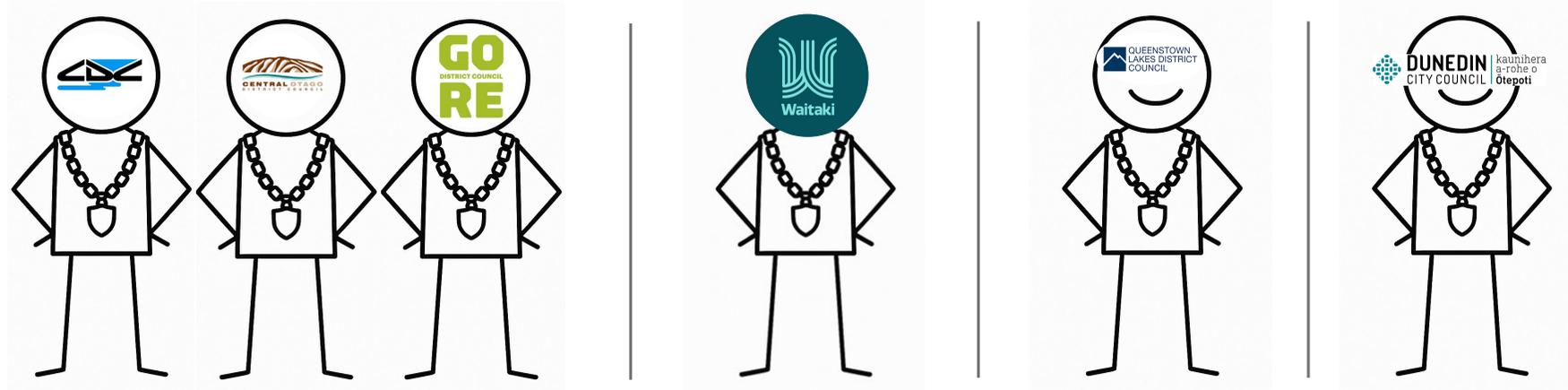
Population	18,315	23,472	24,306	47,808	128,901
Option B	Share 10% of the vote			20%	70%
	Outvoted always				Majority always

Working together is a good idea – so we do...

- Mayoral Forum
- Chief Executives Forum
- Executive team shared away days
- Te Rōpū Taiao Otago
- Joint Committees: Regional Transport, Emergency Management, Regional Deals
- Councillor working groups
- Staff working groups: climate change, economic development, waste management.
- Tourism partnerships – Southern Way, trails



Different Waters Boundaries



?

Standalone
CCO

Standalone
CCO



Shaping tomorrow together
THE CENTRAL OTAGO WELLBEING PROJECT



RMA Reform

Natural Environment Bill and Planning Bill

Submissions Close 13th February 2026





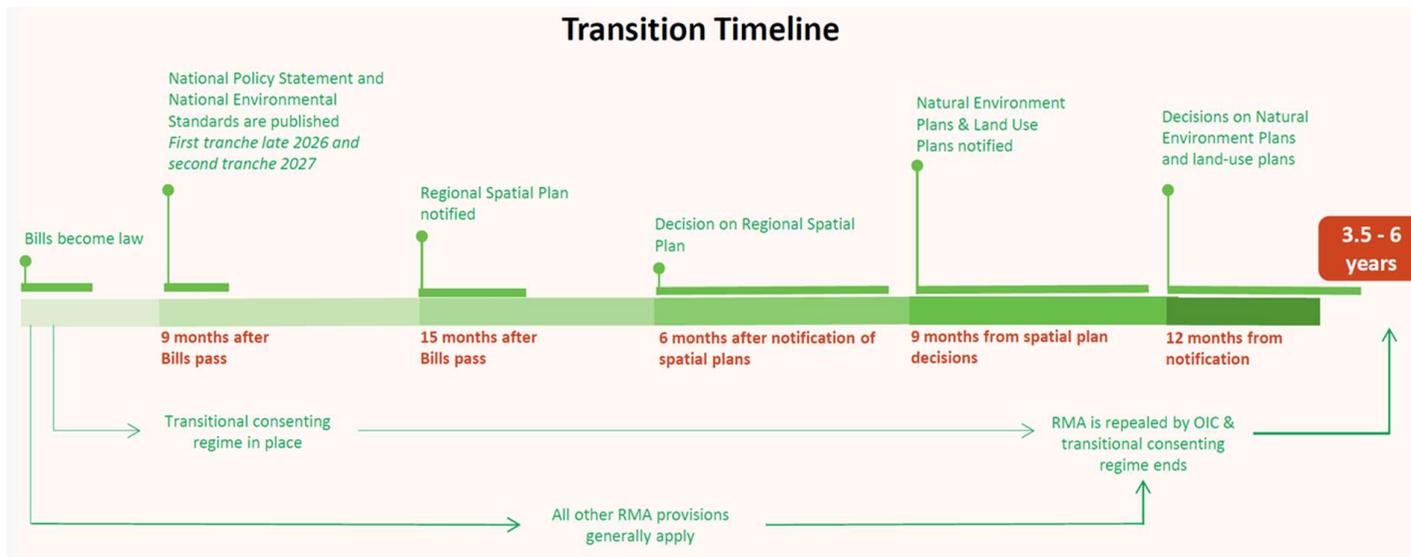
New Planning System

- The Natural Environment Bill (NEB) and Planning Bill (PB) are the two pieces of legislation the Government has introduced to replace the Resource Management Act 1991:
 - **The Natural Environment Act** establishes a new framework of environmental limits and targets for air, freshwater, land, soil and indigenous biodiversity, and sets up national direction to guide councils' environmental plans and consenting decisions (Regional Council).
 - **The Planning Act** focuses on how land can be used and developed, including for housing, business and infrastructure (District Council).
- The first reading was 16th December 2025 and it is now before the Environment Select Committee with submissions closing 13 February 2026.



Transition

The new legislation is expected to be enacted mid 2026 and phased in so the new system is fully operational by around 2029.





Hierarchy of Instruments

A key element of the new planning system is national policy direction and standards to be implemented through Regional Spatial Plans, Land Use Plans and Natural Environment Plans.

- The PB provides a familiar but modified hierarchy of key instruments:
 - national policy direction (to be released late 2026 & 2027);
 - national standards (due mid 2026);
 - regional spatial plans (late 2027);
 - land use plans and natural environment plans.

Note: Like the RMA, each instrument must implement the instrument higher than it on the list.



Key Elements of New System

- Top-down directives and ministerial 'step-in' powers designed to ensure national priorities met.
- Ministerial Intervention, control and decision making
- Regional Spatial Plans to be developed by Spatial Plan Committee formed by all Local Authorities in a region and would include administration support (Minister can also appoint someone)
- Land Use Plans and Natural Environment Plans will replace District/Regional Plans – guided by national direction and national standards (zones)
- Land use plans will replace District/City Plans. The proposal would see each Council will effectively 'bolting in' to a Regional Plan.



Key Elements of New System

- New Planning Tribunal established to review administrative decisions and resolve issues quickly.
- Environment Court appeals on notified permits or consents
- Regulatory Relief Provisions – This is significant for TA's who are requirement to develop relief frameworks if a rule in a plan or proposed plan has a 'significant impact on the reasonable use of land'.
- Mandatory Delegation of decision making on notified resource consents to independent commissioners.
- Limits on who can submit on notified resource consents



Submission Recommendations

- Co-ordination and consideration with other legislative changes affecting local government is essential – ie any cost to TA's when there is a rates cap proposed.
- Achievability of Timeframes – extend timeframes to ensure all higher order documents are released well in advance of TA's having to develop plans.
- Clarify when each tranche of national direction/standards will be released and what they will be – currently vague.
- Implementation Costs should be carefully considered and understood – review timeline and work with TA's to understand funding scenarios/assumptions for 2027/2037 LTP cycle.
- Support having own section in regional land use plans
- Remove regulatory relief provisions altogether.
- Remove Ministerial decision making/oversight other than in relation to setting national direction/standards.
- Transition – minimise transitional rules and provide clarity about how the RMA is to be applied in transition.