

DRAFT MINUTES

CANTERBURY MAYORAL FORUM



Name:	Canterbury Mayoral Forum
Date:	Friday, 28 August 2026
Time:	8:30 am to 12:45 pm (NZST)
Location:	Commodore Hotel, 449 Memorial Avenue, Burnside, Christchurch
Board Members:	Craig Rowley, Craig Mackle, Dan Gordon, Lydia Gliddon, Dr Deon Swiggs, Liz McMillan, Marie Black, Melanie Tavendale, Nigel Bowen (Chair), Scott Aronsén
Attendees:	Alex Parmley, Angela Oosthuizen, Bede Carran, Dr Stefanie Rixecker, Hamish Riach, Hamish Dobbie, Jeff Millward, Nigel Trainor, Steve Gibling, Will Doughty, Maree McNeilly, Amelia Wilkins, Ann Fitzgerald
Apologies:	Phil Mauger, Stuart Duncan, Justin Tipa, Tania Wati, Ben Bateman
Guests/Notes:	Deputy Mayor Victoria Henstock for Mayor Phil Mauger, Susan Goodfellow, Rebecca Whillans, Sara Black (Item 2.1); John Bartels (Item 3.2); Marie Ward (for Diane McDermott) (Item 5.1); Jesse Burgess (Items 6.1; 6.2; 6.3)

1. Open Meeting

1.1 Welcome, karakia and apologies

The Chair opened the meeting with a karakia and noted apologies from Phil Mauger, Stuart Duncan and Diane McDermott. Late apologies were received from Justin Tipa, Tania Wati and Ben Bateman.

Nigel noted that this would have been Stuart Duncan's final meeting before retirement. This was acknowledged with a card and gift to be passed on to Stuart.

It was noted that the Regional Spatial Plan item had been brought forward in the agenda. The Chair welcomed Deputy Mayor Victoria Henstock, Christchurch City Council deputy mayor in attendance for Mayor Phil Mauger for the Spatial Plan discussion.

1.2 Confirmation of agenda

The Forum confirmed the agenda and agreed to include H5N1 avian influenza as an item of general business. The discussion noted community concern across several districts, the role of MPI as lead agency, the likely responsibilities of territorial authorities for managing dead or sick birds, and the potential implications for poultry production, native species and tourism - this is further discussed under General Business.

1.3 Minutes from the previous meeting

Canterbury Mayoral Forum 29 May 2026, the minutes were confirmed as presented.

Canterbury Mayoral Forum - Regional Spatial Plan 17 Jul 2026, the minutes were confirmed as presented.

**Decision**

1. The minutes of the 29 May 2026 Canterbury Mayoral Forum meeting were confirmed as presented.

Decision Date: 28 Aug 2026
Mover: Craig Mackle
Second: Melanie Tavendale
Outcome: Approved

**Decision**

1. The minutes of the 17 July 2026 Canterbury Mayoral Forum Regional Spatial Plan meeting were confirmed as presented.

Decision Date: 28 Aug 2026
Mover: Nigel Bowen
Second: Craig Rowley
Outcome: Approved

1.4 Action List

Due Date	Action Title	Owner(s)
30 Jun 2025	Action Status: On Hold	Maree McNeilly
30 Jun 2025	Action Status: On Hold	Nigel Bowen

The Board noted that the two outstanding actions remained on hold: the Regional Building Consent Authority options work and the genetic engineering national conversation.

2. For discussion and decision**2.1 Waitaha Canterbury Regional Spatial Plan**

John Bartels, Interim Programme Director Regional Spatial Plan, chaired the meeting for this item to support the discussion.

Hamish Dobbie introduced the paper noting the update on progress to establish the Waitaha Canterbury Regional Spatial Plan Programme, including the committee structure, the establishment workstreams, and the next steps needed to keep the programme moving.

The Christchurch City Council's recent resolution to support the committee terms of reference only if two additional voting members are added was discussed.

Key discussion points included:

- Deputy Mayor Victoria Henstock confirmed the Christchurch City resolution would not affect the agreement for CCC to host the RSP Secretariat.
- members noted that agreement to the CCC resolution would reopen discussion of the whole model that has been progressed collectively across the Mayoral Forum, and agreed to by a number of councils already, and it carries risks for regional cohesion, trust, and timely delivery. Councils who have already made their decision based on the original request from the Mayoral Forum would need to revisit their decisions, and in a worst case scenario, if no agreement is reached the structure of the Regional Spatial Plan Committee could become a Ministerial decision. This may slow the process and raise operational complexities in terms of meeting legislative timeframes.
- reaffirming the recommended committee membership model: one representative from each local authority, three mana whenua representatives, an independent non-voting chair, and non-voting central government representation. This model reflects consensus decision

making and the collaborative approach already agreed, keeping the committee manageable, and aligned to the Planning Bill's intent.

- all councils, with the exception of Waimakariri, Selwyn and Hurunui (who will be considering the matter at their September meetings) have made their decisions regarding terms of reference for the Waitaha Canterbury Regional Spatial Plan Committee. It was noted that Kaikōura has deferred the funding decision until after advice on their Head Start proposal. Canterbury Regional Council will consider the debt funding request from the Mayoral Forum, and their contribution to the establishment phase, at their September meeting.
- the option of CCC supporting one representative initially, with consideration being given to two further representatives during the development of the process agreement was discussed, but ultimately not supported
- it was noted all local authorities need to agree on the terms of reference for the committee
- it was agreed that the Chair would write to CCC to explain the rationale for the CMF decision.

The attachment 'regional spatial plan decision making process flowchart' was briefly discussed, noting the number of decision-making gateways for individual councils throughout the process. The Process Agreement was also discussed, noting the intention to work with council officers, and through them individual councils on this throughout September-November, with the intention to come back to individual councils for final agreement, planning to be December 2026.

The six recommendations were voted on collectively, Deputy Mayor Victoria Henstock (CCC) voted against the recommendations.

Deputy Mayor Henstock left the meeting after this item.



Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum:

1. received the update on the establishment phase of the Regional Spatial Planning Programme
2. noted that at its full Council meeting of 12 August, Christchurch City Council resolved to:
 - “5. Approves the terms of reference (Attachment A to this report) for the Waitaha Canterbury Regional Spatial Plan Committee, conditional on the inclusion of two additional voting members, appointed at a future date by Christchurch City Council....and
 - 7. Notes that approval for the alteration of the terms of reference required by Recommendation 5 above will be sought from other Canterbury councils”.
3. agreed that the representation on the Waitaha Canterbury Regional Spatial Plan Committee as proposed for individual council endorsement will remain, i.e. one representative for each 11 local authorities, three mana whenua representatives, with provision for alternates, non-voting independent chair, non-voting central government representatives as appointed by the Minister - (CMF Recommendation 29 May 2026).

This recognises the committee membership model has been negotiated and well considered over the past several months through the Mayoral Forum, notes that a number of local authorities have, or are soon to, consider endorsement of the Committee Terms of Reference, and reflects the requirements of s74B of the soon to be enacted Planning Bill 2025 in relation to consensus decision making and dispute resolution for local authorities and Spatial Plan Committee for regional spatial planning.
4. requested the Chair of the Mayoral Forum formally communicate to Christchurch City Council, in response to its decision made at its 12 August 2026 full council meeting, seeking an additional two members on the Regional

Spatial Planning Committee, what is agreed by the Mayoral Forum in relation to recommendation 3 of this report and its underlying rationale and reasoning and seek Christchurch City Council to reconsider its decision on this specific matter as soon as practicable.

5. noted that the next decision milestone for the Mayoral Forum and individual local authorities, under the soon to be enacted Planning Bill 2025, is the approval of the Process Agreement for the Waitaha Canterbury Regional Spatial Plan, with the Spatial Plan Committee Terms of Reference as an attachment.

6. noted that the approval of the Process Agreement by individual local authorities is part of a series of decision-making gateways in the establishment, development, hearings and approvals and implementation of the Waitaha Canterbury Regional Spatial Plan.

Decision Date: 28 Aug 2026
Mover: Dan Gordon
Seconder: Marie Black
Outcome: Approved



Action

Nigel Bowen to write to Christchurch City Council communicating the Board's position and rationale on Regional Spatial Plan Committee representation, seeking reconsideration of the request for two additional members and offering further discussion.

Due Date: 4 Sep. 2026
Owner: Nigel Bowen

3. For discussion

3.1 Canterbury Water Supply Schemes

The Forum received a presentation from Susan Goodfellow, CE Central Plains Water, supported by Rebecca Whillans, CE Ashburton Lyndhurst Irrigation Ltd and Sara Black, CE Amuri Irrigation Company, representing the Canterbury Water Scheme CEs, on the collective value and impact of all 11 Canterbury water schemes and the long-term role of Canterbury's collective freshwater infrastructure.

Discussion noted that the 11 major schemes collectively manage water for more than 2,000 users across approximately 350,000 hectares within a 470,000 hectare command area, manage about 75% of Canterbury's consented river water resource, and have contributed to a reported 50% reduction in nitrate leaching. The Schemes' collective annual economic contribution was presented as approximately \$2 billion to GDP, with an asset replacement value of about \$2.4 billion.

The presentation noted the schemes' contribution to multiple uses beyond irrigation, including drought resilience, flood buffering, stock water, drinking water, firefighting, hydrogeneration, managed aquifer recharge and support for environmental flows. A key asset from the schemes is the value of collective data, monitoring and long-lived infrastructure in supporting future planning and investment decisions.

The presenters noted the schemes' continued commitment to the Canterbury Water Management Strategy and their interest in contributing to a future refresh with councils and iwi. Discussion also noted that, despite planning reform, environmental limits and over-allocation issues will remain important, and that regional spatial planning may provide a useful forum for considering long-term freshwater infrastructure, consent duration, and catchment-scale management.

The Chair thanked Susan, Rebecca and Sara for their presentation and the information provided.

4. For discussion and decision

4.1 Canterbury Water Management Strategy

Deon introduced paper and introduced Cameron Smith who is here to support the discussion.

In terms of the CMF request for advice regarding the future of the CWMS in light of government reforms, staff advice is to conduct a review early in 2027 once new legislation and regulations are enacted. Links with regional spatial planning will also be important. While understanding the rationale for pausing the review there is some concern at the resulting loss of momentum in some areas. There is significant community ownership of CWMS and delivery and the review needs to consider these views

The significant community ownership of CWMS through local leaderships group was noted, and this will be critical moving forward, particularly around any environmental limits. In terms of local leadership groups, while noting there have been some delays, when there is a request from a community to progress these CRC staff ready to support this process.

- Hurunui and Waimakariri confirmed support to progress local leadership groups
- Selwyn - good meeting with ADC and SDC and communities – want to work alongside the various parties and redefine Zone Committee away from a funding focus
- Ashburton will go back to council to reaffirm councils commitment

Stefanie noted that with RM reforms there will be more monitoring and this will be easier with the community on board. Deon noted that will be important for communities to be involved in discussions around monitoring and how limits will be set under new legislation.



Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum:

1. noted the Government's reform programme will have significant implications for the Canterbury Water Management Strategy and freshwater management in Canterbury, and that clarity on final reform decisions is needed before assessing the future of the Strategy
2. noted that mana whenua and the community have played a critical part in delivering to Canterbury Water Management Strategy outcomes, and any decision on the future of the Strategy should be informed by mana whenua and community views
3. agreed that advice on timing and process for a review of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy come to the Mayoral Forum in mid-2027, pending further clarity on local government and resource management reform
4. agreed that establishment of local leadership groups only be progressed in areas where a request to do so has been received by local mayors and/or councils
5. agreed that each local mayor and/or council notify the Chief Executive of the Canterbury Regional Council in writing of their intention to progress the establishment of local leadership groups in their area by 25 September 2026

Decision Date: 28 Aug 2026
Mover: Lydia Gliddon
Seconder: Craig Mackle
Outcome: Approved



Action

Each local mayor and/or council to notify the Chief Executive of the Canterbury Regional Council in writing if they intend to progress establishment of local leadership groups in their area.

Due Date: 25 Sept 2026

Owner: Maree McNeilly

5. For discussion

5.1 Regional Public Service Commissioner

The Forum received an update from Marie Ward, on behalf of the Regional Public Service Commissioner, covering current cross-agency priorities in Canterbury. Discussion focused on children and youth, including school attendance and post-school transitions, concern around negative statistics and challenges coming through for women in Canterbury including unemployment, homelessness and corrections-related impacts, and housing pressures including rough sleeping and hidden homelessness. Marie also noted ongoing work on skills and economic development with tertiary institutions.

It was noted that Christchurch City and Waimakariri District have received additional funding for housing, through consolidated work across housing groups speaking with one voice, giving government confidence to fund here, however it was noted that housing funding is not spreading wider across the region.

The Forum raised concerns about delays and sustainability issues in the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs contracting arrangements and noted the importance of aligning public service support with local and regional initiatives already underway.

Marie advised that MPI would provide an online H1N1 avian influenza session for councils and that a link to relevant information would be circulated. Forum members requested that the discussion also needed to include Department of Conservation given implications for wildlife and tourism.

Marie also noted the Regional Public Service support to the Canterbury regional energy work programme had reduced to a limited ongoing contribution, and that there was interest in ensuring regional work remains aligned with any future national energy strategy.

6. KAI - Morning tea

6.1 Kai - morning tea

7. For discussion

7.1 Simplifying Local Government

The Forum has a brief discussion on Simplifying Local Government reform, noting that at this stage we are waiting on decisions from Government. It was noted that MCERT had asked a question of the North Canterbury proposal (Hurunui, Waimakariri, Christchurch and Selwyn). Further discussion noted that responses from central government had been limited.

It was discussed that further work will be required with the Canterbury Regional Council on design, staffing, risk and funding implications, and that continuity of critical services such as emergency management and flood protection must be maintained through any transition.

8. For discussion and decision

8.1 Waitaha Canterbury Regional Investment Prospectus

Jesse Burgess, Regional Deal working group member, provided an update on the Waitaha Canterbury Regional Investment Prospectus and noted that Phase 1 work had progressed using in-kind resources, drawing on Waitaha Canterbury World-stage Ready and Canterbury Ambition as the basis for a regional investment narrative. Discussion confirmed that the workstream had shifted from a Regional Deal focus toward a broader investment prospectus intended for multiple audiences.

It was noted that at this stage the work is progressing with in-kind resources which has an impact on the timing of deliverables.

The Forum raised the relationship between this work and Business Canterbury's Canterbury Ambition workshops, noting the overlap in themes, the need for clearer alignment, and the importance of ensuring the whole region is represented in any Canterbury-wide proposition.

A discussion was held on whether the Mayoral Forum should contribute funds to the Business Canterbury work streams, noting that \$30,000 was provided for the initial Canterbury Ambition work.

It was agreed that the Chair, along with the Chair of the Economic Development Forum and appropriate staff should meet with Business Canterbury to discuss this directly. Clarity is needed on scope, deliverables and coordination with external parties. It was noted that if the Mayoral Forum is contributing, the work would need to reflect all of Canterbury, not just the area covered by Business Canterbury.



Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum:

1. provided feedback on the Phase 1 workstream 1 report for the Waitaha Canterbury Regional Investment Prospectus
2. provided advice on next steps proposed for delivery of the next stages of the Waitaha Canterbury Regional Investment Prospectus workstream
3. requested that the Chair, Chair of Canterbury Economic Development Forum, and appropriate staff, meet with Business Canterbury to discuss alignment between Canterbury Ambition and Mayoral Forum workstreams.

Decision Date: 28 Aug 2026

Mover: Nigel Bowen

Seconded: Marie Black

Outcome: Approved



Action

Secretariat to arrange meeting with Business Canterbury and the Chair, Chair Economic Development Forum and appropriate staff to discuss Canterbury Ambition workstreams.

Due Date: 4 Sept 2026

Owner: Maree McNeilly

8.2 Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan update

Mayor Dan Gordon introduced the paper, as Chair of the Canterbury Climate Champions Reference Group, and highlighted key points, particularly noting delivery options for year 3.

The paper proposed three options going forward. Dan indicated he does not want to see progress on the Plan slowed and noted the Climate Champions group would be disappointed if this was the case. Dan expressed strong support for continuation of the Plan.

Jesse Burgess, Chair Climate Change Working Group, emphasised the efforts taken to achieve a balanced and prudent approach to progressing this workstream and that this is reflected in the recommendations. Progress has been made on several key actions, with Resilience Explorer (Action 1) and the development of a blue green network plan (Action 4) ready for procurement.

Links with the Regional Spatial Planning work were noted.

The key decision required is how to progress year 3 and the associated budget.

Lydia noted that Selwyn District Council (SDC) continues to support the Climate Partnership Plan, however they do have an issue with rating for work that is not undertaken, resulting in significant carry over of funding.

It was suggested that funds should only be requested when they are needed and will be spent.

Jesse noted that should the Forum agree to the recommendation to approve delivery of Year 3 through Option C, the team will proceed with the procurement of the Resilience Explorer tool, and the regional blue-green network plan, which will mean that the additional \$114,368 for year three will be required now.

Based on this confirmation of a committed work programme, Lydia advised proceeding to invoice SDC for their share of year 3 funding (based on Option C) and she will take the updated work plan and additional funding decision back to her council.

Lydia Gliddon abstained from voting on this item.



Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum:

1. received the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan strategic review report
2. approved delivery of Year 3 of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan through a balanced delivery approach (Option C) as recommended by the Chief Executives Forum: proceeding with a total budget of \$624,607 (comprised of \$114,368 in year 3 council contributions and \$510,239 in year 2 carry forwards)
3. agreed Year 3 council contributions will be shared via the agreed regional forums budget allocations
4. approved the procurement of the Resilience Explorer tool (Action 1) for a one-year regional pilot, at a cost not exceeding \$250,000
5. agreed to provide feedback on the draft emissions reduction actions for the transition to low emissions plan (Action 2)
6. noted that Canterbury councils' subscription to the Local Emissions Data Platform will end in October 2026 and not progress into Year 3
7. approved the procurement of a regional blue-green network plan (Action 4) based on the draft scope for procurement
8. noted the disestablishment of the It's Time, Canterbury platform and the subsequent closing of Action 5.1, and that the Canterbury Regional Council will instead lead the delivery of regional climate change messaging through alternate channels
9. received the quarterly Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan implementation progress report and accompanying budget summary for quarter 4, Year 2.

Decision Date: 28 Aug 2026
Mover: Dan Gordon
Second: Marie Black
Outcome: Approved



Action

Jesse to provide further details of the resilience explorer tool and Blue Green Network to Selwyn District Council to support the request for year 3 funds

Due Date: 17 Sept 2026

Owner: Maree McNeilly

8.3 Canterbury Regional Energy Workstream update

Hamish Riach invited Jesse Burgess, Chair Energy Steering Group, to speak to the paper.

Excellent progress has been made on the energy workstream, noting in particular the high level of engagement with rūnunga, stakeholders and industry.

The Strategic Framework was presented for approval and the draft Action Plan for endorsement of the overall direction. Feedback is invited from members prior to the plan being finalised.

Options for governance and leadership arrangements for implementing the Action Plan, including a regional governance approach which would include private sector representation were noted, along with links to the Climate Partnership Plan emissions work and future regional spatial planning.

It is proposed to bring the final Action Plan and governance options to the November Mayoral Forum meeting.

Will acknowledged the work done and how useful this has been in various conversations Kaikoura District Council is involved in.



Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum:

1. approved the Regional Energy Strategic Framework, incorporating minor amendments since endorsement in May 2026, and noted that it would be circulated to stakeholders and published in September 2026.
2. endorsed in principle the overall direction of the draft Regional Energy Action Plan and invited further feedback by 11 September 2026, noting the Action Plan's alignment with regional spatial planning, climate action and broader economic development priorities.
3. agreed in principle that work should proceed on establishing an expanded Regional Energy Governance Group to support coordination and oversight, including consideration of a staged transition approach, and noted that the refined Action Plan and governance recommendations would return for approval in November 2026.

Decision Date: 28 Aug 2026

Mover: Nigel Bowen

Seconder: Craig Mackle

Outcome: Approved

8.4 Before the Deluge 3.0

Nigel welcomed Leigh Griffiths General Manager Hazards, Canterbury Regional Council to the meeting to join Deon in presenting the paper

Key discussion points

- the importance of continuing advocacy for co-investment with central government, particularly for Canterbury
- the benefits and consequences of where river and flood management work has been done, compared with where no action has been taken are clearly playing out.

- significant funding is required, and it is important to get visibility of this at central government level, with the aim of securing baseline funding in central government budgets for this work
- stop-start funding increases costs and risks, and flood resilience protects nationally significant infrastructure and communities
- each council needs to understand the work and funding required
- funding conversations at a national level, including with the insurance council, are planned. If insurance companies are to remain in NZ they will need evidence of mitigation strategies
- Leigh noted the data in the report will be updated when the 30-year infrastructure strategy is updated
- one off co-investment of several tranches of central government funding has been secured to get some of the work underway on the ground
- a database view of all the flood assets in NZ is needed to help prioritise work, including maintenance work such as gravel extraction
- current local government reform risks breaking the funding model for flood protection, and alternative funding models need to be explored
- the success of advocacy for this work over the years was acknowledged, and it is critical that new governance entities understand the work and what is required going forward, including funding.



Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum:

1. noted the release of the updated Before the Deluge 3.0 business case for long-term Crown co-investment in national flood risk resilience
2. noted that the refreshed business case now includes operational expenditure as well as capital investment and updated project information from regional and unitary councils, including a proposed annual national programme of approximately \$400 million based on a 60/40 Crown-council model.
3. endorsed use of the updated business case as a common evidence base for regional and national advocacy, noting the discussion that stop-start funding increases costs and risks, that flood resilience protects nationally significant infrastructure and communities, and that a more permanent co-investment framework is needed.

Decision Date: 28 Aug 2026
Mover: Nigel Bowen
Seconded: Craig Mackle
Outcome: Approved

8.5 Regional and unitary council biosecurity interventions

The Chair welcomed Judith Earl-Goulet, General Manager Catchment Implementation Canterbury Regional Council to present the paper along with Deon.

Te Uru Kahika's role in commissioning the report on the benefits to primary production of regional and unitary council biosecurity interventions was acknowledged. It was also noted that the team worked closely with those involved in Before the Deluge 3.0.

Key discussion points:

- the current reform process risks significant disruption to the programmes that are currently being run, and this will have significant impact on biosecurity
- it is critical that these programmes are not fragmented through the reform process

- there are opportunities to structure this work differently – e.g. South Island wide but still retaining delivery in individual districts
- Deon is meeting with politicians, including Minister Hoggard, Labour and NZ First members to highlight how critical work is to the economy
- the success of the wallaby programme was noted
- a further \$12M in funding for the Wilding Pine programme was agreed to by Canterbury Regional Council this week
- the Nasella tussock eradication programme is still active, with the focus now on early detection
- the increasing threat from golden clam was noted. Deon will raise this with Minister Hoggard, highlighting the importance of the clean boat programme
- current regional council rating mechanisms for this work were discussed – this includes both targeted and general rates
- the current negative impact of Canadian geese in the Waikato is an example of what can happen with the removal of control mechanisms
- there is an opportunity now with reform, to consider how this work can be delivered more efficiently and have better oversight.



Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum:

1. received the Heuser/Whitington report on the benefits to primary production of regional and unitary council biosecurity interventions.
2. noted that regional biosecurity work delivers strong and consistent economic returns
3. agreed that any transition of regional biosecurity functions should be managed carefully to avoid fragmentation of capability and losses to primary production.

Decision Date: 28 Aug 2026
Mover: Craig Rowley
Seconded: Dan Gordon
Outcome: Approved



Action

Dr Deon Swiggs and Judith Earl-Goulet to provide district-wide cost information for biosecurity work.

Due Date: 28 Sept 2026
Owner: Dr Deon Swiggs

8.6 Central government engagement



Decision

The Mayoral Forum:

1. approved the approach to pre-election briefing material for engagement with New Zealand political parties
2. noted that the Secretariat will prepare post-election briefing material for the incoming Prime Minister and Ministers following the 2026 general election.

Decision Date: 28 Aug 2026
Mover: Liz McMillan
Seconded: Nigel Bowen

Outcome: Approved

The central government engagement paper was taken as read, with the recommendations agreed as shown.

It was noted that in addition to the CMF advocating collectively, it is also important that individual Mayors continue to advocate for the region.

8.7 Chief Executives Forum report

The Chief Executives Forum report was taken as read. It was noted that the Strategic Workplan notes actions against the Mayoral Forum's Plan for Canterbury.



Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum received the quarterly report from the Chief Executives Forum.

Decision Date: 28 Aug 2026
Mover: Craig Rowley
Seconder: Dan Gordon
Outcome: Approved

9. For information

9.1 Activities and Engagements May-August 2026

Maree advised the Forum that a response to the letter received by Canterbury Mayors expressing concerns about recent Total Mobility subsidy reductions has been drafted, with support from the Canterbury Regional Council Public Transport team. This will be circulated to members before being sent.

Discussion noted the significance of the scheme for the disabled community and the need to consider more sustainable funding approaches.



Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum

1. received the update on Canterbury Mayoral Forum activities, engagements and correspondence since the previous meeting on 29 May 2026.

Decision Date: 28 Aug 2026
Mover: Dr Deon Swiggs
Seconder: Scott Aronsen
Outcome: Approved

10. General business

10.1 General business

The Forum returned to the H5N1 avian influenza discussion, noting uncertainty about national settings on vaccination, the risk of local species loss, possible impacts on tourism and wildlife, disposal and consenting challenges for large carcass events, and the absence of a clearly coordinated national approach.

It will be important to hear directly from MPI and the Department of Conservation. A Teams meeting will be arranged with invites to all of Canterbury's elected members.



Action

Secretariat to liaise with MPI in setting up a teams meeting for all Canterbury councillors on Avian Influenza H5N1

Due Date: 4 Sept 2026

Owner: Maree McNeilly

10.2 Meeting review

10.3 Closing karakia

11. Kai - lunch

11.1 Lunch

12. Close Meeting

12.1 Close the meeting

Next meeting: Canterbury Mayoral Forum - 20 Nov 2026, 8:30 am

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Unconfirmed draft