



Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust
Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū

Statement of Intent

For the year
1 July 2025 - 30 June 2026
FY 2026

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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).

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 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. The Trust Deed includes a wide set of objectives for sustainable management, the protection, preservation and enhancement of the environment, recreation, culture and heritage. The objectives are listed in full in Appendix A.

The primary objectives are to:

- a) Create and sustain enduring walking and cycling public access on Banks Peninsula for the benefit of current and future citizens and visitors;
- b) Ensure that projects and activities protect and enhance local species and biodiversity;
- c) Apply a collaborative partnership approach to achieve Trust objectives and avoid duplication of activity;
- d) Engage with Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke (Rāpaki), Te Rūnanga o Koukourarata, Wairewa Rūnanga, Te Taumutu Rūnanga and Ōnuku Rūnanga to seek their views on the value of Banks Peninsula's Mana Whenua, Mana Moana and Mana Tangata; and
- e) Align projects with existing or future projects or initiatives of the Council wherever practicable.

3 Governance statement

RDBPT is governed by up to nine trustees, with up to seven appointed by the Council. They govern RDBPT in accordance with their legal obligations, the objectives of the Trust and the terms of the trust deed.

3.1 Guiding Principles

The decisions of the trustees reflect the following values:

- Kaitiakitanga/stewardship;
- Mahi tahi/partnership; and
- Rangatiratanga/leadership.

3.2 Responsibility to the Christchurch City Council

The Trustees will ensure that the Council is informed of all major changes affecting the Trust. Information will be communicated to the Council by the RDBPT through annual and half year reports.

The Trust will operate on a no surprises basis for issues of relevance to the Council. Early notice will be given of issues requiring its consent or agreement.

4 Nature and Scope of Activities

Activities are undertaken within the region as defined in the Trust Deed which is the district area administered by the Banks Peninsula District Council prior to amalgamation with the Christchurch City Council (the Banks Peninsula area). A map is included as Appendix B.

RDBPT has identified securing enduring public access as its most important legacy for Banks Peninsula. Public access includes establishing new routes, huts and shelters. The Trust's independence and its capital base give it the ability to work flexibly and to secure opportunities as they become available.

Public access is often achieved in conjunction with protecting native biodiversity, marking tracks, providing public information and engaging with partners.

RDBPT's tō tāto tirohanga/vision is: to create a thriving and enduring ecosystem of trails and regenerating landscapes on Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū – Banks Peninsula.

RDBPT has crystallised its broad objectives into three strategic pou:

- Wāhi Uru/Access - Creating an enduring network of walking and biking trails to foster deeper connections between people and place and that enable low carbon recreation;
- Rerenga Rauropi/Biodiversity - Supporting protection and regeneration of Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū by encouraging native biodiversity on a landscape scale; and
- Mātauranga/Knowledge - Creating stewards of Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū through knowledge of its flora and fauna, geology and history.

A summary of the projects and social enterprises through which the Trust intends to deliver on its three strategic pou is provided in Appendix C.

4.1 Reducing carbon emissions

The Trust acknowledges and supports the Council's targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the district. The Trust has assessed its carbon footprint using Cogo (A tool that is part of Terra Nova not for profit programme for resilience and emissions reduction) as low and has created an action plan to reduce its carbon footprint (greenhouse gas emissions) by 3% by 2030 (from 2024/25 baseline levels).

The 2024/25 baseline levels for Scope 1 were an estimate of 1.46 tonnes.

Key actions relate to Scope 1 emissions and include: encouraging car-pooling and online meetings; carrying out native planting and regeneration from gorse to natives on Rod Donald Hut land; funding weed and pest control; buying local and plant-based food; and reducing food waste.

We are developing and promoting tracks that can be used without the need for private vehicles, such as the ability to use public transport to Diamond Harbour and then walk or bike a range of tracks from there.

Another example is the ability to bike to Little River and then do other walking and biking trails from there.

We help fund pest and weed control which makes native forests healthier and able to absorb more carbon.

We encourage people to recreate on Banks Peninsula rather than travelling a long way from where they live.

We support initiatives that enable landowners to regenerate their land into native vegetation.

4.2 Health and Safety

The Trust maintains and regularly reviews its Health and Safety Plan and this topic 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. Health and safety incidents are reported to the Board and the Employment, Audit and Risk Portfolio Group as soon as practical.

4.3 Accountability

The Trust welcomes the opportunity to present annually to the Council and/or Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū 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.

4.4 Remuneration

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

4.5 Engagement with mana whenua

The Trust seeks to apply the principles of Te Tiriti to its activities, continue to learn and embrace these principles further, and to develop its relationships with mana whenua. The Trust regularly invites mana whenua to provide direction for projects the Trust is working on. The Trust invites mana whenua to explore opportunities for collaborative projects that the Trust can support that help mana whenua achieve their aspirations.

4.6 Engagement with stakeholders

The Trust will notify the Council of any property purchase or disposal. 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 made. The Trust's risk policy includes informing the Council of any issues or risks that might impact the Council.

The Trust regularly engages with a range of stakeholders involved in public access, recreation, biodiversity and knowledge sharing. This occurs through a range of methods. The Trust has developed relationships with other CCO's as appropriate. The Trust will explore opportunities to use banks that rank highly in climate friendly profile tables.

5 Performance targets and measures

5.1 Non-financial performance targets

The Trust's strategic priorities align with the following Christchurch City Council strategic priorities:

- Be an inclusive and equitable city
- Champion Ōtautahi-Christchurch
- Build trust and confidence in the Council
- Reduce emissions
- Manage funding wisely
- Actively balance the needs of today's residents with the needs of future generations

The Trust's strategic priorities are set out in the table below:

<i>Wāhi uru Whakaarotau/Access Priorities and targets</i>
Te Ara Pātaka is nationally recognised as a walking and biking route from Christchurch to Akaroa with a network of connecting side-routes, shelters and huts
Use the Rod Donald Hut as a gateway to increasing the range of people accessing Banks Peninsula
Maintain and enhance the Little River Rail Trail as a nationally recognised Ngā Haerenga Heartland Ride and as a walking and running route
Supporting the Head to Head Walkway to become a continuous pathway around Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour
Foster a network of biking trails which invites people of all ages and abilities to explore the Peninsula whilst benefitting and connecting its communities
<i>Rerenga Rauropi Whakaarotau/Biodiversity Priorities and targets</i>
Protect and restore biodiversity along Te Ara Pātaka, Little River Rail Trail, Head to Head Walkway and at Trust-supported huts and shelters
Support and initiate the protection of biodiversity values
Support and encourage the protection and regeneration of native vegetation to restore indigenous biodiversity and improve ecological resilience from the impacts of climate change
Support and provide for coordinated pest and weed control to protect native species and increase ecological integrity
<i>Mātauranga Whakaarotau/Knowledge Priorities and targets</i>
Deliver the Banks Peninsula Walking Festival in a way that encourages the exploration of the flora, fauna, geology and history
Increase access to quality information about trails, geology, history, culture and biodiversity
Enable new research and the sharing of existing research

The non-financial performance targets are as follows:

#	Non-financial performance targets	Strategic Pou delivery		
	<i>Please note: Dates for achieving the Targets are the end of the financial year for every target.</i>	Access	Biodiversity	Knowledge
1	Create new public access route from Little River to Te Ara Pātaka via the western ridgeline.			
	25/26: Confirm access agreements with landowners and design of trail, gates, styles and signage.			
	26/27: Form, construct and waymark the new trail.			
	27/28: Open the new trail to the public and promote.			
2	Upgrade and maintain tracks that we are responsible for maintaining			

	25/26: Upgrade the upper part of Monument North Track so that it is at “Easy Tramping Track” Standard (SNZ HB 8630:2004).			
	26/27: Upgrade Faulknors Track where it is on private land so that it is at “Easy Tramping Track” Standard (SNZ HB 8630:2004).			
	27/28: Maintain Monument North, track to Rod Donald Hut, Monument South, Faulknors Track so they continue to be “Easy Tramping Track” Standard (SNZ HB 8630:2004).			
3	Providing public with accurate information about walking and biking trails			
	25/26: Provide accurate walking and cycling website information, printed walking products and social media communications, updating as required. Distribution of printed information to Banks Peninsula outlets upon request.			
	26/27: Provide accurate walking and cycling website information, printed walking products and social media communications, updating as required. Distribution of printed information to Banks Peninsula outlets upon request.			
	27/28: Complete the development of a Little River walking brochure incorporating new and existing tracks.			
4	Reduce priority pests and weeds in locations that are strategic for biodiversity and/or public access.			
	25/26: Reduce priority pests (possums, hedgehogs, mustelids, rats, feral cats) and weeds (gorse, old man’s beard, cherry plum, willow) to agreed project pest control outcomes (catch data and presence monitoring showing decrease) and weed control outcomes (decrease in old man’s beard, gorse free boundaries, no gorse on rocky knolls, keeping gorse free areas free of gorse, decrease in cherry plum, no willows remain).			
	26/27: Further reductions of priority pests and weeds as above.			
	27/28: Further reductions of priority pests and weeds as above.			
5	Improve biodiversity and amenity on Little River Rail Trail			
	25/26: Implement a project to control priority weeds (blackberry, sycamore, english ivy, periwinkle, grey willow, elderflower, holly) on the Little River Rail Trail alongside Te Roto o Wairewa.			
	26/27: Control priority weeds that re-grow or establish themselves, utilising volunteer labour.			
	27/28: Control priority weeds that re-grow or establish themselves, utilising volunteer labour.			
6	Deliver the annual Banks Peninsula Walking Festival. Participants learn about flora, fauna, geology and history on the walks.			
	25/26: Deliver an annual Walking Festival with overall positive feedback (based on survey of participants) and annual improvements based on previous year’s evaluation and outcomes of project to review walking festival. Participants learn about flora, fauna, geology and history on the walks.			
	26/27: Deliver an annual Walking Festival with overall positive feedback (based on survey of participants) and annual improvements based on previous year’s evaluation			
	26/27: Deliver an annual Walking Festival with overall positive feedback (based on survey of participants) and annual improvements based on previous year’s evaluation			
7	Support tertiary student research			
	25/26: Support a tertiary student research project that will deliver value to the Peninsula in access, biodiversity or knowledge through a scholarship.			
	26/27: Support a tertiary student research project that will deliver value to the Peninsula in access, biodiversity or knowledge through a scholarship. Share the results of the research from previous year’s project.			
	27/28: Support a tertiary student research project that will deliver value to the Peninsula in access, biodiversity or knowledge through a scholarship. Share the results of the research from previous year’s project.			
8	Reduce carbon emissions			

25/26: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 1% on the 24/25 baseline level for scope 1 through the key actions listed in 4.1.			
26/27: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by a further 1% on the 24/25 baseline level for scope 1 through the key actions listed in 4.1.			
27/28: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by a further 1% on the 24/25 baseline level for scope 1 through the key actions listed in 4.1.			

5.2 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 FY26, FY27 and FY28, and then beyond. A capital grant from the Council of 1.35M is scheduled in the LTP for FY27.
- Strategic grants and project expenditure in 2025-26 includes committed funding for Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust, Te Ahu Pātiki Charitable Trust and Orton Bradley Park and progressing the projects listed in Appendix C.

5.2.1 3 Year Financial Forecast FY2026-2028

Income	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Council Funding	100,000	1,450,000	100,000
Banks Peninsula Walking Festival	13,125	13,781	14,471
Hut Fee Revenue	42,000	43,260	44,558
Donations	7,000	7,350	7,718
Te Ara Pātaka Lease Income	7,962	7,962	7,962
Walking Products	2,000	2,100	2,205
Total Income	172,087	1,524,453	176,914
Other Income			
Interest Income	78,095	50,466	77,224
Total Other Income	78,095	50,466	77,224
Total Income	250,182	1,574,919	254,138
Expenses			
Overheads			
Trust Management			
Manager, Administrator & travel reimbursement	173,665	180,557	187,719
Total Trust Management	173,665	180,557	187,719
Other overheads			
Administration Costs	60,150	61,954	63,813
Depreciation & Amortisation	7,892	7,392	7,142
Givealittle Service Fees	200	206	212
Total other overheads	68,242	69,552	71,167
Total Overheads	241,907	250,109	258,886
Operating Expenses			
BPNFCC Group	412	424	437
Brochures & Map Printing	1,500	1,545	1,591

Banks Peninsula Walking Festival	12,000	12,360	12,731
Conferences and Training	2,500	2,575	2,652
Hut Operating and Maintenance Costs	28,000	28,560	29,131
Minor Administrative Projects	4,000	4,120	4,244
Te Ara Pātaka Maintenance	10,000	10,300	10,609
Website Hosting and Minor Updates	9,000	9,270	9,548
Total Operating expenses	67,412	69,154	70,943
Total Overheads & Operating Expenditure	309,319	319,263	329,829
Strategic Grants and Project Expenditure			
Grants (Commitments to Partners)	172,436	175,209	163,065
Te Ara Pātaka Projects	144,000	100,000	61,000
Rod Donald Main Website Development	10,000	40,000	0
Te Ara Māhuri Nature Trail Construction & Interpretation	6,000	6,000	0
Little River Rail Trail Enhancement Projects	25,000	20,000	20,000
Head to Head Walkway project support	0	10,000	10,000
Partnering with Rūnanga on Projects	18,000	18,000	18,000
Communication Projects	9,000	9,000	9,000
Faulkners Track Upgrade	43,000	0	0
Research scholarship	20,000	20,000	20,000
Total Project Expenditure	275,000	223,000	138,000
Grants	172,436	175,209	163,065
Total Strategic Grants and Project Expenditure	447,436	398,209	301,065
Surplus (Deficit)	(506,573)	857,447	(376,756)

6 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.

6.1 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 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). A map is included as Appendix B to this Statement of Intent.

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;
- (l) 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 Koukourarata, 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 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 FY2026 and beyond, or new projects to be implemented in FY2026.

C.1 Te Ara Pātaka

This is a multi-day or day walk experience that connects 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 popular, including with many families and youth groups. Overnight accommodation is provided at the Rod Donald Hut and the Sign of the Packhorse Hut.

Ongoing work includes maintenance and upgrading of tracks that are not the responsibility of the other four partners (CCC, DOC, Orton Bradley Park and Te Ahu Pātiki Charitable Trust). The main Te Ara Pātaka track can now be walked all year round with no seasonal closures for lambing. A signage manual and signage plans are being developed to help the five partners ensure the walkway has consistent and effective signage and wayfinding marking.

The Trust intends to extend Te Ara Pātaka to Akaroa, to Saddle Hill and to Little River. The Trust has considered options provided by a feasibility study into potential route options from Hilltop to Akaroa and will consider options for implementation. The Trust has negotiated access for a new route between Little River and Te Ara Pātaka via unformed legal road, Te Whenua Ora and private properties on the ridgeline between Little River and Prices and Kaituna Valleys. The Trust is now developing easements with landowners and preparing to add stiles, wayfinding marking, signage and interpretation. The Trust has undertaken a feasibility study of a new route from Hilltop to Saddle Hill and is now negotiating public access with landowners.

The Trust has developed a draft Memorandum of Understanding with the partners of Te Ara Pātaka outlining maintenance and management responsibilities. The other partners are the Department of Conservation, Christchurch City Council, Te Ahu Pātiki Charitable Trust and Orton Bradley Park.

The Trust intends to establish a new shelter on Te Ara Pātaka near Mt Sinclair. This will provide shelter from harsh weather, drinking water and a toilet. It will provide an additional daywalk from Hilltop or Port Levy Saddle.

C.2 Te Ahu Pātiki, Orton Bradley Park, Living Springs and Le Bons Bay Conservation Trust

RDBPT is providing annual funding support to Te Ahu Pātiki Charitable Trust from FY2025-2029 for track maintenance, signage, and weed and pest control. Te Ahu Pātiki will continue to work on securing further long-term income sources. RDBPT appoints two members to Te Ahu Pātiki Charitable Trust Board.

RDBPT is providing annual funding support to Orton Bradley Park from FY2025-2027 for track maintenance, signage, and weed and pest control.

The Trust intends to support Living Springs to make two walking tracks publicly accessible once Living Springs is ready.

RDBPT has provided \$10,000 to Le Bons Bay Conservation Trust to help them purchase land in Le Bons Bay for conservation and public access.

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 Hut on Te Ara Pātaka, walking information products, and the Banks Peninsula Walking Festival. It is currently developing a shelter on Te Ara Pātaka near Mt Sinclair.

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 and to use it to build goodwill and to broadening the diversity of communities that recreate on Banks Peninsula. The hut is currently in good condition, so no major upgrades are planned in FY26 beyond general maintenance. The Trust intends to consider extending the occupancy available by adding an additional separate bunkroom.

A 1km nature walk named Te Ara Māhuri has been developed near the hut, along with a field guide that includes experiential activities. It opened to the public on 22 February 2025 as part of the Banks Peninsula Walking Festival. The trail and field guide will continue to be improved, based on feedback from users.

C.3.2 Walking information products

The Trust has developed the Banks Peninsula Walk Directory, available both in print and online, and a suite of walking brochures. The Trust has also developed the Banks Peninsula Walks website. The Trust intends to continue these products as they benefit the Trust's audience and maintains profile.

Work over the three-year timeframe will include a new brochure for Wairewa, as it is anticipated there will be new short and long walkways available. A new brochure for Allandale may also be developed once the tracks at Living Springs that have been made publicly accessible. Walking and biking trails that are in Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour will be added to the Banks Peninsula Walks website.

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 held annually since 2013 and has built up a strong reputation and following. It was previously held in November and is now held in February-March to incorporate better weather conditions. The goal is to provide at least 25 walks annually.

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 Coordinator, a position contracted through the Trust. The Trust has contracted the Walking Festival Coordinator to review the Walking Festival so that improvements can be made.

C.4 Supporting Head to Head Walkway 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 across private land to connect existing Head to Head walkway sections where there is currently no public access available, subject to the agreement of the Working Party.

C.5 Supporting Banks Peninsula Ecological Vision

The Trust is a signatory to the Banks Peninsula Ecological Vision. Te Ahu Pātiki Conservation Park is part of one of the four areas of contiguous 100ha protected land. The new route from Little River to Te Ara Pātaka is part of another of these large areas.

The Trust is providing annual grant funding for a five year period until March 2029 to enable the Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust to use the grant for its work towards the vision.

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 coordinator 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 elimination of feral pigs and control of feral deer.

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 approximately forty people, representing various organisations. The group develops knowledge about carbon sequestration using native biodiversity so that landowners are better enabled.

C.7 Developing new walking and 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 supporting the Little River Wairewa Community Trust to create a new off-road route for walking and cycling between the township and nearby attractions. The Trust is also creating a new route from Little River to Te Ara Pātaka via Te Whenua Ora and other private land. The Trust also intends to create a route from Saddle Hill to Hilltop if public access can be negotiated.

C.7.1 Little River Rail Trail

The Little River Rail Trail is an important recreational access route from the City to Banks Peninsula, and links with other recreational opportunities being developed in the Little River area. 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.

RDBPT now coordinates and promotes the Trail. A joint MOU detailing ongoing maintenance and management responsibilities has recently been signed by most parties. The Trust is also creating a two year action plan and a strategic plan to help build and maintain momentum so that the trail is enjoyable for users. The Trust is also exploring partnership opportunities to add new features along the trail for users to enjoy and learn from. The Trust is undertaking weed control on the Rail Trail via a contractor on a Department of Conservation section of the trail, in partnership with High Bare Peak Ltd and Department of Conservation.

C.8 Building stronger relationships with Council and others

The Trust sees the need for an ongoing entity to create a thriving and enduring ecosystem of trails and regenerating landscapes on Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū Banks Peninsula. The Trust intends to seek additional capital funding beyond the FY2027 grant allocated in the Council's 2024-2024 LTP budget.

The Trust is working to build a stronger relationship with the Council through its projects and activities. These also help the Council achieve its Public Open Space and Biodiversity strategies and the Banks Peninsula Destination Management Plan.

The Trust has formalised its relationship with various government and non-governmental organisations through shared memorandum of understandings.