



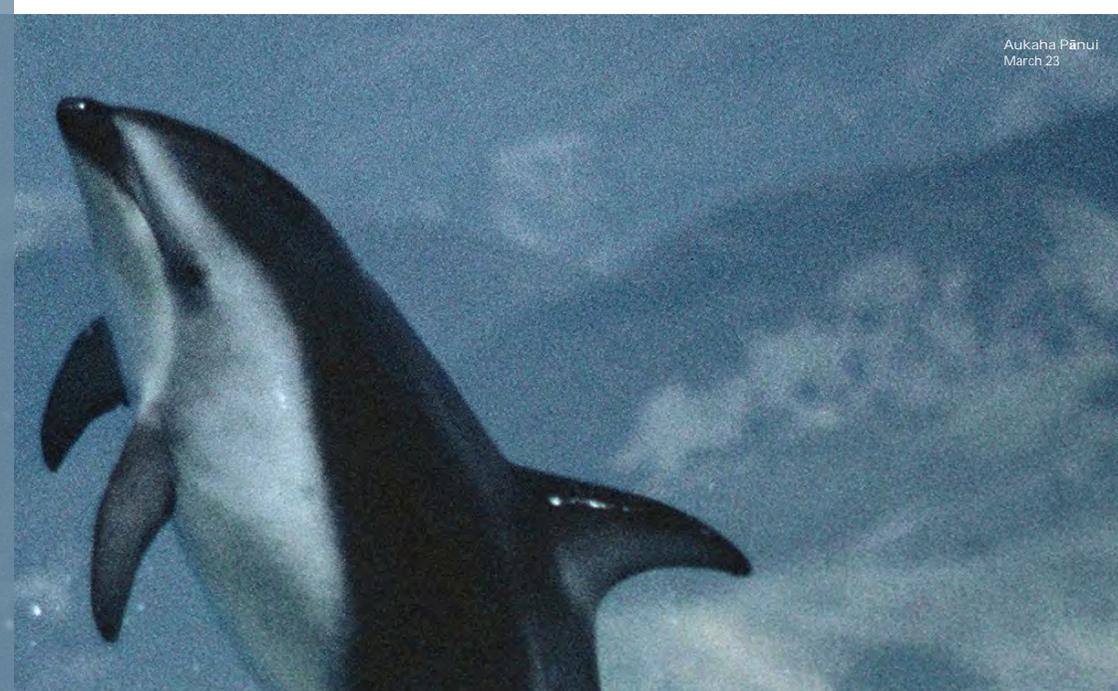
Aukaha

KIA KAHA, AU KAHA

Pānui

March 2023





Kia ora Koutou,

I hope everyone had a restful holiday break, soaking up the sun, relaxing with whānau and recharging the batteries for 2023. Our Aukaha kaimahi are back refreshed after their three-week break, and they're ready to tackle this year's opportunities and challenges with their usual commitment and enthusiasm.

We launched straight into the new year with a Board Strategy Hui, 'scanning the horizon' and checking our progress to date against the 2022-2025 Strategic Plan. It was such a pleasure to have all our directors with us in person, given that they are scattered around the motu, and it was the perfect opportunity for them to get an in depth look at all the mahi each of our pou are doing. And of course, I'd like to offer a mihi to the board members for their ongoing support.

Our Board Strategy Hui was followed by a Rūnaka Engagement Hui at Moeraki. These hui are so important for us, as they give us the opportunity to ensure that Aukaha remains aligned to our rūnaka owners' aspirations within their takiwā. Remaining united and leveraging our collective strengths is key for us, as we seek to fulfil rūnaka aims and aspirations.

A positive outcome of the Moeraki hui was the desire for us to hold them more regularly, so keep an eye out for pānui notifying the next one in a few months' time.

I'm very proud of the passionate and committed team we have at Aukaha and I'd like to give a special farewell shout-out to our valued team members Charlotte Boyt, Brogan Handcock and Tania Richardson. Tania has been one of our longest-serving staff members and she has contributed massively to the building of our consents mahi. We'll miss them both.

It is always a pleasure though, to also welcome new staff – Karyn Hearn in Mana Aukaha; Daniel van den Kerkhof, Lucy Higgins, Tamara Dick and Tamati Martin in Mana Tākata and to our summer intern, Larissa Hinds, who has been working on a literature review of the native reserves within the DCC boundaries to feed into the aukaha mahi on the Future Dunedin Strategy.

I look forward to working with you all and sharing our space with you, as we focus on the ambitious goals we have set ourselves for 2023. It's going to be an exciting year!

From the Chair

Edward Ellison

Kia ora Koutou

The Board held their strategy meeting in January, which gave members the chance to meet with each of the Pou (units), to hear about their work and any issues they may be facing. Board members were impressed by the significant number of projects being undertaken at Aukaha, and the passion the Pou demonstrated for their projects – not to mention the many positive effects these are having on the communities and partners we work with.

It's a testament to their ongoing mahi and the commitment they have to building strong relationships as they work towards realising papatipu rūnaka aspirations.

The Board's 2023 meeting schedule will rotate and focus on a particular Pou at each meeting, assessing their progress against the business plan, identifying any issues, looking for solutions and scoping out future opportunities consistent with the Aukaha Strategic Plan. This will enable us all to work at the very best of our potential, making sure Aukaha stays true to its inherent principles and values.

Meanwhile, board succession, good governance and strengthening connections with our shareholders, the papatipu rūnaka, will naturally remain front and centre, as we progress through the year.

Mana Aukaha

Business Support Services

As we settle back into the Mana Aukaha office, we've been working solidly towards strengthening our team and our systems, so we can keep pace with the exciting developments that lie ahead in 2023.

Recruitment has been in full swing and we've welcomed five new staff to the organisation. In addition, we're recruiting another four positions to ensure we're ready to meet the requirements of new contracts. It's all about building capacity and selecting a strong, committed team to work across the Aukaha services that help link our communities together, providing shared understanding and enhanced benefits for us all.

We've implemented new software, which enables us to better respond to the key components of the business and to ensure we continue to flourish and grow. We've

been working on second quarter budget reviews and policy updates; there's been a ThinkSafe review, the February board hui; and we're gearing up to work on the PreQual renewal, which is due at the end of June.

Closer to home, we have a Mana Aukaha planning day and team refresh planned for the end of February, and with new team members, Rebecca Hamilton, who started in July 2022 and Karyn Hearn in January this year, we're all looking forward to continuing to streamline our business support systems in any way we can to keep Aukaha running smoothly.

At the same time, we're sad to lose Riani Iti-Metuatai from Mana Aukaha, and while we'll all miss her, it's great to see her progressing in her career – and even better that she's still here at Aukaha, in the Mana Ahurea team.



Our people

As we experience continuous growth within the organisation, so do the needs from our team and we are pleased to have welcomed Rebecca Hamilton and Karyn Hearn to join this journey with us.



Rebecca Hamilton
Kaiāwhina Pūtea

Ko Nongataha te maunga
Ko Utahina te awa
Ko Te Arawa te waka
Ko Tametekapua te marae
Ko Te Arawa te iwi
Ko Ngati Whakaue te hapu
Ko Rebecca ahau

After spending 2.5 years working in an accounting firm in Australia, I returned to Dunedin ready to get back into what I am most passionate about; Kaupapa Maori, our people and the community. Since beginning my role as Kaiāwhina Pūtea, I have been able to learn and develop my knowledge not only within my finance mahi but across the other services Aukaha provide. I'm lucky to have joined such an awesome team and look forward to the continued growth within the organisation and the further positive impact we can have on the community.



Karyn Hearn
Kaiāwhina, Mana Aukaha

Tēnā Koutou Katoa
Ko Tainui te Waka
Ko Waikato te Awa
Ko Tainui te Waka
Ko Tūrangawaewae te Marae
Ko Tainui te Iwi
Nō Ōtepoti ahau
Ko Karyn taku ingoa

I am so excited to be a part of Mana Aukaha and its amazing mahi.

I have previously been in administration at Tahuna Normal Intermediate School, enjoying the variety and challenge of the education sector. Being a part of any community is really rewarding, and I am really happy to continue being involved within our wonderful community in Ōtepoti.

My spare time is full of whānau and house renovations that never seem to end, and getting out to the many local beaches we are lucky to have here.

Nō reira, tēna koutou katoa.

Mana Taiao

Environment & Resource Management

Mana Taiao is off to a busy start, with new faces, new challenges and exciting new projects that continue our commitment to working alongside and on behalf of papatipu rūnaka.

This sits at the core of everything we do. Protecting the environment and supporting papatipu rūnaka in their role as kaitiaki is key. The Mana Taiao team combines their own extensive team knowledge of planning and process with manawhenua knowledge – and their ‘translation’ of that knowledge has been critical to a more collaborative approach in council and central government planning development. We’re proud of that and in 2023 it remains our continuing focus.

Wai Māori

From October to December 2022, Otago Regional Council ran a series of public meetings across Otago to learn what people wanted to see for the rivers, lakes and wetlands in their areas.

Reflecting our developing partnership with ORC, Aukaha and a mana whenua team stood alongside the council to inform the meetings of mana whenua aspirations for wai māori. This is another step towards making sure Kāi Tahu values are built into the new planning rules for managing wai māori in Otago.

While we have seen a lot of progress and while understanding of mana whenua perspectives is

growing all the time, the history of freshwater management indicates there are still a lot of different views ‘at the table.’ There is still work to do in terms of getting everyone in the community to understand why change needs to happen, but we are making significant progress.

There was another strong showing from kā rūnaka in the recent Regional Policy Statement hearings. These will set the overarching direction for management of te taiao in Otago, and it was great to see the decision-makers so interested in understanding mana whenua concerns and aspirations.

Dunedin and Queenstown Council Planning

Mana whenua representation and presence will continue to be important to our mahi as we work with Councils on spatial planning and future development. Spatial plans identify the anticipated needs of our communities, and how we are going to resource them.

We are currently working with Dunedin City Council and Queenstown Lakes District Council in the early stages of the development of spatial plans for their districts. Once public consultation commences, we will be seeking mana whenua representation at these hui.

It is crucial that mana whenua are involved in these processes, to ensure that their values, aspirations, and intentions are recognised and protected into the future.

Looking ahead

Closer to home, I’d like to commend the Mana Taiao team for their ongoing mahi that ensures that the values and aspirations of mana whenua are reflected in planning processes and decisions. The team continues to grow, but we also have said farewell to three staff members in recent months.

He mihi nui ki a koutou:

- Tania Richardson, Consents Officer – 22 years’ service
- Brogan Handcock, Kaitakawaeka Mahere Whakahao – 6 months’ service
- Charlotte Boyt, Consents Planner – 12 months’ service

Our people

We've enjoyed having summer intern, Larissa Hinds who was with us for three months over the summer. Larissa is heading into the thesis year of a Master of Planning at Otago University. Her mahi with Aukaha focusses on researching the historical and geographical context of Māori Reserve Lands in present-day Dunedin City. Prior to joining Aukaha, Larissa worked as a law clerk at the Ngāi Tahu Māori Law Centre, and had worked in community development after finishing undergraduate degrees in law and geography. Outside of work and study, Larissa has participated in art projects with *Dunedin Dream Brokerage* and *Shared Lines: Pūtahitanga*. Larissa's mahi over her time with us was presented to mana whenua representatives in January, who were very impressed with her commitment and humble approach to this mahi. We are hoping to see more of Larissa around the office in 2023 – watch this space!

We have also been fortunate to welcome Mereana Goodman and Makareta Wesley-Evans in 2022. They have both provided continuous support to the mahi we do and we are pleased to introduce them to you.



Mereana Materoa Goodman
Kaiāwhina, Mana Taiao

Tēnā koutou,
Ko Hikurangi te maunga
Ko Waiapu te awa
Ko Ngāti Porou nga iwi
Ko Hiruharama te marae
Ko Reedy tōku whānau
Ko John Reedy tōku koroua
Ko Rangitūmau te maunga
Ko Ruamahanga te awa
Ko Takitimu nga waka
Ko Rangitane me
Ngati Kahungunu nga iwi
Ko Ngati Hamua te hapu
Ko Te Ore Ore te marae
Nō Waiarapa ahau
Ko Karaitiana tōku whanau
Ko Ruth Reedy tōku kuia
Ko David Goodman tōku papa
Ko Rosina Goodman tōku mama
Ko Mereana Materoa tōku ingoa

I grew up in Iwikatea, Ludlow England, and Rotorua. My career began in real estate in Rotorua and has advanced into the Planning sector with CODC. However, home is where the heart always is and so with the graces of Aukaha, I have been able to move back and be with whānau again. I have joined Aukaha as the Kaiāwhina for the Mana Taiao team and I am very excited for the mahi ahead.



Makareta Wesley-Evans
Kaitautoko, Mana Taiao

Tēnā tātou e te whānau
Ko Pukeura te mauka,
ko Ōtākou te awa,
ko Kāi Tahu, Kāti Mamoe, Waitaha
hoki kā iwi
ko Kāi te Ruahikihiki, Kāti Huirapa,
Kāi te Pahi, Kāti Taoka ōku hapū
He uri au nō Hori Kerei Taiaroa,
rātou ko Tame Parata, Ko Taare
Wetere te Kaahu ko Tahatū
Ko Ōtākou rātou ko Pukteraki ko
Moeraki ko Waihao ko Arowhenua
ko Tuahiwi āku papatipu rūnaka

Kia ora my name is Makareta Wesley-Evans and I am the Kaitautoko for both Mana Taiao and Mana Aukaha. I grew up on my haukaika at Ōtākou with my brother and sisters as well as all of my cousins.

During my spare time you can usually find me listening to some waiata Māori and playing with several sets of poi from long to short.

Mana Ahurea

Cultural Development

The holidays already seem long-gone and the Mana Ahurea team is back on deck ready for a full year, and already celebrating progress in some of our key projects.

Te Pā Tāhuna

This Ngāi Tahu Property housing project in Queenstown is especially important to us at Mana Ahurea. In many ways, it launched our team and the February 9 blessing and opening of the first stage (Super Lot 6) was a significant milestone for us. When former Aukaha CEO, the late Tahu Potiki was leading new opportunities for Aukaha, his connections to Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and Ngāi Tahu Property helped make sure that mana whenua were brought into the project early, and that representatives from all seven rūnaka were involved. The values framework process that was established at the beginning of the Te Pā Tāhuna project, informs many of our other projects today. The name Te Pā Tāhuna was established by mana whenua. It celebrates their long connection to Tāhuna (Queenstown). They also named the recently completed first stage of the development –

Takiwai – the name of a translucent, softer type of pounamu found at Piopiotahi (Milford Sound).

Names of future stages in the housing development will be informed by names of the mahika kai and other resources the area is renowned for and the values embedded will continue to reflect the resilience and resourcefulness of our ancestors.

The first stage consists of twenty residential apartments (ten sold as part of the KiwiBuild programme) and seven live-work units, and all but four have sold.

The Mana Ahurea design inputs included sand-blasted pavement designs, internal wall vinyls, window designs and interpretation panels, with opportunities created by artist, Morgan Matthews-Hale of Kaitikai Studios.



Te Pā Tāhuna, Superlot 6

Te Puna o Whakaehu

The new Mosgiel pool complex, Te Puna o Whakaehu is another project coming to fruition that we're particularly proud of. The large, five-pool complex is planned to open at the end of 2023 and it will be a significant addition to Mosgiel, as the town continues to grow.

The name, which means 'the pool of Silver Stream,' was agreed as appropriate by Te Rūnanga o Otākou, acknowledging Whakaehu as the Kāi Tahu name for the waterway flowing next to the building.

The \$15-million complex replaces the old Taieri Baths, built in 1937 and the incorporation of Te Reo Māori, pre-cast design panels at the rear of the main pool and designed glass, created by by artist, Ephraim Russell, the Aukaha team and the Ōtākou Rūnaka members, will significantly increase the visibility of our history in the area.

I grew up in Mosgiel and highlighting our cultural history in this way helps to establish that we've actually been here for quite some time. That of course sits at the heart of everything Mana Ahurea does – the hope that future generations of Kāi Tahu will see themselves reflected in the world they live in.



Te Pahi Pukapuka

And there's an exciting new chapter happening with the unveiling of Dunedin's first electric book Bus, Te Pahi Pukapuka. The bus took to the streets on 30 January and with more than 2000 books on board, it will continue the traditions of the oldest mobile library service in New Zealand. Supported by manawhenua, Dunedin artist and in-house designer, Aroha Novak has created the artwork that 'wraps' around the bus. Her work is based on the story of Matamata, a taniwhā from Kāti Māmoe tradition, which is said to have created the twists and turns of the Taieri River and scooped out Otago Harbour.

Looking ahead

It's going to be another busy year for Mana Ahurea, as we continue to meet our objectives of increasing Kāi Tahu visibility in the Otago region. We have a lot of projects on the go but our chief focus will be on the Dunedin Hospital construction and further exciting possibilities with Te Pā Tāhuna.



Te Pahi Pukapuka bus wrap designed by Aroha Novak

Mana Tākata

Health & Social Services

The Mana Tākata team has had a busy start to 2023 with the introduction of four new staff. Kā mihi Lucy Higgins, who is working within our Healthy Homes Project; and Daniel van den Kerkhof, Tamara Dick and Tamati Martin with our Maintaining the Gains project, which is a Jobs For Nature project with the Otago Regional Council and the QEII Trust.

Looking ahead

The entire team is excited about what 2023 will bring. As the Otago region continues to see significant growth and development, we at Aukaha, want to ensure we are providing positive opportunities for Māori and Pasifika individuals and businesses. At Mana Tākata we offer practical, positive choices for individuals, whānau and communities through our diverse range of programmes across the Otago region. These focus on procurement through regional development, employment and training, health and social services, and housing.

And to deliver on those projects, we continue to build a superb team of individuals.

Maintaining the gains

It's early days for the Maintaining the Gains project and our team - Daniel, Tamara and Tamati - are eager to crack on with the mahi. In the meantime, they've been spending time learning and developing whānaukataka with the Whiria Te Waitaki team, while completing weed control across their planting sites.

From Tamara's perspective, it's been an exciting time.

"We were lucky to spend two days working with, and learning from the experienced rangers within the Whiria team at Te Puna a Maru. Their site is located

along the banks of the braided Waitaki River. Te Puna a Maru has been selected as a key site for restoration due to its proximity to the significant Waitaki awa and its history, as an area for mahika kai.

"Between Te Puna a Maru and their other site at Korotuaheka, they have a very large area to cover, and you can see that they are working their way through it methodically. It's been so valuable to see how another similar project looks compared to our own and to understand the scope of the work we are about to undertake," she says.

Healthy homes initiative

With the launch of the Healthy Homes Initiative, the Better Homes Team at Aukaha has recently expanded. The Healthy Homes Initiative allows Aukaha to take a holistic lens to housing, with a strong focus on whānau support and guidance, as well as addressing material hardship and home improvements to enhance overall whānau wellbeing. Aukaha is delivering and maintaining the HHI service throughout the Otago region.

The first month of the HHI project has seen a great deal of training, organisation and relationship building with partners to ensure the project is run efficiently and effectively.

The Healthy Home Initiative is run in three steps:

- Systematically identifying and referring eligible whānau to the HHI service
- Engaging with eligible whānau, coordinating interventions to ensure they live in warmer, drier and healthier homes.
- Building and facilitating the supply of interventions ensuring greater understanding among whānau about the relationship

between living in cold, damp and unhealthy homes and preventable illness, such as infectious respiratory conditions, rheumatic fever, and meningitis, along with tips for a warmer, drier and healthier home.

We are currently in the process of creating a referral base and are in contact with a range of eligible whānau, who we have plans to engage with in the upcoming weeks.

We have also recently developed the Better Homes Referral that is looked after by the HHI team. This means that all housing referrals will come to HHI, which then delegates the referrals according to the eligibility of the whānau to our three housing services - Otago Home Upgrades Program, TPK Critical and Essential Repairs and the Healthy Homes Initiative. This enables our Aukaha Better Homes Team to work collaboratively, weaving our programmes together to benefit whānau who may be eligible for more than one programme, and creating seamless communication between our organisation and the whānau we are working with.

Our people

We have a neat housing team delivering the EECA (Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority) Otago Home Retrofit Programme, with a mission to help reduce emissions and improve the quality of housing in Otago. See below an introduction to the team.



Scott Willis
Project Manager, EECA

Kia ora, I'm Scott

I was born in Ōtepoti and grew up in Otekaieke, and completed University in Ōtepoti. I've travelled and worked around the world including jobs such as jackaroo (Western Australia), donkey handler (France), and lecturer (Aotearoa). I've worked at the flax-roots for many years running the Blueskin Trust before joining Climate Navigator as a director. I'm also an active member of the Green Party of Aotearoa. I joined Aukaha in early 2022 as Project Manager of the Otago Home Upgrade Programme, the pilot programme to improve delivery of the Government approach to energy wellbeing. In addition I sit on an Advisory Group at the Electricity Authority. I have a passion for getting stuff done and problem solving. I love being part of the Mana Tākata team and the Aukaha whānau because our mahi is immensely rewarding and makes a real difference to whānau throughout Otago.



Keita McComb
Project Coordinator,
EECA

Kia ora, my name is Keita and I joined the Aukaha team in May 2022 as the Project Co-Ordinator for the EECA Otago Home Retrofit Project. I have lived in Dunedin all my life and love it here. I graduated from Otago Polytech with a Fashion Design degree and was a designer with my own label in Dunedin for a few years, also working for other designers. Along the way I have gained experience in a number of different roles including, retail, sports administration/management and operations management. Now I find myself doing something completely different.

I am excited to be part of something so important that will make a difference to people's lives. It's great to be doing something so meaningful. I will be working closely with my small team keeping everything organised and on track to deliver our target number of homes by December 2023.



Zach Marshall
Home Performance
Assessor, EECA

Kia ora Tātou,
Ko Kahuranaki te maunga
ko Tukituki te awa, nō Heretaunga ahau
ko Marshall tōku whānau
ko Zach tōku ingoa

I joined Aukaha in September 2022 as a Home Assessor in the Otago Home Upgrade Programme. Growing up in an off-the-grid solar powered household, being efficient with our energy use to create a healthy and comfortable home to live in was always an evolving journey for us. This inspired a passion in me for renewable energy and energy efficiency, which led me to study BSc in Energy Science and Technology at the University of Otago. I am enjoying working in the Mana Tākata team, helping whānau make their home healthy, warm and energy efficient.



Aukaha

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