

RPS Reference Group – Call for Expressions of Interest

Purpose

ORC is reviewing its Regional Policy Statement (RPS), and as part of the process we are interested in seeking feedback during the drafting stage to inform and fine tune the policy direction of the RPS. We are seeking suitably interested, qualified and/or experienced persons to participate in a series of reference group meetings, each reflecting the topic / chapter of the new RPS.

Objectives

The objectives for the RPS Reference Groups will be to:

- Provide input into policy direction, based on the knowledge and experience they bring to each particular topic. The reference groups will not aim to reach consensus but rather provide ORC with input, and sometimes disparate, views to consider. However, with this being said where there is the opportunity for consensus on an approach this will be explored during the online facilitated discussion.
- Consider the policy implications of the policy directions paper on the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources.
- Critically review policy direction papers relevant to the topic / chapter of the new RPS.

It is intended that each group will be governed by the following principles:

- Agree to meet the timeframes set for reference groups in the RPS programme.
- Work together in small groups (approximately 10 people), with participants covering the key knowledge and expertise required for each topic.
- Participate in a facilitated online group discussion to discuss the relevant topic / chapter; and,
- Provide individual written feedback to ORC.

Participation Ground Rules and process for engagement

The reference groups, on each topic will be scheduled to run as per the timetable below. The key skills / expertise are desired, if you believe you have another relevant skill set, please indicate in your EOI nomination form.

Topic	Key skills / expertise
Tranche 1 - consultation period 2 weeks beginning 22 June 2020.	
<i>Tuesday 23 June – facilitated discussion</i>	
Urban form and development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Built form • Urban design • Urban planning
Air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discharging industries • Public health • Home heating / combustion • Building consenting
<i>Wednesday 24 June – Facilitated Discussion</i>	
Hazards and risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazard science • Engineering • Urban development • Infrastructure provision
Historical and cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Built heritage • Cultural heritage • Land use / farming / historic industry
<i>Thursday 25 June – facilitated discussion</i>	
Natural character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscape assessment • Hydrology
Natural features and landscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscape assessment
Tranche 2 – consultation period 2 weeks beginning 20 July 2020.	
<i>Tuesday 21 July – facilitated discussion</i>	
Coastal Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal science • Fisheries • Tourism • Ecology
<i>Wednesday 22 July – facilitated discussion</i>	
Integrated management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning • Resource management
Energy, infrastructure and transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry including – oil, port, transport, energy, mining
<i>Thursday 23 July – facilitated discussion</i>	
Land and Freshwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land use / farm systems (note we will be looking for representation across each of Councils five Freshwater Management Units and a variety of different land use types) • Urban infrastructure • Water quantity • Water quality • Ecology • Hydrology • Rural catchment groups • Three waters
<i>Friday 24th July – facilitated discussion</i>	
Ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecology • Rural land use • Cultural

Commitment from participants will involve:

- Critically reviewing the policy direction paper and providing written comments within a 2 week timeframe. A feedback form will be available for comments, or participants can prepare their own written response.
- Participation in an online facilitate discussion of up to a half a day in duration. Participation will be conducted in a respectful manner, providing other participants with the opportunity to fully express their views. An inability to conduct oneself in this manner may result in you being excused from participating in the reference group.

Participant Requirements – time and resource commitment

We are seeking expressions of interest from persons with the following skills:

- The ability to digest information and policy direction and advise on how best to address their issues of concern.
- An understanding or experience in the topic of relevance to the reference group. See the attached table with key skills and expertise listed for each the of the reference groups.
- The ability to provide advice which is future focussed to meet the needs of resource management now and in the future.
- A positive approach to being involved in the management of natural resources in Otago.
- Familiarity in working in a collaborative and respectful for environment.

What we don't want:

- We do not want partial availability, or those with restrictions that would result in the timeframes of the reference group not being met. Representatives will need to participate fully in the online facilitated discussion and follow up written comments. We are also seeking people with particular expertise rather than professional affiliation.

How will we select participants?

Applicants will be selected against the following criteria:

- Having an intimate understanding or expertise in the topic area.
- Having community and/or stakeholder connections across a number of associated networks.
- Having the ability and supporting tools to participate in the online facilitated discussion ie Zoom meeting.
- Having demonstrated ability to fulfil the role.

The process of selection will be undertaken by a selected panel, featuring 2 Elected Members (the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Strategy and Planning Committee) and two ORC staff members (one Executive member). All applications will be reviewed by the panel, with individual short lists of up to 10 participants prepared by each member. A meeting to discuss the shared shortlisted participants will be undertaken with the aim to finalise a list of participants for each reference group. If necessary, further information may be sought by the governing body from interested individuals.

The panel will be looking to ensure the reference groups have a good representation from across the relevant section, rural / urban locations and a wide range of experience and expertise. Iwi representatives and that of the Territorial Authorities will be in addition to those selected through the EOI process.

All applicants will be advised within two weeks of the close of EOI whether they are successful or not.

It should be noted that if you are not successful, this is not the only opportunity to provide input into the process. Following notification, the formal consultation process under the RMA will begin and further opportunity to submit on the RPS is provided then.

If you are successful in your Expression of Interest this doesn't not prejudice or preclude you from making submissions or further submissions on the RPS in the process set out above.

How to express an interest in participating in the Reference Group?

To express an interest in participating in this opportunity, please fill out the EOI nomination form, and provide the following written response. Please note if you wish to nominate for more than one reference group you will need to fill out an EOI nomination form specific to each reference group of choice:

- Your full name, postal address, email address, phone number
- Identification of the reference group(s) you are expressing your interest to be part of
- Information about who you are, your background and experience in the relevant topic of the reference group.
- Confirmation that you are able to commit to the timeframes and have access to the necessarily technology to participate in the online facilitated discussion
- What personal qualities you think you would bring to the reference group
- What communities, stakeholders, networks that you have linkages with

We ask that responses are no longer than 3 pages. If we need to clarify anything or ask you for a referee that we could speak to, we will call you. Responses longer than 3 pages will not be considered.