



**Otago Settlers Association, PO Box 74, Dunedin 9054.**

**Verbal further submission to the Dunedin City Councillors  
on the 2023-24 draft Annual Plan  
by  
The Otago Settlers Association**

The Otago Settlers Association (OSA) is pleased to have this opportunity to make a verbal further submission on the Dunedin City Council's 2023-24 draft Annual Plan relating directly to the future operation of Toitū Otago Settlers Museum (TOSM).

As founders and principal project fundraisers for TOSM, the OSA has a longstanding commitment to support and work closely with the Museum staff and management. We believe we have a successful relationship with Museum staff based on a high degree of collaboration. Most recently, the production and screening of the Journey to New Edinburgh has been a huge success and a credit to the skills of TOSM staff. We believe the Council and the ratepayers of Dunedin should be proud of what has been achieved through their long-term commitment and support of the Museum.

**Dunedin Gasworks Museum**

The OSA continues to support and promote the Internationally significant Dunedin Gasworks Museum. It is an extremely valuable part of Dunedin's social and engineering heritage and has a Category 1 status under the Heritage New Zealand Act. The Museum is regularly open to the public and has strong South Dunedin community support. Whilst acknowledging the support already received from the DCC Property Department and TOSM staff, if the Museum is to remain sustainable, more professional help is needed to conserve the collection and develop the Museum to its full potential.

**Dunedin's Museum Cluster**

The Museum Cluster provides a valuable visitor draw-card for the City and should be promoted heavily. In particular, Toitū Otago Settles Museum and the Dunedin

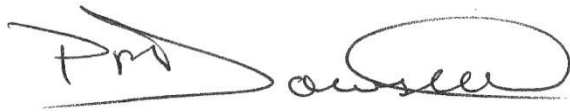
Gasworks Museum provide social and engineering stories through which today's Dunedin is better understood by both visitors and residents. The history of the City is manifested in its historic buildings, museums, art galleries, and archives.

### **Hearings**

These hearings are an opportunity for the Council to hear the view from the community and to ask questions. Whilst time consuming for the Councillors and staff, it is an important part of democracy in Dunedin and the Association urges that hearings continue to be held each year whether or not there are significant changes to the 10-year Plan.

I am pleased to answer questions you may have.

1<sup>st</sup> May 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil R Dowsett', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Phil R Dowsett (Past President OSA)