

Regional Leader – Consents Delivery

Horopaki | Context

Kaunihera Taiao ki Waitaha | Canterbury Regional Council, also known as Environment Canterbury, is the Regional Council for the largest region in Aotearoa/New Zealand, covering an area of 44,500 square kilometres, with a population of approximately 700,000.

As a regional council, we are responsible for managing natural resources including air, soil, water and land. We work in partnership with mana whenua Ngāi Tahu to protect the health of our environment to ensure a sustainable and prosperous future for our region.

The region's evolving environmental and political context means we will continue to be agile and adaptive, as we respond to regulatory and environmental changes.

Our mahi (work) is organised around the delivery of our three core services:

- Environmental Regulation and Protection
- Community Preparedness and Response to Hazards
- Public Transport

We are guided by our strategic drivers (pou):

- Putting the community and our customers at the heart of everything we do
- Growing our relationship with mana whenua into a true partnership
- Maturing our governance model and understanding of our political environment
- Removing pain for our people (and customers) by improving our systems and processes.

Our mahi is also underpinned by our values:

- Kaitiakitanga (stewardship)
- Pononga (integrity)
- Manaakitanga (people first)
- Whanaungatanga (collaboration)
- Māiatanga (can do).

Aronga | Purpose

The purpose of this role is to manage the delivery of the consent processing function within the Consents Team to assist achievement of community outcomes. This will be achieved by ensuring the following:

- Statutory timeframes for the processing of consent applications are met;
- The advice provided to decision-makers is of a high quality;
- Risks are managed and mitigated where possible;
- The consents process is robust, defensible and delivered with a customer focus.

To provide leadership, technical expertise, co-ordination and support to Consent Processing Team Leaders and teams responsible for consent processing.

As a people leader, this role will provide engaging and dynamic leadership, integrating operational and functional alignment to drive high performance and deliver quality services to our communities, in line with our values, strategies, ways of working and Long-Term/Annual Plan commitments.

This includes thinking about organisation-wide interests and impacts when interacting with customers or when planning activities and expenditure, collaborating inside the organisation to achieve the desired culture, making sound business decisions and taking ownership of leading and managing our people.

Ngā Haepapa | Accountabilities

- Lead team engagement through setting a clear vision and purpose, embedding organisational values and inspiring quality results.
- Work with Team Leaders and Consent Planners to deliver a customer focused approach to consent processing including managing challenging customer relationships to assist in resolving issues between applicants and submitters/affected parties.
- Set and manage to clear objectives and performance measures, manage team performance, allocate resourcing, and provide feedback and coaching to create a high performance and engaged team.
- Provide advanced specialist advice into the technical and legal aspects of consents delivery including environmental scans, identification of complex problems, development of strategies to resolve or address complex planning matters and operational problems, risk management and mitigation.
- Manage a wide variety of stakeholder relationships and successfully mediate and/or negotiation on behalf of the organisation to build credibility and support the achievement of community and organisational goals.
- Manage the day-to-day operational delivery of consents processing to agreed levels of service ensuring processes are robust, defensible and customer focused. This will include managing chargeable hours, workloads, reasonable costs, timeframes, risks, decision-making and consistency.
- Undertake business planning and reporting as required to contribute to section, group and organisational outcomes, forecasting and budgeting.
- Undertake financial management and manage viability of the section by managing expenditure on goods and services, ensuring correct time allocations and charges are applied to consent processes, and budget assistance is provided to the Consents Manager.
- Work with Team Leaders, Consent Planners and Principal Consent Advisors to ensure correct advice is provided to decision makers and consents are processed for customers within statutory timeframes.

- Oversee quality assurance process and ensure procedures are in place and correctly followed, including team efficiency and use of best practice.
- Lead, coach, mentor, and develop direct reports, while supporting them to create a high performing and engaged workforce through:
 - Creating a clear vision, direction, and priorities, harnessing the energy, commitment, and creativity of direct reports to deliver business outcomes.
 - Developing and maintaining strategies, annual plans and work programmes to deliver a fit-for-purpose function.
 - Encouraging kaimahi (team members) to develop their te ao Māori confidence.
 - Taking appropriate and proactive actions to reward and recognise performance and address poor performance or behavioural matters.
 - Maintaining an overview of workload to ensure resources are sufficient to deliver on agreed programmes of work.
 - Ensuring the ongoing development and growth of kaimahi capability by leading and developing direct reports through regular performance reviews, coaching and feedback; creating a high performing, engaged and aligned culture, seeking advice from your manager or People and Capability where required.

Toitū Te Tiriti | Treaty Partner Excellence

- Deliver outcomes that underpin and give effect to achieving Ngāi Tahu cultural and environmental aspirations, including but not limited to, mahinga kai and revitalisation programmes.
- Connect with our Ngāi Tahu partner to ensure understanding of Ngāi Tahu aspirations and priorities so that there is genuine input and contribution, which can be considered in mahi programme development and prioritisation.
- Demonstrate openness and courageousness in approaching issues and in co-design of processes and systems, supporting thought leadership that can give effect to the progression of the partnership.
- Contribute toward our effective, strong and valued relationship with all Papatipu Rūnanga within Waitaha/Canterbury and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, to demonstrate our commitment to recognise and provide for the kaitiaki/responsibility Ngāi Tahu has for the natural environment. This will include sharing of knowledge and information, creating opportunities for increased participation in decision-making processes, effective engagement and development of existing working relationships.
- Support the organisation's cultural capability journey, leading by example and identifying clear priorities, expectations, and development opportunities for individual capability; planning and aligning work to support organisational cultural capability across all aspects of delivery.

Hauora me te Marutau | Health and Safety

The health, safety and wellbeing of our kaimahi and community is a priority for the Council, and we proactively implement robust health and safety practices. People leaders' responsibilities include:

- Understand the health and safety and risk obligations that rest with this position and act at all times to ensure accountabilities are met.
- Maintain a safety-focused culture where health, safety and wellbeing are at the heart of decision making for kaimahi and the communities within which we operate.
- Maintain an enquiring mind, undertake due diligence and apply knowledge of best practice to ensure a detailed understanding of any risks kaimahi may face in their mahi and ensure these are appropriately removed or mitigated.
- Ensure awareness of and compliance with legislative and operational standards, and that relevant certifications are maintained.
- Ensure methods are in place to recognise and celebrate best practice and safety innovation.
- Provide opportunities for team involvement, education, and genuine participation in safety matters.
- Ensure methods are in place for all kaimahi, contractors and suppliers to be appropriately inducted and certified to carry out tasks safely.
- Ensure any organisational audit and assurance programme is undertaken as required and results are acted upon and regularly reviewed.
- Ensure processes are in place to communicate, consider and respond to information about health and safety.
- Take a planned approach to identify, analyse and manage risks within the section.
- Ensure regular monitoring and reviews are undertaken of risk controls and their effectiveness in relation to legislation, regulations and guidelines, organisational policies, procedures and our code of conduct.

Hononga ā-Mahi | Working Relationships

Kai rō Kaunihera | Within the organisation

- Accountable to Consents Planning Manager.
- Frequent interactions with members of the consents, compliance, customer service and zone delivery teams to assist the timely and accurate flow of information and advice to each other and to customers.
- Represent Environment Canterbury at meetings of Resource Consent Hearing Committees, the Resource Management Officers Group, Regulatory Hearings Committee and the Regulation Overview Committee.

Kai waho i te Kaunihera | Outside the organisation

- Contribute toward our effective, strong and valued relationship with all Papatipu Rūnanga within Waitaha /Canterbury and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu.
- Demonstrate Council's commitment to recognise and provide for the kaitiaki responsibility Ngāi Tahu has for the natural environment. This will include sharing of knowledge and information, creating opportunities for increased participation in decision making processes, effective engagement and development of existing working relationships.
- Frequently liaise and engage with resource consent applicants and their representatives, submitters, affected persons, statutory organisations, tangata whenua and other members of the public to progress consent applications.
- Frequently liaise with various government, local authority, industry and consulting agencies to achieve consenting outcomes using best practice methods.
- Maintain networks with technical experts and professional peers to stay abreast of current practice and facilitate industry improvements.

Ngā Herenga Motuhake | Special Conditions

As a regional council, we have a specific requirement to provide a civil defence function for Waitaha. Kaimahi are required to be available to assist, support or be associated, as reasonably required, with any Civil Defence emergency or any exercise organised in relation to this function.

Additionally, all kaimahi are expected to assist, support and respond, as reasonably required, to any event where the Business Continuity Plan is activated.

Māngai Whakahaere | Delegations and Authorities

Where specified, this role has delegated authority to make decisions in accordance with Council-approved delegations, and authority for decision making in accordance with policies and guidelines for financial, people management and media-related activities.

Additional specific delegations may be given by the Chief Executive to the Chief People Officer on people and safety matters from time to time.

Ngā Āheitanga | Capabilities

Tohu Mātauranga | Qualifications

- A tertiary qualification is required with a focus in the natural resources field highly desirable.

Mātau ā-wheako | Experience

- Five years practical experience in resource management.
- Experience managing people and teams.

Ngā Pūkenga Matatau | Core Competencies

Specific behaviours at the Team Leader level sit beneath each of the following organisational competencies.

Customer Focus	Ensuring that the customer perspective is a driving force behind decisions and activities. Initiating and maintaining relationships inside and outside the organisation.
Business Acumen	Using an understanding of the organisation's position to contribute to effective strategies and tactics by using economic, financial and industry information. Thinking from the ratepayers' perspective.
Achieving Outcomes	Translating strategic priorities into operational reality; aligning communication, accountabilities, resources, internal processes and ongoing measurement systems to ensure that strategic priorities yield measurable and sustainable results.
Leading Change	Identifying and driving organisational and cultural changes needed to adapt strategically to changing demands, technology, and internal initiatives; using new approaches to improve results by transforming organisational culture, systems, or services.
Common Purpose	Working towards a compelling view of the future by engaging with the organisation's vision; understanding and aligning to the common purpose.
Building Capability	Attracting, developing, engaging, and retaining talented individuals allowing the organisation to meet current and future organisational challenges. Sharing authority, responsibilities and decision making to enable individuals to stretch their capabilities and accomplish strategic priorities.

The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed; they are not an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties and skills required of the position and incumbent. From time to time the incumbent will be required to accept and carry out other duties.

Band / Grade
8/21

Position Code
OPERCON.003

Last Updated
July 2025

I agree to undertake the responsibilities detailed in this job description:

Ingoa | Name:

Waitohu | Signature:

Rā | Date Signed: