

## INTRODUCTION

OCT recognises that anthropogenic climate change is a serious and immediate risk to our communities and requires urgent collective action to create positive change for future generations.

We believe we have a role to play in mitigating the most severe impacts of climate change, and that we need to work together to develop a resilient community response in order to ensure effective kaitiakitanga of our resources for current and future generations. The effects of climate change will not be felt equally amongst our community.

As a philanthropic Trust, we can support communities across our rohe to understand and mitigate climate impacts. We can also review how we invest the Trust's funds, and make changes to our internal operations.

#### **OUR JOURNEY**

OCT signed up to the Funders Commitment to Climate Action in 2022, and in August 2024 adopted it's first Climate Change Action Plan.

Our current Climate Action Plan 2025-2027 builds on the progress made in the previous plan. It will be reviewed and updated each year, as we make progress on our journey and as new science, guidance and technology become available.

OCT will be guided by Te Tiriti o Waitangi on this journey. We are committed to supporting a tika (just) and equitable transition in our region.



The Funders Commitment on Climate Action is a short voluntary pledge outlining seven commitments that signatories commit to. Funders who sign up recognise our climate crisis and commit to responsibly investing in a tika (just) transition to a green, low-carbon society. Guided by Te Tiriti o Waitangi, we aim to accelerate effective and collaborative climate responses for greater equity and wellbeing.

In signing up to this Commitment, OCT has committed to:

- 1. Reflecting Te Tiriti o Waitangi and supporting Māori aspirations regarding climate action,
- 2. An equitable transition,
- 3. Enable leadership,
- 4. Commit and share resources,
- 5. Learn and grow,
- 6. Decarbonise our investments and operations,
- 7. Report on progress.

More information about the Funders Commitment is available at www.climateactionaotearoa.co.nz



## **OUR GOALS**

We are committed to becoming a climate responsible funder through the following goals:

- Community Support: Through our granting and capability-building funding activities, support communities across Otago to understand and mitigate their climate change impacts and grasp opportunities.
- Investments: Use a robust and evidence-based approach to assess our investments and set and achieve targets to reduce the Trust's investment portfolio's carbon exposure.
- Internal Operations: Embed climate responsibility into our culture and ethos, starting with measuring our internal greenhouse gas footprint and setting and achieving targets to reduce emissions and achieve a carbon neutral position.

We have set a suite of measurable actions to contribute to these goals, as set out below. We will publish our progress towards these targets at the end of each financial year and then plan to set new targets for 2027-2028 onwards.



# 2025 - 2027 ACTIONS

1

Through our granting and capability-building funding activities, support communities across Otago to understand and mitigate their climate change impacts and grasp opportunities.

ACTION	2025 - 2027 TARGET
Continue to build climate capability among communities across our region.	Deliver a set of climate/sustainability pilot workshops aimed at increasing community capability in this area.
Continue to use our communication platforms to share knowledge and resources to highlight positive climate action progress.	Showcase 6x climate action-related grants that OCT has approved in our publications and promotions.
	Share 6x climate action resources for not-for-profit organisations through our social media and communication platforms.
Support our communities in climate adaptation and mitigation projects.	Increase granting for community led climate adaptation & climate mitigation initiatives compared with 2024-2025.
	Contribute funding towards 2025 Kaupapa of National Significance for climate action.
Seek to understand our communities' climate aspirations.	Increase our collective understanding of the challenges for Otago, and on what a tika transition looks like for the Otago rohe.
Continue relationship building.	Continue building relationships with key regional partners and explore opportunities to align efforts.

Use a robust and evidence-based approach to assess our investments and set and achieve targets to reduce the Trust's investment portfolio's carbon exposure.

ACTION	2025 - 2027 TARGET
Measure and publish the emissions associated with our investment portfolio.	Continue to measure and report emissions associated with our investment portfolio, and track progress towards achieving a 43% emissions reduction by 2030 (from a base year of 2020).
Evaluate our investment profile.	Review the exclusions policy within our Statement of Investment Policies and Objectives (SIPO).
Explore opportunities to align with others.	Explore opportunities to align with associations and/or commitments and frameworks for responsible investment.

3

Embed climate responsibility into our culture and ethos, starting with measuring our internal greenhouse gas footprint and setting and achieving targets to reduce emissions and achieve a carbon neutral position.

ACTION	2025 - 2027 TARGET
Measure and publish our greenhouse gas operations footprint.	Continue to measure and report our operational carbon footprint, and track progress towards achieving a 20% reduction in our Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions by 2030 (from our 2024 baseline report).
Embed climate responsibility into our culture and ethos.	Continue to explore and implement ways to reduce our operational carbon footprint.
	Update procurement policy to include consideration of providers' environmental commitments and sustainability for major purchases and contracts.



### **OUR EMISSIONS REDUCTION TARGETS**

#### **OFFICE OPERATIONS**

OCT is committed to reducing its operational carbon footprint. We have adopted science-informed Emission Reduction Targets for ourselves and will publish progress against those at the end of each financial year.

#### **CORPORATE OFFICE EMISSIONS TARGET:**

Target

Reduce Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions (fuel and electricity) by 20% by 2030 (from the base year of our FY2024 emissions inventory).

Continue to measure and report Scope 3 emissions.

#### **INVESTMENTS**

The Investments area offers OCT the greatest opportunity for emission reductions. We are working closely with our investment adviser on this topic.

#### **INVESTMENT EMISSIONS:**

**Target** 

Reduce emissions associated with OCT's investment portfolio by 43% by 2030 (from a base year of 2020, to align with our Investment Adviser's existing emissions reduction plans).

We have sought external support to estimate our 2020 baseline equivalent.

#### **GRANTING**

OCT is focussed on exploring ways to support community organisations to reduce emissions from their activities, as shown in our action plan above. In the meantime, OCT has not set targets to actively measure or reduce emissions associated with our grant funding.

