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Environment Canterbury to continue offering services to Chatham Islands Council

• Last Updated 16 Jan 2024

Environment Canterbury and Chatham Islands Council have signed a new contract for services.

Because of its remote location and thanks to a few Acts, Chatham Islands Council acts as a unitary authority, having the responsibilities of both a local council, and a regional council.

Since 2004, Central Government has granted funding for Chatham Islands Council to get help in meeting its obligations as a regional council. Since then, these services have been provided by Environment Canterbury.

Environment Canterbury helps Chatham Islands Council with things like:

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- Managing freshwater on the Chathams
- [Biosecurity](#) - including ensuring that shipments to the islands are pest free
- Civil Defence and responding to natural hazard emergencies
- Issuing [resource management](#) consents and monitoring compliance
- [Navigational safety](#)
- Supporting the Chathams Council with their new land and water plan (yes, along with all other regional councils, the Chathams needs a new plan in accordance with the [Essential Freshwater](#) directions from central Government)
- Communication and Engagement
- Preparation of [Long Term Plans](#), [Annual Plan](#), financial reporting and lots more.

There is a team from across Environment Canterbury, representing most parts of the business, that delivers services to the Chathams. It is a unique programme of work - applying our skills and expertise to a different and unique environment.

The team reports every six weeks to the CEO of the Chatham Islands Council, Owen Pickles, with a six-weekly report going to the Chatham Islands Council.

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