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**22 May 2009**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ATTENTION: CHIEF REPORTERS  
CIVIC REPORTERS

### **Feedback sought on future planning issues in Otatara**

The Invercargill City Council is consulting with the community to identify any parts of the District Plan that may need to be changed to better suit the unique characteristics of the Otatara area.

Council's Senior Planner Liz Devery said following the public meeting held in March 2008, group sessions were held with a number of residents to help Council focus on the key issues. Since then an Issues and Options report has been developed.

"A summary of the report has been delivered to mail boxes in Otatara and provides an opportunity for everyone to have their say on the future of the Otatara area. A feedback form accompanies this summary which Council encouraged people to complete and return by Monday June, 15," Mrs Devery said.

Mrs Devery said Otatara was classed as a separate Sub-Area because it differed from residential areas elsewhere in the City. Its unique characteristics were recognised by Council and valued by the wider community.

"Otatara is acknowledged as an area that includes large properties, a high degree of privacy, scenic values and the protection and enhancement of native vegetation. Through planning, Council can ensure that Otatara maintains these characteristics for future generations."

The summary details a range of options, each with their pros and cons. A combination of one or more of the options may be the best method of achieving sustainable management in Otatara. It may be that there are other options not covered in the summary. Mrs Devery said.

As a result of this consultation with the community, decisions would be made as to what changes, if any, were needed to be made to Council's approach in

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Otatara, in particular whether any changes are required to be made to the District Plan, she said.

A detailed Issues and Options report, the Summary and the Feedback form is available online at Council's website, [www.icc.govt.nz](http://www.icc.govt.nz) and in hard copy by phoning Council's Help Desk on 211 1777. Any Otatara Residents who did not receive a copy of the Summary and would like one are invited to download one from Council's website or phone Council to request a copy is posted to them.

Ends.

Inquiries: Resource Management Principal Officer Terence Boylan, (03) 211 1701.

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