



MEDIA STATEMENT

CCHL response to an unsolicited indicative proposal from Tōnui Consortium

30 July 2026

Christchurch City Holdings Limited (CCHL) have declined to proceed with a proposal to lease operations at the port.

The unsolicited proposal from Tōnui Consortium, representing DP World and three Runanga: Ngāti Wheke, Ngāi Tūāhuriri, and Te Taumutu, was received by CCHL in June. The consortium proposed acquiring a majority interest in a long-term lease of the operating entity of LPC.

CCHL Chair, Bryan Pearson, acknowledged the effort by the Tōnui Consortium in considering the future of Lyttelton Port and preparing the proposal. "Lyttelton Port is a strategic asset for the city and region, and there are diverse groups within our community with interests in its future," says Bryan Pearson.

"Our assessment of the proposal, as presented, is it does not meet the threshold for ongoing consideration and is not sufficiently compelling to warrant further detailed investigation by CCHL, or additional consultation with Council given its Letter of Expectation."

CCHL is mindful of the LPC workforce and the breadth of community interest in the port's operation. Christchurch City Council's 2026/2027 Letter of Expectation to CCHL is explicit in its direction, which does not support leasing the port and encourages retention of a directly employed workforce.

CCHL reached its conclusion specifically considering LPC's improving operational and financial performance, as well as input provided by LPC on the resilience of its infrastructure and the leadership required to maintain a culture of safety and efficiency.

Bryan Pearson says "CCHL maintains full confidence in the LPC board and management and their operation of the port, and continues to work closely with LPC in considering the port's long-term development and associated investment."

Ends.

CCHL Media enquires: media@cchl.co.nz

Please note: Due to commercial and confidentiality considerations CCHL has no further public comment on the detail of the unsolicited proposal.