

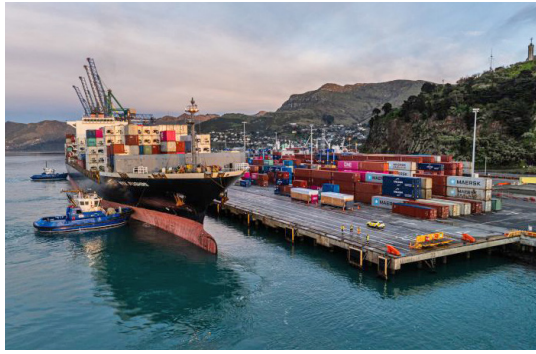
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LPCUpdate

Issue 37 September 2026

Lyttelton Port Company Community Newsletter

PORT NEWS

\$821m investment in Te Awaparahi Bay project

Lyttelton Port Company will invest \$821 million in the development of the Te Awaparahi Bay wharf and container terminal at Lyttelton, driving South Island economic growth and ensuring the long-term resilience of the region's supply chain.

LPC Chair Barry Bragg says the investment marks a significant step for the Port, Christchurch and the South Island economy.

"We've spent the last decade rebuilding and strengthening the Port. Today's announcement is about creating the capacity, resilience and capability needed for the next generation of South Island trade," says Barry.

CCHL Chair Bryan Pearson says the Board's decision to approve LPC's major transaction came following extensive due diligence into the project's strategic need, business case, funding pathway and long-term benefits for resilience, capacity and regional growth.



"This approval by CCHL reflects confidence in Christchurch, the South Island economy and our strong belief in Lyttelton Port Company's role as the South Island's key international trade gateway," says Bryan.

The project will be funded through a combination of debt, together with equity

from CCHL. "CCHL's investment into the infrastructure in support of South Island businesses, exporters and economic growth will be around \$300 million. The rest of the project will be funded by LPC," says Bryan. There is no further reclamation as part of this project. **Continued inside**

▲ An artist's impression of the future Te Awaparahi Bay Container Terminal.

Training supports sea rescue

Twice-yearly helicopter training will support lifesaving response at sea.

LPC's pilot launch crew joined the Westpac Rescue Helicopter team for a training exercise in Lyttelton focused on emergency medical evacuations at sea.

The exercise took place in waters 4 nautical miles offshore, between the Lyttelton Heads and Pilot Station Alpha. Rescue crews were winched on and off the moving pilot launch, simulating scenarios where an injured person may need to be safely lifted from a vessel.

LPC conducts training with the Westpac Rescue Helicopter twice a year. These exercises help both air and marine crews maintain their skills and ensure they are ready to respond when every minute counts.



LPC marine team joined the Canterbury West Coast Air Rescue Trust helicopter team for a training exercise.

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LPC Chief Executive Officer Graeme Sumner says the need for investment is clear, with ageing infrastructure, growing demand, larger ships and increasing export volumes creating the right conditions to move forward.

“The resilience of some of the container berths is a major driver for the project. Rebuilding them would take at least three years and significantly disrupt container operations,” says Graeme.

“Building the Te Awaparahi Bay expansion removes the need to rebuild these wharves and allows the Port to continue operating at full capacity.”

The Te Awaparahi Bay Expansion and Resilience Project will deliver a 388-metre deepwater wharf, future berth capacity and a 5-hectare container terminal. The wharf will feature four new ship-to-shore cranes.

The new terminal will feature semi-automated gantry yard cranes, helping the Port handle more containers in less space, improving the speed and reliability of terminal operations and supporting safer, more efficient container movements.

When complete, the Port’s annual berth capacity will be around 850,000 TEU (20-foot equivalent units), ensuring projected volume over the coming decades can be managed. The project is expected to be complete by 2031. Graeme Sumner says the announcement follows a period of strong financial performance for LPC, reflecting the commitment of its people and giving the company confidence to invest for the future.

“None of this happens without our people. Today’s announcement reflects the commitment, expertise and hard work of generations of LPC staff,” he says.

Graeme says the project reflects confidence in the future of Christchurch, confidence in the South Island economy and confidence in the role Lyttelton Port will continue to play as the region’s leading trade gateway, connecting South Island businesses to global markets.

Economic growth

\$300m

Estimated

TEU

850,000

20-foot equivalent units

Container Terminal

5ha

Expansion

Wharf length

388m

Deepwater wharf and future berth capacity

Sustainability targets built into Te Awaparahi Bay

Lyttelton Port Company (LPC) has developed a Sustainable Infrastructure Framework for the Te Awaparahi Bay Port Expansion and Resilience Project. The Framework goes beyond meeting consent requirements and draws on international good practice to help deliver positive outcomes for biodiversity, climate resilience, sustainable procurement, efficient use of resources, emissions reduction and waste minimisation throughout design and construction.

The new wharf and container terminal have been designed with future climate scenarios in mind. This includes the potential effects of sea-level rise, coastal inundation, storms, heavy rainfall and flooding. Considering these risks now will help ensure the infrastructure and essential services remain resilient over time.

The project will also support LPC’s climate transition planning framework by reducing operational emissions and contributing to a lower-emissions future for Canterbury. Providing shore power for ships and using electric container handling equipment are two of the initiatives that will help LPC meet its short-term and long-term emissions reduction targets, while also improving local air quality.

During construction, LPC will track material, fuel and energy use. LPC does not offset emissions, but native planting will be undertaken on suitable Port land to support biodiversity and land restoration initiatives.

This will build on work already underway across Whakaraupō Lyttelton Harbour through Whaka-Ora Healthy Harbour and other partnerships, while contributing to the goals in LPC’s Biodiversity Roadmap 2025–2030. Waste minimisation will also be a key objective, with a target to divert 80% of construction waste from landfill.

Protecting the unique wildlife of Whakaraupō Lyttelton Harbour is a key priority, particularly Hector’s dolphins. A Marine Piling Management Plan will be implemented throughout wharf construction.

Head of Environment and Sustainability Crystal Lenky says the knowledge gained through many years of acoustic monitoring during the Cruise Berth Project has significantly improved our understanding of how marine piling noise may affect Hector’s dolphins.

“LPC will apply those lessons to the Te Awaparahi Bay Port Expansion and Resilience Project and use technologies such as bubble curtains to further reduce underwater noise, together with a real-time acoustic monitoring buoy to continuously measure piling noise levels and detect marine mammals in the area,” says Crystal.

Construction Environmental Management Plans will set out how environmental effects such as dust, lighting, water quality, traffic, visual effects and construction noise will be monitored and managed in accordance with consent requirements.

LPC recognised with national safety award

Lyttelton Port Company won the work-related safety award for the best initiative to address a work-related safety risk at the 2026 New Zealand Workplace Health & Safety Awards on 23 June.

The award was for LPC’s use of drone technology to remove personnel from critical risks, including working at height and near water and people vs plant, making everyday tasks safer across operations.

Chief Health and Safety Officer Steve Barclay says the award reflects a strong team effort across the business.

“This recognition reflects the outstanding work of our workforce and operational teams, who have collaborated closely to eliminate three of our critical risks from operations.”

Drones were used for container roof inspections, stockpile monitoring, Container Terminal pavement inspections and Cruise Berth seawall rock surveys.

At MidlandPort, thousands of container roof inspections have been completed since November using this technology, eliminating exposure to risk and increasing operational efficiency.

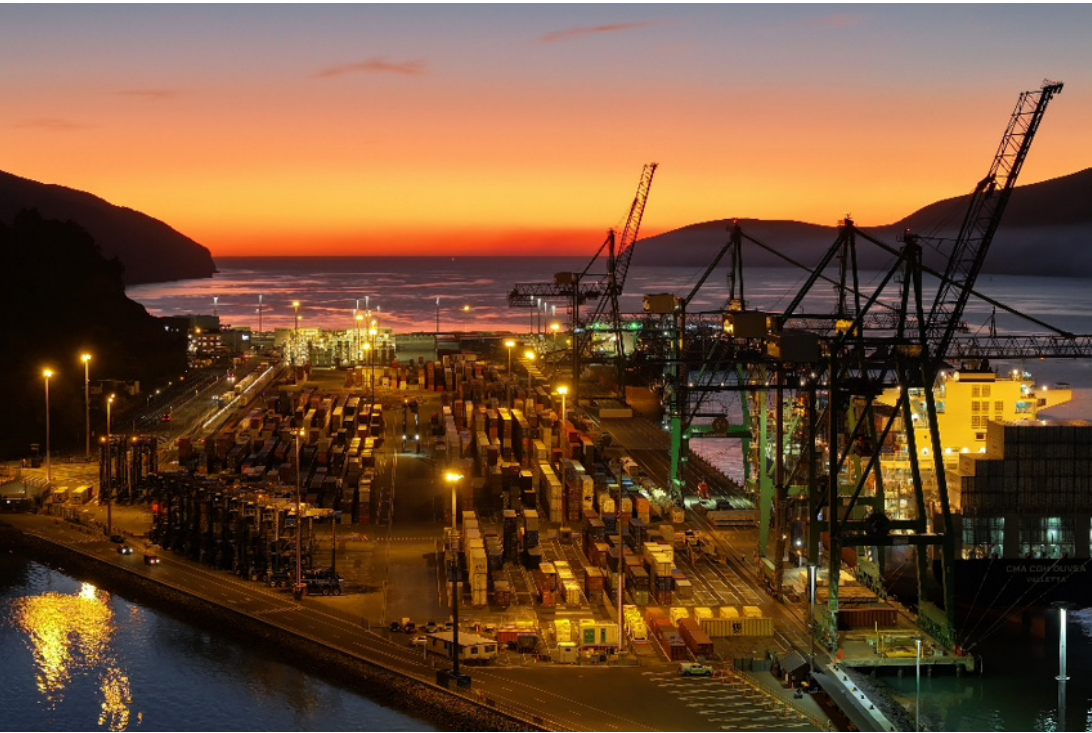
“I would like to acknowledge and thank our teams across MidlandPort, Engineering, Procurement, Coal Operations and Communications as well as my own Health and Safety team for their dedication and commitment to continuous improvement. This award is a direct result of their collective effort and focus,” says Steve.

“The innovative use of drone technology is transforming the way we work and how we approach safety at LPC, providing new perspectives and strengthening our ability to manage risk effectively.”



◀ Steve Barclay accepts the work-related safety award at the 2026 Safeguard New Zealand Workplace Health & Safety Awards, recognising LPC’s safer way of working with drone technology.

LPC caps record year with strong financial result



Lyttelton Port Company has closed out the 2025/26 financial year (FY26) with a record net profit after tax of \$34.7 million, a 40% lift on the \$25 million returned in FY25.

This is the second year in a row that LPC has posted a record financial result. The result is underpinned by revenue of \$226 million, up 9% on the previous year, contributing to earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation of \$75.6 million, up 19%.

The result is subject to final audit clearance expected next week.

LPC Chair Barry Bragg says the past financial year shows the value of a disciplined focus on our performance.

“This is a result our people can be proud of, and it would not have been possible without the support of our staff and customers,” says Barry. “Our job now is to keep lifting returns so we can reinvest in the Port, support its long-term growth and become the South Island Port Hub.”

Barry says safety remains the Board’s foremost priority alongside efficiency and productivity for customers. “The Board is determined to make real gains in health and safety. Our plan spans stronger leadership, better work practices and asset upgrades, all aimed at keeping our people well and our operation safe,” he says.

Container volumes have held steady at 427,462 TEU, down less than 1% on the 431,556 TEU handled in FY25.

General cargo was positive, with grain, fertiliser and stockfeed volumes strong on the back of favourable conditions in the agricultural sector. Total bulk trades are up 9% to 3,830,379 tonnes, with dry bulk up 19%,

coal up 14% and bulk fuel up 3%. Car numbers have increased 11% from 35,233 to 39,138. Log exports are down 17%, held back by high shipping costs that saw cargo stockpiled or sent to the domestic market.

LPC Chief Executive Graeme Sumner says the results reflect sustained effort across the business. “Our team has worked hard to improve our operational performance and keep a tight rein on both capital and operating costs,” he says. “Just as important is we have done this while rolling out a wide-ranging risk management programme to bring down our operational, health and safety risks across the business.” During the year, LPC paid a total of \$12.5 million in dividends, including a final dividend of \$7.7 million from FY25 and an interim FY26 dividend of \$4.8 million. The company is on track to deliver its full-year dividend of \$14.5 million to CCHL subject to Board approval.

The Te Awaparahi Bay reclamation project, along with the detailed wharf design, remains on schedule and within budget for completion at the end of the year, Graeme says. Sustainability continues to sit at the heart of how LPC operates. The company again hit its solid waste to landfill target and is on the path to zero solid waste by 2040.

“We are backing our biodiversity ambitions with action, delivering our biodiversity road map and committing resources to it over the next five years,” he says.

LPC hits both FY26 sustainability targets

Lyttelton Port Company met each of its FY26 sustainability targets, delivering on both its solid waste to landfill goal and its Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal.

The progress keeps LPC moving towards its wider ambition of halving Scope 1 and 2 emissions and cutting selected Scope 3 emissions by 30%, both by 2030.

A harbour life: 40 years at LPC

Paul Massie started at Lyttelton Port Company at 17 as an apprentice plumber with a toolbag. Forty years on, he is a tugmaster, at the helm of the vessels that guide ships safely in and out of Lyttelton.

"If you'd told me when I was a plumber in the 1990s that one day I'd be skipper on the tugs, I would've laughed at you," he says.

The Port has never been far away. Paul grew up in Cass Bay and went to school in Lyttelton, and both his parents worked at LPC – his father in the Lyttelton Container Terminal and his mother supporting operations from the office. His early years on the job took him almost everywhere. He worked as a plumber through the transition from the Lyttelton Harbour Board to Lyttelton Port Company, and in between, he relieved at the Dry Dock, worked on the pilot launch and picked up weekend shifts lashing containers.

"Being a plumber was quite good because you knew everyone and worked in all parts of the Port," he says. "It gave me a really good understanding of how the place operates."

The move that changed his career came from family. His cousin, pilot John Clarke, suggested he apply for a deckhand role on the pilot launch.



◀ Tugmaster, Paul Massie, on Blackadder Tug.

"I never thought I'd change departments or careers, but it appealed to me."

Paul joined the marine team in 2000 and gained his launch master's qualification in Nelson. After time on the pilot boat, he moved across to the tugs, which remain one of his proudest achievements. "Getting signed off as a tugmaster was a big highlight for me."

It is demanding work. Lyttelton's two tugs, Piaka and Blackadder, support around 1,800 ship movements a year, holding vessels steady as they come alongside in all weathers.

Away from the water, Paul is still close to it. He is a long-time Coast to Coast competitor

and spends many hours training around Lyttelton.

Much has changed at LPC over 40 years. What has not changed, Paul says, is his respect for the people he works alongside.

"There are some incredibly talented people working here. When you see what people do, especially in tough conditions, you realise just how much skill their job requires."

And after all that time, it is the people who have kept him here. "It's never felt like just a job. This place is part of my community, and the people I work with are good mates."

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ENVIRONMENT

Digging in at Port Saddle

Volunteers came together at the Port Saddle on Sunday 23 August to plant 300 native plants and support the ongoing restoration of native habitat above Lyttelton.



◀ Community volunteers spent a Sunday planting at Port Saddle, supporting efforts to restore and enhance the area for future generations.

The annual community planting day, organised by Lyttelton Port Company and the Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust (BPCT), focused on the College Road side of the 17-hectare covenant.

The plants were grown from eco-sourced seed collected from the Port Hills area and form part of the long-term restoration programme at Port Saddle.

LPC Head of Environment and Sustainability Crystal Lenky says the event

continues to bring people together in support of the environment.

"It's fantastic to see volunteers working together. One of the best things about Port Saddle is seeing people come together year after year. Some of the volunteers have been working with us since the beginning," says Crystal.

The successful planting day was supported by volunteers from Christchurch Airport, who joined LPC and BPCT on the Friday

before the event to prepare the site by digging planting holes and getting the area ready for the community volunteers.

Their efforts helped ensure Sunday's planting day ran smoothly and that all 300 native plants were in the ground by the end of the day.

The planting programme is part of LPC's ongoing commitment to restoring native habitat and improving biodiversity across Port Saddle.

LPC Update emailed

Want to stay up to date with the latest port news? Sign up to our monthly Harbourwatch emails at www.lpc.co.nz. For more information about LPC, visit or follow us on:

