



Te Kaunihera o
Te Awa Kairangi ki Uta
Upper Hutt City Council

Policy Committee | Te Kōmiti Kaupapa Here

Agenda

4.30 pm, Wednesday 16 October 2024

Council Chambers, Level 2, Civic Building, 838 - 842 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt

Chair: Councillor H Newell

Deputy Chair: Councillor J B Griffiths

Members: His Worship the Mayor W N Guppy

Deputy Mayor H Swales

Councillor D M Bentley

Councillor M G Carey

Councillor C B G Carson

Councillor A W Hammond

Councillor E Holderness

Councillor T M Ultra

Councillor D Wheeler

Have your say

Members of the public can speak to any issue, idea or matter that falls within the meeting's [terms of reference](#). If you do wish to speak, it is preferable to let us know by midday of the day before the meeting. This can be done by either emailing askus@uhcc.govt.nz or by phoning 04 527 2169. All Council and principal standing committee meetings are livestreamed through our YouTube channel.

The agenda and associated reports are available for inspection within two working days before a meeting at the following offices during business hours:

- Civic Building, 838 - 842 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt
- Upper Hutt Central Library, 844 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt
- Pinehaven Library, Corner Jocelyn Crescent and Pinehaven Road, Upper Hutt

Policy Committee | Te Kōmiti Kaupapa Here

Terms of Reference | Ngā Tohutoro

These Terms of Reference set out the principle areas for which Council maintains overall responsibility. They also set out the delegations of Council functions, duties and powers to Council committees, panels and groups. The delegations in these Terms of Reference are expressed in general terms. They are to be read together with the following propositions.

These Terms of Reference:

- Set out to assist elected members in undertaking their governance role,
- Do not delegate any function, duty or power which a statute (for example, clause 32 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002) prohibits from being delegated,
- Are subject to Council's authority to elect to exercise any of the powers delegated in these Terms of Reference, and,
- Do not affect any delegation which the Council has already made or subsequently makes to a Council officer or other member of staff.

Membership:	Mayor and all Councillors Councillor Heather Newell (Chair), Councillor Blair Griffiths (Deputy Chair), Mayor Wayne Guppy, Deputy Mayor Hellen Swales, Councillor Dylan Bentley, Councillor Matt Carey, Councillor Chris Carson, Councillor Bill Hammond, Councillor Emma Holderness, Councillor Tracey Ultra and Councillor Dave Wheeler.
Meeting cycle:	The Policy Committee meets on a six weekly basis
Quorum:	Six members
Delegated authority:	To make recommendations to Council.
Purpose:	To assist Council to monitor the development of strategies, policies, and bylaws that meet the current and future needs of communities.
Function	<p>To review and make recommendations to Council on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategies, plans, and policies in relation to economic development, finance, the environment, social and recreation matters, strategic property investment, wellbeing, urban development, transport, governance, cross-strategy matters, and all other policies required by legislation • Bylaws • To consider central government legislation or matters raised by different central agencies and make • submissions on Council's behalf when it deems it appropriate • Naming new roads and alterations to street names • The acquisition and disposal of the Council's assets • Leases, licenses, and concessions in respect of land held or managed under the reserves Act 1977 and council-owned open space land when a hearing is required • Reserve declarations, revocation, classification, and naming • The transfer to another party of land for public work under section 50 and to exercise Council's • powers of compulsory acquisition under section 2 of the Public Works Act 1981 • Such other matters referred to it by Council • For avoidance of doubt, matters related to the development of an Annual Plan and the Long Term Plan will be considered by Council

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Wednesday 16 October 2024

Public Business

Page

1.	Apologies							
2.	Declarations of Interest Elected members must declare any interests with items on the agenda that may arise between their roles as members and any private or other external interests they may have. If this should happen, members should stand aside from decision-making related to any such interests. The current register of interests is on the Council website: https://www.upperhuttcity.com/files/assets/public/yourcouncil/meetings/register-of-interest/register-of-interest-elected-members-publicly-listed.pdf							
3.	Public Forum Public forums are a defined period of time, which, at the discretion of a meeting is put aside for the purpose of public input. In the case of a committee or subcommittee, any issue, idea or matter raised in a public forum must fall within the terms of reference of that body. There is more information about attending and speaking at Council and Committee meetings on our website upperhuttcity.com/your-Council/Council-Meetings/Attending-and-speaking-at-Council-and-committee-meetings .							
4.	Director's Report: Planning and Regulatory Services Report from the Director of Planning and Regulatory Services dated 24 September 2024.	4						
5.	Director's Report: Strategy, Partnerships and Growth Report from the Acting Director of Strategy, Partnership and Growth dated 4 October 2024.	15						
6.	Chief Executive's Report Report from the Chief Executive dated 4 October 2024.	27						
7.	Approval to Distribute Community Grant Funding Report from the Acting Director of Strategy, Partnership and Growth dated 4 October 2024.	33						
8.	Public exclusion Pursuant to the provisions of section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) , the public is excluded from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting. The particular interest(s) protected by section 6 or section 7 of LGOIMA which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the meeting in public meetings are specified below:							
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>General subject of each matter to be considered:</th> <th>Reason(s) for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:</th> <th>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for passing this resolution:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>9. Chief Executive's Public Excluded Report</td> <td>LGOIMA Section 7(2)(a) The withholding of information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, and LGOIMA Section 7(2)(g) to maintain legal professional privilege.</td> <td>That the public conduct of this item would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist, where the local authority is specified in schedule 1, under section 7 [except section 7(2)(f)(i)].</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	General subject of each matter to be considered:	Reason(s) for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for passing this resolution:	9. Chief Executive's Public Excluded Report	LGOIMA Section 7(2)(a) The withholding of information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, and LGOIMA Section 7(2)(g) to maintain legal professional privilege.	That the public conduct of this item would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist, where the local authority is specified in schedule 1, under section 7 [except section 7(2)(f)(i)].	
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Geoff Swainson

Chief Executive | Te Tumu Whakarae



Policy Committee | Te Kōmiti Kaupapa Here 16 October 2024

Director's Report: Planning and Regulatory Services

Purpose of report | Te pūtake

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on regulatory activity across the planning policy functions.

Recommendation | He tūhunga

2. The Committee recommends that Council receives and notes the report titled Director's Report: Planning and Regulatory Services.

Background | Papamuri

Current District Plan Changes

3. Work continues on several plan changes (at various stages) as part of the rolling review of the District Plan.
4. [Attachment 1](#) to this report outlines the status of District Plan change proposals, including current, recent, and upcoming community engagement on plan change workstreams.
5. The decision reports for Plan Change 47 - Natural Hazards, Plan Change 49 - Open Spaces and Variation 1 to Plan Change 49 Silverstream Spur were approved by Council on 25 September 2024 and the decisions were notified on 4 October 2024.

Workshops with Council on District Plan work programme

6. The next District Plan work programme update is yet to be scheduled.

Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region Plan Change 1

7. The decision report was heard by the Regional Council on 26 September 2024. Staff are reviewing the decision in relation to Councils submission points.

Greater Wellington Natural Resources Plan Change 1

8. Further submissions closed in March 2024 and hearings were due to start mid-2024. However, the expected start date for hearings has been delayed and are hearings are expected to take place between November 2024 and October 2025. As a summary, Council submitted on matters including:
 - the lack of regard for signalled national policy direction and the principles of natural justice have been considered

- the reasonableness/evidence base and practical implementation of provisions that have been inconsistently applied, particularly as they relate to real-world financial and resource implications
- unplanned greenfield development being a prohibited activity
- provisions which lack any consideration of scale and significance and apply all development without appropriate thresholds
- unnecessary requirements and unreasonable implementation timescales for rural properties
- requirement for earthworks consent for minor infrastructure works, and
- the addition of financial contributions, without clear justification and an understanding of how these funds and projects are being delivered, are monitored for effectiveness in addressing these issues

Wellington Regional Growth Framework Projects

9. The Wellington Regional Growth Framework includes a range of regional and local projects in which Council Policy Planning staff are involved. There is no further update to the previously reported 4 September 2024 Policy Committee meeting for the following projects:
 - A. Regional Housing Action Plan
 - B. Regional Housing and Business Capacity Assessment
 - C. Regional Future Development Strategy
 - D. Wellington Regional Industrial Land Supply Study
 - E. Aggregate supply security in the Wellington Region
 - F. The Future Development Strategy Implementation Plan
10. All these projects are focused on identifying issues and opportunities to improve the functioning of the region's urban environments and connections. The Council will be updated on each project as it develops.
11. It is noted that the above list does not include the Regional Emissions Reduction Plan. This will be corrected in future reports and a summary of this project is below:

Regional Emissions Reduction Plan Te Mahere ā-Rohe Whakaheke Tukunga

12. This was approved by the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee on 24 March 2024. It focuses on opportunities to reduce emissions within the following sectors:
 - Transport
 - Energy
 - Circular Economy
 - Productive land use and primary industries
13. Across these sectors it identifies the following actions/priorities:
 - “System-wide change to provide more sustainable transport options for more people and support the building of communities where people can get around without relying on fossil-fuel based transport”. This includes the Wellington Transport Emissions Reduction Pathway, the development of best practices, neighbourhood-level pilots, and the promotion and supporting local co-working hubs.
 - “Collaborate as a region to understand current and future energy infrastructure needs and reduce demand”. This includes developing an Energy Roadmap for the region, investigating local

energy generation and community micro-grids and investigating options to reduce the use of natural gas.

- “Embed circular economy approaches into our region to design out waste and pollution to create greater efficiencies and economic growth through innovation and design”. This includes facilitating partners to change their procurement policies or practices to include a requirement for a vendor emissions reduction plan as part of major projects (e.g. a roading project, new stop banks), supporting further development of and investment in infrastructure and facilities to encourage waste diversion, and advocating for waste management initiatives which encourage behaviour change
- “Supporting central government and industry emissions reduction efforts in primary industries, and at a regional level helping farmers learn more about on-farm de-carbonisation options and increasing resilience of the landscapes used for food production”. This includes encouraging land use diversification through increasing certainty and planning for water resilience, supporting opportunities for farmer-to-farmer learning, and exploring papakāinga pilot with iwi around food systems and emissions.

14. More information is available at: <https://wrlc.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/1497-GWRC-WLRC-Regional-Emissions-Reduction-Plan-REO-240227-ff.pdf>

15. The next part of this report also provides an update on the following Wellington Regional Growth Framework Project:

- Regional Climate Change Risk Assessment
- Regional Economic Development Plan

Regional Climate Change Risk Assessment

16. The Wellington Regional Climate Impacts Assessment Report was released in June 2024 and was phase one of a wider climate change project. Phase two is the development of a regional adaptation project, which will be developed using the findings from the Climate Change Impacts Assessment Report.
17. From this will come a set of actions that will help to address the current and future impacts of a changing climate. It is expected that the project team will present a project plan to the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee in October 2024.
18. Feedback from discussions with stakeholders, including all Wellington Region Territorial authorities, included the need for an integrated regional approach that can work for district-wide work. More information is available here: <https://wrlc.org.nz/project/regional-adaptation-project>

Regional Economic Development Plan

19. The Regional Economic Development Plan was first published in 2022 and underwent a refresh in 2024. It guides the long-term direction of our economy and is focused on two key areas:

<i>Accelerating key sectors to build on our competitive advantage and future opportunities</i>	<i>Accelerating key enablers to create solid foundations for building our regional economy</i>
<i>The following sectors have been identified because of potential growth opportunities, annual average growth over the last decade, creation of skilled employment, and contributions to our regional identity:</i>	<i>The following enablers have been identified because they unlock, leverage and build resilience in our businesses, iwi and communities:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screen, creative and digital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Māori economic development

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Science, technology, engineering and high-value manufacturing</i> • <i>Visitor economy</i> • <i>Primary sector, food and fibre.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills, talent and education</i> • <i>Water accessibility and security</i> • <i>Resilient infrastructure</i>
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20. The plan includes 31 regionally significant initiatives, and the annual summary provides highlights from implementation over the past year as well as a snapshot of our regional performance. More information is available here: <https://wrlc.org.nz/wellington-regional-economic-plan-identifies-pockets-of-growth>

Resource Management Reform

21. Progress on Resource Management reform is identified below. The following discussion of the Government's resource management programme is current at the time of writing. This is a highly agile programme that is subject to change after the finalisation of this paper

Phase One - Repeal of the Natural and Built Environment Act and Spatial Planning Act

22. This is complete [December 2023].

Phase Two - Fast-Track Approvals Bill

23. The Fast-track Approvals Bill was introduced to Parliament on 7 March 2024 and its focus is on establishing fast-track legislation to increase delivery of a range of regionally or nationally significant infrastructure and development projects.
24. The Bill's proposed 'one-stop shop' process will be used for projects of national and regional significance including:
- Infrastructure
 - Transport
 - Regional Development
 - Conservation and,
 - Minister Responsible for the Crown Minerals Act.
25. The closing date for submissions on the Bill was Friday, 19 April 2024. Council's submission of the proposed bill included:
- Concern over timeframes contained in the legislation relating to participants providing feedback on an application
 - Feedback on panel membership and adequate weighting of Council/local input
 - The need for a cost recovery mechanism for territorial authority involvement in the process, and the ability for Councils to implement fast-track decisions (including monitoring and compliance)
 - The need for a sufficiently broad enablement of the funding, delivery, operation, and maintenance of public infrastructure in Schedule 2 (which lists projects of regional and national significance in the bill); and
 - Seeking adequate effects management
26. Changes have been proposed by Government following the submission process with Ministers no longer having the final say on green-lighting infrastructure projects. Projects will now be referred to an

expert panel by the Minister for Infrastructure alone, who will be required to consult the Minister for the Environment and other relevant portfolio ministers as part of the process

27. The proposed changes would mean final decisions on projects would not sit with the ministers, but with the expert panel. Expert panels will now include:
 - expertise in environmental matters
 - an iwi authority representative only when required by Treaty settlements
 - Māori development and te ao Māori expertise in place of mātauranga Māori

28. Applicants would also be required to include information on previous decisions by approving authorities, including court decisions, in their applications. Timeframes for comment at the referral and panel stages will be extended in order to give parties, including those impacted by a proposed project, more time to comment.

29. The Government has released an overview of the 384 projects that applied to be listed on the Bill:
 - housing and urban development projects: 40 percent
 - infrastructure projects: 24 percent
 - renewable energy projects: 18 percent
 - primary industries projects: 8 percent
 - quarrying projects: 5 percent
 - mining projects: 5 percent

30. The Bill is currently progressing through a Select Committee process with the committee's report due back to Parliament on 18 October 2024. The Bill is expected to become law later in 2024.

Targeted Amendments

31. This is anticipated to be in the form of two bills as well as changes to National Direction and other proposals.

Resource Management Bill 1 (Freshwater and Other Matters) Amendment Bill

32. The changes proposed in the Bill are to:
 - Exclude the hierarchy of obligations in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management from resource consenting to address concerns raised about the way it is being applied while a review and replacement of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management is undertaken. First, the health and well-being of waterbody; second, the health of people; and third, the well-being of people.
 - Relax of stock exclusion and intensive winter grazing
 - Align provisions for coal mining with other mineral extraction activities.
 - Suspend for three years requirements under the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity for councils to identify new Significant Natural Areas and include them in district plans. The Bill also extends some Significant Natural Areas' implementation timeframes to 31 December 2030.
 - Speed up and simplify the process of preparing and amending National Direction.

33. Council's submission, made 30 June 2024, included:

- Raising concerns about the inefficiencies arising from the sequencing of Resource Management Act reform
- Seeking clarity on how the government will deal with tensions and inconsistencies between the Resource Management (Freshwater and Other Matters) Amendment Bill, and other parts of the Resource Management Act and Regional Policy
- Raising concerns with Greater Wellington Regional Council advancing regional policy that is misaligned with the emerging RM reform programme; and
- Noting the misalignment of, and seeking clarity on timeframes for, delaying the requirement to identify Significant Natural Areas.

Resource Management Bill 2 and National Direction

34. Bill 2 is expected to be introduced into Parliament later in 2024 and finalised in mid-2025, and is likely to address the following matters:

- Doubling the amount of renewable energy available by:
 - Establishing a one-stop fast-track approvals and permitting regime.
 - Reducing consent and consenting processing timeframes for most renewable energy consents to within one year.
- Enabling the delivery of high-quality infrastructure through:
 - Extending the scope of who may be a designation (requiring) authority.
 - Reducing assessment and information requirements.
 - Amending quarrying provisions.
- Unlocking development capacity for housing by:
 - Requiring housing Growth Targets for Tier One Authorities.
 - Making the Medium Density Residential Standards optional.
 - Providing central government with new powers relating to compliance with housing and business development capacity assessments.
- Enabling primary sector growth and development (including aquaculture, forestry, pastoral, horticulture) to boost on-farm productivity.
- Addressing Emergencies and Natural Hazards to develop a nationally consistent framework to manage natural hazard risks including climate change through:
 - Improvements to emergency provisions.
 - Providing for the ability to decline land-use consents, or attach conditions, where there are significant risks of natural hazards.
 - Rules relating to natural hazards having immediate legal effect (from notification).
- Systems Improvements for:
 - Efficient cost recovery by local authorities.
 - Targeted improvements to compliance and enforcement.
- Mining.

35. The Government proposes to develop seven new National Direction instruments, and 14 existing instruments will be amended in three packages of work.

36. The first package is aimed at better enabling infrastructure and delivering national direction aspects of the 'Electrify NZ' initiative and is likely to involve:

- Amendments to the National Policy Statements for Renewable Electricity Generation and Electricity Transmission.

- Developing further national direction to enable a range of energy and infrastructure projects (including a new National Policy Statement for Infrastructure).
 - Introducing a Bill to enable a regime for offshore renewable energy to be in place by mid-2025.
 - Updating other regulatory settings.
37. These are anticipated to make designations easier, support quarries and reduce consenting barriers. Amendments to the National Environmental Standards on Telecommunication Facilities are also anticipated to reduce consenting costs and keep up with technology.
38. The second package relates to the going for housing growth programme. For housing, this relates to commitments in the Going for Housing Growth agenda. The government intends to:
- Strengthen the National Policy Statement on Urban Development particularly around supporting mixed-use zoning, enabling greenfield growth, providing for intensification in the right place, and abolishing minimum floor areas and balcony requirements.
 - Establish a new national direction on Papakāinga and having to include provisions for Papakāinga in District Plans.
 - Enable better heritage management.
39. The third package is around the primary sector, including proposals relating to freshwater, indigenous biodiversity, commercial forestry and marine aquaculture. Immediate changes to the National Policy Statement of Highly Productive Land to enable indoor primary production activities on Highly Productive Land and renewable energy, such as solar farms, occurred on 13 September 2024. Further changes are expected to be considered at a later date.
40. The fourth package, Emergencies and Natural Hazards, includes directions on how to identify hazards, assess the risks they pose, and respond to those risks through planning controls.
41. Consultation is expected to take place on the National Direction in early 2025, with decisions in mid-2025.

Other Proposals

Making it easier to build granny flats

42. The coalition Government sought feedback on options to make it easier to build granny flats on properties with existing homes on them, these changes include provisions that relate to both the Resource Management Act and the Building Act. It is proposed that the following matters will not apply to this policy:
- If the landowner wants to subdivide after the granny flat has been developed
 - For matters of national importance including areas with outstanding natural features and landscapes; relationship of Māori and their culture and tradition with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga; historic heritage; and significant risks from natural hazards
 - For use of the granny flat for activities other than residential use
 - For regional plan rules
43. Submissions on this proposal closed on 12 August 2024 and Council made a submission. Following this consultation period, work will be completed with the aim of giving effect to these changes by mid-2025.

44. The Council submission raised concerns over the practical implementation of the proposals, the safety risks they might pose and potential costs to Council without an appropriate cost recovery mechanism. It also noted that Tier one authorities already enabled three units on one site in residential zones, and many District Plans already include provisions for Minor Residential Units.

Climate change

45. The Ministry for the Environment is also developing a Climate Change Adaptation Framework that is intended to build on the national adaptation plan, which sets out the actions the Government is taking to build resilience. In particular it will:
- set out the Government's approach to sharing the costs of adapting to climate change;
 - help communities and businesses know what investment will happen in their area e.g. if the council will build flood protection infrastructure; and
 - cover choices to protect from foreseeable risks, and long-term recovery after a severe weather event happens.
46. He Pou a Rangī - The Climate Change Commission has released its first monitoring reports on emissions reductions and New Zealand's national adaptation plan and they are available here; <https://mfe1.cwp.govt.nz/news/climate-change-commission-first-annual-monitoring-report-released/>

Phase Three - Replacing the RMA

47. Work on a bill is expected to be introduced into Parliament in mid-2025 and passed into law by the end of 2025.
48. The Cabinet has agreed that the resource management system should have three core tasks:
- Unlocking development capacity for housing and business growth.
 - Enabling delivery of high-quality infrastructure for the future, including doubling renewable energy.
 - Enabling primary sector growth and development (including aquaculture, forestry, pastoral, horticulture, and mining).
49. However, it must also:
- Safeguard the environment and human health.
 - Adapt to the effects of climate change and reduce the risks from natural hazards.
 - Improve regulatory quality in the resource management system.
 - Uphold the Treaty of Waitangi settlements and other related arrangements.
50. It is intended that these changes will make it easier to build homes and infrastructure and support growth in the primary sector. Details are being developed by an Expert Advisory Group, but it is anticipated that the new system will include:
- A narrower scope for the resource management system and the effects it controls, including that the planning system should not manage building interiors.
 - Protection of the natural environment.
 - Ensuring that property owners are protected from unreasonable activities next door.
51. It will not allow:
- Businesses to be sheltered from competition.

- Councils to restrict land use to manage financial pressures from infrastructure,
 - Requirements for developers and infrastructure providers to “gold plate” projects.
52. The Resource Management Act will be replaced with two Acts, one to manage environmental effects, and the other to enable urban development and infrastructure. There will also be one plan per region, which will be jointly prepared by regional and district councils.
53. The development of quantified environmental limits set by regional councils would manage activities and control discharges, and there will be a simplified designation process. If development cannot occur in one area due to these environmental limits it must occur in another.
54. National Standards will play a greater part in setting minimum requirements for developments, infrastructure and other processes that are currently regulated via consents, and the proposals will include standardised zones. This should reduce consents and simplify Council Plans.
55. However, it is recognised that a more permissive system will require an increased focus on compliance monitoring, as well as heavier penalties, and work is underway to determine the best way to achieve and fund this.
56. The changes will be designed to be implemented as quickly as possible and consultation will occur through the select committee process.

National Policy Statement on Highly Productive Land

57. The Ministry for the Environment is currently looking at options relating to the definition of ‘Highly Productive Land’ to enable more flexibility and reviewing the National Policy Statement on Highly Productive Land to consider how it could enable more ‘greenfield’ housing development.
58. No further information has been provided at this stage, expect what has been provided above in the “Rest of Phase 2’ section.

Included attachment | Ngā āpitihanga

59. [Attachment 1: Status of current changes to the District Plan](#) page 13

Date of report: 24 September 2024

Report writer:

Suzanne Rushmere

Acting Planning Policy Manager

Reviewed by:

Helen Hamilton

Director Planning and Regulatory Services | Kaihautū Ratonga Whakamahere Me Te Whakariterite

Approved by:

Geoff Swainson

Chief Executive | Te Tumu Whakarae

Attachment 1: Status of Changes to the District Plan

Council Plan Change No.	Status	Comments
46. Subdivision Engineering & Esplanades	Ongoing collaboration with Roading and Assets teams related to the Engineering Code of Practice review.	Requirements for infrastructure as part of subdivision will include three waters management, roading and esplanades. Collaboration with roading and assets team is ongoing and plan change is progressing.
47. Natural Hazards	Proposed Plan Change 47 was notified on 5 October 2022 and 103 submissions were received. A summary of decisions requested was notified on 8 February 2023. 25 further submissions were received. 5 submitters attended the hearing. The hearing has closed, and at the time of writing a decision report will be presented to Council on 25 September 2024.	Significant amendments were made to the slope mapping to address issues raised in submissions.
48A Landscapes	Draft plan change provisions (objectives, policies, and rules) were shared with affected landowners in early July 2021 for their feedback. Work has been progressing and further landowner engagement will take place before notification.	Council resolved to progress the Landscapes plan change towards notification separately from the biodiversity work in accordance with the Landscape Community Reference Group's recommendation. The Landscapes plan change is progressing towards notification and the next steps are to undertake landowner engagement.
48B Biodiversity	Draft plan change provisions (objectives, policies, and rules) were shared with affected landowners in early July 2021 for their feedback. This is currently on hold pending a review of the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity	A Biodiversity Community Reference Group was established and has held several meetings.

Council Plan Change No.	Status	Comments
49. Open Spaces	<p>The plan change was notified on 11 August 2021 with submissions closing on 16 September 2021. Further submissions and closed on 17 November 2021.</p> <p>A variation to the plan change to address zoning and provisions for the Silverstream Spur was notified on 5 October 2022 (Variation 1 to Plan Change 49) and 93 submissions were received. A summary of decisions requested was notified on 8 February 2023.</p> <p>Ministerial extension for Plan Change 49 has been approved.</p> <p>The hearing has now closed and at the time of writing a decision report will be presented to Council on 25 September 2024.</p>	<p>Ministerial approval has been obtained for an extension to the timeframe to make a decision on Plan Change 49 to enable a decision by October 2024 (this aligns the statutory timeframe to make decisions on Variation 1 to Plan Change 49 to enable an integrated decision).</p>
50A Rural Zones	<p>The Rural Zones plan change has been separated from the residential.</p> <p>Further submissions have closed, officers will now analyse all submissions and develop the Council Evidence (Section 42) report with recommendations for a future hearings panel. Decisions must be made by 25 October 2025.</p>	<p>The plan change was notified on 4 October 2023. Submissions closed on 17 November 2023. The final number of submissions received was 257. At the time of writing, the summary of submissions has been notified for further submissions.</p>
53. Heritage and Sites of Significance to Māori	Initial research underway.	Initial research continuing.
51. Riverside Farm	Accepted as a private plan change. Currently on hold at the request of the applicant.	Seeking to rezone rural hill land to rural valley floor and create up to 30 new lots ranging from 1ha to 4ha in size.
54. Industrial, Noise, Special Activity and Urban Issues	Initial research underway this plan change will address all remaining urban issues including designations, transport and infrastructure provision and noise.	The plan change will include urban issues that are not addressed by the IPI. Initial research is ongoing.



Te Kaunihera o
Te Awa Kairangi ki Uta
Upper Hutt City Council

Policy Committee | Te Kōmiti Kaupapa Here
16 October 2024

Director's Report: Strategy, Partnerships and Growth

Purpose of report | Te pūtake

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on various policy and strategic workstreams.

Recommendation | Tūtohunga

2. That the Committee recommends that Council receives and notes the report titled Director's Report: Strategy, Partnerships and Growth.

Corporate Planning

3. Preparation of the Annual Report for 2023 - 2024 continues to progress. AuditNZ began auditing the Annual Report on 23 September 2024. The report will be presented to Council for adoption at the 30 October 2024 Council meeting.
4. High-level consideration of the planning and potential requirements for the Annual Plan 2025-2026 continues. The process and initial strategic direction for the Annual Plan will be presented at a workshop on 7 November 2024.
5. An operational post-project review of the Long Term Plan 2024 - 2034 has been completed to capture lessons learned and future improvements.

Policy

6. The revised draft Dangerous, Affected and Insanitary Buildings Policy is open for public consultation until 25 October 2024. While an earlier draft was consulted on in late 2023, this draft policy has been renamed, incorporates new guidance issued through MBIE, and further operational improvements. It also provides greater clarity of Council roles and process.
7. Work on a review of the Gambling Policy 2020 continues and preparation is underway for completion of a social and economic impact assessment. Council is required under legislation to adopt a policy for class 4 gaming machine ("Pokies") venues and TAB New Zealand venues. This policy covers requirements for both.
8. Officers are reviewing the Manual of Policies, the approach to this, and the implementation of a decentralised policy programme resulting from the organisational review. Further updates will be reported back in November 2024.
9. On 4 October 2024 a submission was made on the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products Amendment Bill (No 2) ([Attachment 2](#)).

Included attachments | Ngā āpitihanga

- 10. [Attachment 1: Taituarā Open for Submissions \(as of 4 October 2024\)](#) page 17
- 11. [Attachment 2: Submission on the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products Amendment Bill \(No 2\)](#) page 25

Date of report: 4 October 2024

Report writer:

Emily Thomson

Strategy, Planning and Policy Manager

Approved by:

Liezel Jahnke

Acting Director Strategy, Partnerships and Growth | Kaihautū Rautaki, Kōtuitui Tangata, Whakawhanake ā-lwi

Attachment 1: Open for Submissions as of 4 October 2024

(Note – in the Taituarā Action column a green cell indicates the Taituarā draft response is open for sector comment). Everything beneath the buff-coloured line is upcoming and the information is speculative.

Any initiative highlighted in yellow has been added or updated this week.

Current				
Name of Initiative	Agency engaging	Due date	Taituarā Action	Description
Proposed amendments to the Biosecurity Act https://www.mpi.govt.nz/consultations/proposed-amendments-to-the-biosecurity-act/	Ministry for Primary Industries	29 November	TBC	Modernising the Biosecurity Act 1993 in the following six areas, system wide issues, funding and compensation, border and imports, readiness and response, long-term management, surveillance and legislative interfaces. Has significant impacts for regional councils.
Consultation on increasing the use of remote inspections in the building consent process https://www.mbie.govt.nz/have-your-say/consultation-on-increasing-the-use-of-remote-inspections-in-the-building-consent-process	MBIE	29 November	TBC	MBIE is seeking feedback on a range of options to increase the uptake of remote inspections and improve efficiency and productivity in the building inspection process. Options include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using remote inspections as the default approach • Mandatory requirement for BCAs to have systems and capability to conduct remote inspections • Increasing offence provisions for deceptive behaviour • Non-regulatory initiatives for BCAs (eg, publish wait times, address failure rates)
Building (Overseas Building Products, Standards, and Certification Schemes) Amendment Bill https://bills.parliament.nz/v/6/b4d9bbc3-c823-4130-0608-08dccd28b5ec	Transport and Infrastructure Select Committee	14 November	No action	Bill responds to competition issues in the sector by amending the Building Act 2004 to remove barriers to overseas building products entering New Zealand's building product market and being used in New Zealand buildings.

Current				
Name of Initiative	Agency engaging	Due date	Taituarā Action	Description
Health and Safety Seeking your feedback on the work health and safety regulatory system Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (mbie.govt.nz)	MBIE	30 October	No action	Seeking advice on your experiences with New Zealand’s work health and safety regulatory system – how you think it’s working now, what you think works well, and what you think should change. Your feedback will inform MBIE’s advice to Ministers on improvements we could make to the work health and safety system.
Arms (Shooting Clubs, Shooting Ranges, and Other Matters) Amendment Bill https://www.legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2024/0085/latest/d3052425e2.html	Ministry of Justice	29 October	Submit Janine	<p>The Bill removes the requirement for shooting ranges (both pistol ranges and non-pistol ranges) to have all necessary territorial authority and regional council consents – a requirement that was added to the Arms Act in 2022. Shooting range operators will no longer have to show they have council consents for the activity to obtain Police approval (which is restricted to safety only).</p> <p>We anticipate less transparency around the location and compliance status of shooting ranges. Communities may be particularly concerned about noise impact and lead contamination in soil. We expect the Bill to be enacted by March 2025.</p>
LIMS Regulations Local Government Policy - dia.govt.nz	DIA	28 October	Submit Janine	The draft regulations address how regional and territorial authorities must work together to meet the new requirements; additional information to make natural hazard information more understandable; and how that information is summarised and presented

Current				
Name of Initiative	Agency engaging	Due date	Taituarā Action	Description
<p>Proposed changes to New Zealand's Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules for supplies that serve 500 or fewer people</p> <p>Proposed changes to New Zealand's Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules for supplies that serve 500 or fewer people - Taumata Arowai - Citizen Space</p>	Taumata Arowai	18 October	No action*	<p>The proposed changes are for small and medium-sized suppliers are to more clearly indicate which Rules suppliers need to, and do not need to, report on to Taumata Arowai.</p> <p>*Feedback is via an online survey for councils that want to submit.</p>
<p>Draft Strategy to Prevent and Minimise Gambling Harm 2025/26 to 2027/28</p> <p>https://www.health.govt.nz/publications/draft-strategy-to-prevent-and-minimise-gambling-harm-202526-to-202728</p>	Ministry of Health	6 October	TBC	<p>The Gambling Act 2003 (the Act) sets out requirements for an 'integrated problem gambling strategy focused on public health'. The Ministry of Health – Manatū Hauora is consulting on our draft Strategy to Prevent and Minimise Gambling Harm for 2025/26 to 2027/28 and the draft levy rates.</p>
<p>Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products Amendment Bill (No 2)</p> <p>https://bills.parliament.nz/v/6/c1c0d0ab-3725-4ae8-0607-08dccd28b5ec</p>	Health Select Committee	4 October	No action	<p>Strengthens the regulatory framework for vaping to better protect young people by amending the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products Act 1990.</p>

Current				
Name of Initiative	Agency engaging	Due date	Taituarā Action	Description
Infrastructure Priorities Programme (IPP) https://tewaihanga.govt.nz/our-work/infrastructure-priorities-programme	NZ Infrastructure Commission	Not stated	No action*	<p>The Commission is calling for infrastructure proposals. They will be assessed through a standardised independent review process that ensures they meet NZ's strategic objectives, represent value for money, and be a project or solution that can actually be delivered.</p> <p>*Councils can submit proposals</p>

Upcoming				
Name of initiative	Agency engaging	Likely timing	Taituarā Action	Description
Back to basics LG reform package	TBC	TBC	TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • review of the bylaws system, including enforcement • looking into how councils recover costs from fees and charges • exploring a collective approach to reduce insurance costs • reviewing councils' transparency and accountability processes • addressing constraints in councils' consultation and decision-making processes • exploring whether there are efficiencies in the conduct of council business • consider the greater use of shared services
Repeal of Good Friday and Easter Sunday as Restricted Trading Days (Shop Trading and Sale of Alcohol) Amendment Bill Repeal of Good Friday and Easter Sunday as Restricted Trading Days (Shop Trading and Sale of Alcohol) Amendment Bill 38-1 (2024), Members Bill Contents – New Zealand Legislation	Private Member's Bill	TBC	TBC	<p>The Bill allows more or less unfettered shop trading and sale of alcohol on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Among other things, the provisions empowering you to set a local policy on shop trading would be removed. The default restriction on the sale and supply of alcohol on these days would be repealed.</p> <p>This Bill awaits first reading. (Latest intelligence suggest first reading and referral to a Committee is likely)</p>
Public Works (Prohibition on the Compulsory Acquisition of Māori Land) Amendment Bill https://www.legislation.govt.nz/bill/member/2024/0042/latest/LMS958235.html?s	Private Member's Bill	TBC	TBC	<p>This bill amends the Public Works Act 1981 to protect Māori freehold and Māori customary land from being acquired for public works under that Act.</p> <p>This Bill awaits first reading. (Given recent PWA announcements this Bill appears unlikely to proceed).</p>

Upcoming				
Name of initiative	Agency engaging	Likely timing	Taituarā Action	Description
earch=y_bill%40bill_2024_bc%40bcur_a_n%40bn%40rn_25_a&p=1				
Resource Management Act Amendment Bill #2	MfE	Late 2024	Submit	<p>This amendment Bill will (indicative list):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enable housing growth, including making the Medium Density Residential Standards optional for councils and secondary units – ie granny flats • speed up consenting timeframes for renewable energy and wood processing • support the government’s “Infrastructure for the Future” plan • speed up the process for making national direction under the RMA • introduce emergency response regulations to enable effective responses to emergencies and contribute to long-term recovery. <p>Plus potentially other targeted amendments suggested by Councils and other key stakeholders.</p>
Integrated National Direction Package - RMA	MfE	Early 2025	Submit	<p>Single process for integrated direction – with some exceptions</p> <p>There will be one consultation document to capture all national direction changes.</p> <p>14 national directions amended, 7 new ones proposed to deliver on infrastructure and energy; housing; farming & primary sector; emergencies & natural hazards.</p> <p>Work-Programme-for-Reforming-the-Resource-Management-System.pdf (environment.govt.nz)</p>

Upcoming				
Name of initiative	Agency engaging	Likely timing	Taituarā Action	Description
Consultation on proposals for inclusion in the next implementation plan for Te Mana o te Taiao – Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy and Aotearoa New Zealand's response to the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)	DOC	Late 2024	(TBC)	Consultation on proposals for inclusion in the next implementation plan.
Building Act Amendment (and regulations)	TBC	2024/25	Submit	Plans to reform the building consent system to make it more affordable to build a home. It intends to review the Building Code to bring in a streamlined risk-based consenting regime.
Land Transport Management Act (Time of Use Charging) Amendment Bill	TBC	Very soon (leg to be passed in 2024)	Submit Raymond Horan	Sets out the legal framework for time of use charging (see the Cabinet paper – Land Transport Revenue Action Plan: Time of Use Charging)
Granny Flats Legislation	TBC	Late 2024	TBC	Making it possible to build 60m2 secondary dwellings without building consent.
Remote Building Inspections	MBIE	Late 2024	TBC	Proposals to make virtual building inspections the 'default' option.
Local Government Amendment Bill	TBC	Late 2024	You better believe we'll submit!	Bill to amend the Local Government Act 2002 (and possibly other legislation) to give effect to commitments made in the Prime Minister's 'back to basics' speech on 21 August. There may be several Bills of this nature over the next 12 months.

<i>Upcoming</i>				
Name of initiative	Agency engaging	Likely timing	Taituarā Action	Description
Treaty Principles Bill	Select Committee	Late 2024	TBC	Bill to amend or remove references to te Tiriti principles from legislation NB – National committed to support the Bill to Select Committee, support beyond this stage (and therefore future progress of this Bill) is uncertain.
Local Water Done Well Bill #2	TBC	December 2024	Submit	Framework for economic regulation and the more detailed powers and duties of the water CCOs (possibly including additional charging powers).
Land Transport Management Act Amendment Bill	Ministry of Transport	TBC	TBC	Amending the Land Transport Management Act



Health Select Committee

4 October 2024

Parliament Buildings

Wellington

he@parliament.govt.nz

SUBMISSION: SMOKEFREE ENVIRONMENT AND REGULATED PRODUCTS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2)

Who we are

Upper Hutt City Council is responsible for the largest geographical district in the Greater Wellington region, which offers a wealth of open spaces for the recreational activities for residents and visitors alike.

Upper Hutt was the first Council in New Zealand to declare our parks smokefree, back in 2006. In August 2020 Council voted in favour of expanding our [Smokefree Parks and Open Spaces Policy](#) (Policy) to make more of Upper Hutt smokefree.

As part of the Policy's implementation plan, we aim to *“Contribute to engagement with central government for strengthened smokefree legislation and vaping regulation”*.

Our [Smokefree Policy 2020](#) includes the following objectives:

- further denormalise smoking for children and young people by reducing its visibility in public places;
- contribute to improved health and wellbeing by reducing smoking and the impacts of second-hand smoke.

Council, through its publicity and communication on the Smokefree Policy, asks that people not vape in smokefree spaces or at smokefree events. Signage include a 'no vaping' message where appropriate.

Smokefree Upper Hutt contributes to making our city increasingly smokefree. The policy discourages smoking in outdoor public places in Upper Hutt primarily through signage, promotion and marketing, education, and engagement with stakeholders and communities.

The programme also links in with our partners at Regional Public Health, Takiri Mai Te Ata Regional Stop Smoking Service, Te Awakairangi Health Network, Hutt Valley District Health Board and Healthy Families Hutt Valley.

Submission

We wish to make the following comments.

Upper Hutt City Council supports the intention of the bill in the proposed legislative changes as outlined:

- Banning the manufacture, sale, supply, and distribution of disposable vapes
- Increasing penalties for unlawful sales of regulated products to minors

- Including early childhood education centres in proximity restrictions for specialist vape retailers

However, Upper Hutt City Council has some concerns regarding the following points, which should be taken into consideration.

We wish to suggest the following recommendations:

- Imposing retail visibility restrictions for vaping products don't go far enough. In a recent survey done by International Tobacco Control (ITC) Youth Study recently carried out in New Zealand found New Zealand has the highest youth vaping rates in the world.

It is viewed likely that the visibility of these products has attracted and normalised vaping as a regular consumer product. We would support any option that would not make vaping products visible from the street or in stores that young adults/children may enter.

In Summary

Upper Hutt City Council supports the proposal for the Smoke Free Environments and Regulated Products Amendment Bill (No. 2) endorses this legislation that will take action to address the increasing number of young people vaping by strengthening regulation.

There is growing evidence International and National that vapes are incredibly addictive. We would encourage the government to look at what other countries are implementing as a framework that better protect our young people.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has evidenceⁱ that adolescents who regularly use e-cigarettes are highly susceptible to nicotine addiction and rates of addiction have increased sharply since the arrival of the fourth-generation devices. There is mounting evidence that nicotine can affect adolescent brain development and cognition and is linked to poor impulse control, impaired attention, and learning. There is some evidence of nicotine induced seizure events in adolescents who have vaped. Effectively treating nicotine addiction in adolescents is proving to be quite challenging, as well

Thank you for your consideration of our submission.

Yours sincerely,



Wayne Guppy

Mayor, Upper Hutt City Council

ⁱ Bonner E, Chang Y, Christie E, et al. The chemistry and toxicology of vaping. *Pharmacology and Therapeutics*. 2021:107837. doi: 10.1016/j.pharmthera.2021.107837.



Policy Committee | Te Kōmiti Kaupapa Here
16 October 2024

Chief Executive's Report

Purpose of report | Te pūtake

1. The purpose of this report is to provide information to and update Council on matters that are currently being overseen by the Chief Executive.

Recommendation | He tūhonga

2. That the Committee recommends that Council receives the Chief Executive's Report.

Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2024

3. Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2024 was announced by the Minister of Transport on 28 September. Attached for your information is the letter to Road Controlling Authorities regarding the new rule which will come into effect on 30 October 2024 (**Attachment 1**). Also attached is the official guide to assist with implementation (**Attachment 2**).
4. Alexandra/Messines and Moonshine Road are potentially impacted by the rule change. Preliminary analysis indicates that Moonshine Road is not an Urban Connector or Rural Interconnector and so the recently imposed speed limit can be retained. Alexander Road/Messines Avenue are Urban Connectors so their speed limit reduction could be applicable to be reversed (Specified Roads) [11.1 (1) Specified Road (b)]. However as there has been significant change in land use adjacent to Alexander Road, the reduced speed limit should be retained [11.4 (1)].
5. Council officers are currently working through the processes and will be reporting back to council in due course.
6. The rule is now live on the NZTA website and can be found at this link:
<https://nzta.govt.nz/resources/rules/land-transport-rule-setting-of-speed-limits-2024/>

Christmas Closedown Period

7. As in previous years and to allow for the opportunity for our staff to spend time with family and friends over the Christmas period, the following details the closedown period for our facilities:

- **Civic and HAPAI** - On 24 December 2024, Civic and HAPAI offices will close at 12.00 pm, we will provide full-time staff with the three days between Christmas and New Year (27, 30 and 31 December 2024) as 'Council Days', and these days will be a pro-rata basis for part-time staff.
 - **Fulton's** - The last day for Council operations at Fulton's for the Christmas/New Year period will be 12.00 pm on 24 December 2024, operations will resume at Fulton's on Friday, 3 January 2025.
 - **Libraries** - The libraries will be operating some days during the holiday season as follows: the library will close at 12.30 pm on 24 December 2024, and remain closed on 25 and 26 December 2024, the Library will reopen on 27 December until 31 December 2024 (Library hours will be different to normal during this time). The library will be closed again on the 1 and 2 January 2025 and will reopen on Friday, 3 January 2025.
8. Our Afterhours call centre will be in operation during this period, as well as contractors who will respond to any incidents.

Regional Meetings attended between 2 September and 4 October 2024

9. Since the last Policy Meeting the Chief Executive has attended the following regional meetings:
- Civil Defence Emergency Management Group, 3 September
 - Chief Executive's Group Wellington Region Water Services Delivery Planning, 5 September
 - Advisory Oversight Group – regional water services delivery planning, 10 September
 - Water services delivery models and financing options, virtual session for Councils, 13 September
 - Hutt City Council and Upper Hutt City Council quarterly meeting with Wellington Water Limited, 20 September
 - Local Government New Zealand Metro Sector Meeting, 23 September
 - Wellington Water Committee, 27 September
 - Wellington Regional Leadership Committee, 1 October
 - Wellington Regional Leadership Committee Workshop, 1 October
 - Regional Transport Committee Meeting, 1 October
 - Regional Transport Committee Workshop, 1 October

Included attachments | Ngā āpitihanga

10. [Attachment 1: Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2024](#) Page 29
11. [Attachment 2: Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2022 Official Guide](#) Page 31

Date of report: 4 October 2024

Report writer:

Geoff Swainson

Chief Executive | Te Tumu Whakarae



1 October 2024

Tēnā koutou,

Re: The Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2024

I am writing to you about the new Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2024 (the new Rule) announced by the Minister of Transport on 28 September 2024. The new Rule will come into effect on 30 October 2024, revoking and replacing the Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2022.

I understand the Minister has also provided a high-level update to you directly. I can confirm the new Rule is now available via the NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) website, and other relevant pages will be updated as soon as possible. A summary of submissions and other background information should be available on the Ministry of Transport website soon.

[Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2024](#)
[Setting of Speed Limits Consultation](#)

The new Rule:

- requires speed limit reductions on certain types of roads made since 1 January 2020 to be reversed by 1 July 2025, with certain exceptions.
- requires variable speed limits on roads outside school gates during drop-off and pick-up times by 1 July 2026 (with some exceptions) and allows schools with electronic variable speed limit signs to put them on for up to 10 minutes at other times when there's significant activity outside the school.
- strengthens consultation requirements, with an associated requirement to include a cost-benefit disclosure statement for each proposed speed limit change.
- sets a new binding speed limit classification schedule, specifying speed limits for each road type.
- enables speed limits of 110km/h and 120km/h on expressways built and which will be maintained to safely support this speed.
- makes speed management plans optional and removes regional speed management plans.

Each RCA will need to consider the details in the new Rule and consider how it applies.

New Speed Guide

As regulator, NZTA will release a new Guide for RCAs by 30 October 2024, when the Rule comes into force. The new Guide will provide guidance to help RCAs interpret and apply the new Rule. NZTA website content will be updated over the next few weeks.

Thank you in advance for your patience. Meanwhile, we hope this letter and the additional information we have provided in a separate 2-page document is helpful. Please share this information within your organisation as appropriate.

If there are any questions about the development and policy intent of the new Rule, please email the Ministry of Transport: speedrule@transport.govt.nz.



If there are any questions about how to implement the new Rule, the new Guide, the National Speed Limit Register or MegaMaps please email NZTA: speedmanagementprogramme@nzta.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi nui,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brent Alderton'.

Brent Alderton
Director of Land Transport



Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2024

Official guidance to help you implement the new Rule will be provided by NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) via a new Guide. The below is provided in the interim.

Speed limit reversals

The transitional provisions in section 11 of the Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2024 (the new Rule) outline the requirements to reverse certain speed limits. In summary, the new Rule requires speed limits reduced since 1 January 2020 on the following types of roads to be reversed by 1 July 2025:

- local streets with permanent 30km/h speed limits where one of the reasons for reducing the speed limit was because there is a school in the area (the road outside the school gate will need to become variable)*
- urban connectors
- interregional connectors.

Exceptions to this are if:

- NZTA, as the road controlling authority (RCA) for state highways, can show support through public consultation for retaining a lower speed limit on an interregional connector.
- a reversal would be inappropriate due to significant changes in surrounding land use since 1 January 2020 (e.g. a new residential development has been built).
- the speed limit reduction was made to correct a speed limit record.

* If there's a local street where a permanent 30km has been applied but the reason/s for setting the 30km wasn't because there was a school in the area then that speed limit does not need to be reversed.

Key dates:

- By **1 May 2025** RCAs must provide a list of all roads in scope of the reversal provisions to NZTA.
- By **1 July 2025** all roads in scope of the reversal provisions must be reversed, with reversed speed limits in the National Speed Limits Register (NSLR) and in force, with new signs and road markings in place (any stretches outside school gates must be variable).
- By **1 July 2026** roads outside school gates must have variable speed limits implemented (with some exceptions).

The Director of Land Transport (the Director) does not need to certify reversals or exceptions.

Note: RCAs are encouraged to start work on reversals well ahead of the deadlines and to proactively seek support from NZTA with updating the NSLR if required.

Variable speed limits outside schools

Further to the above, RCAs can set times to suit each school, within reasonable constraints (i.e. the start and end time of the school travel period of each school day cannot exceed 45 minutes either side of the bell). Schools with electronic variable speed limit signs can switch their signs on for up to 10 minutes at other times there is significant activity outside the school. During all relevant time periods, the speed limit will be 30km/h for category 1 schools and between 40km/h and 60km/h for category 2 schools.

Note: Variable speed limits already implemented around schools, even if they do not meet the new definition of outside the school gate, can remain.

Speed Management Plans (SMPs)

SMPs are now optional for RCAs, and Regional SMPs (involving Regional Transport Committees) are no longer an option under the new Rule. If RCAs opt to produce a SMP they must consider a range of interventions including safety infrastructure, but SMPs do not need to include a 10-year vision or take a whole-of-network approach.

Note: Speed limits registered and in force by the commencement date of the Rule can remain (unless it is a specified road requiring reversal). Speed limits registered but not in force will need to be reversed in the NSLR. An SMP at any other stage (under development, consulted on, certified) has no legal effect and the RCA must start a new SMP or use the alternative method following the process in the new Rule.

Consultation requirements

Relevant requirements are outlined in clause 3.10 of the new Rule. The requirements are consistent with the *Local Government Act 2002*, with some additions. The new Guide will have more information, including clarification on exemptions.

Note: The minimum period for consultation has increased from four weeks to six weeks.

Cost-benefit disclosure statement

When proposing speed limit changes RCAs are required to include a cost-benefit disclosure statement in consultation material. This statement must include the following:

- safety impacts - the number and severity of crashes on the road in the previous five years, and the estimated impact of the speed limit changes on the future number and severity of crashes in the next five years.
- travel time impacts - current mean operating speeds, the estimated impact of the speed limit change on mean operating speeds, and the estimated impact on journey times.
- implementation costs
- a tool to assist RCAs with cost benefit disclosure statements will be made available.

Certification by the Director

To get a speed limit change proposal or SMP certified (including an alternative method under an SMP) RCAs will need to show they have:

- met consultation requirements.
- met cost benefit disclosure statement requirements.
- set speed limits in accordance with the speed limit classifications.

If the Director is not satisfied requirements have been met, the proposal/SMP will be referred back to the RCA with recommendations for how to meet relevant requirement(s). The RCA must have regard to these recommendations before resubmitting the proposal/SMP. The Director will check the RCA has confirmed completion of all steps required by the new Rule, but the Director does not have a role in re-evaluating RCA decisions.

New speed limit classifications

The new Rule introduces a binding schedule of speed limit classifications, specifying speed limit ranges available for each road type (see Schedule 3 of the new Rule). The classifications are being introduced to encourage a consistent approach by RCAs. The new Guide will include more information on exceptions and criteria for choosing a speed limit from within any range in the classification.

MegaMaps

Some changes to MegaMaps and supporting guides will be made in due course to align with the new Rule. A planned update of most of the baseline MegaMaps data layers (e.g. crashes, mean operating speeds, current speed limits) is scheduled for early December 2024 and we will keep MegaMaps users informed.

NSLR

The NSLR provides an online, maps-based source of legal speed limits for New Zealand roads. This is unchanged by the new Rule. RCAs will need to continue to use the NSLR to record, update and share speed limit data.

One Network Framework (ONF)

The ONF is a tool designed to help establish transport network function, performance measures, operating gaps and potential interventions for each road and street type. This is unchanged by the new Rule. The ONF layer will be retained in MegaMaps for reference.

Signs

New speed limit signs must be erected in time to meet relevant reversals deadlines noted above.

New static variable speed limit sign designs will come into law through consequential amendments to the Land Transport Rule: Traffic Control Devices 2004. The new designs will be gazetted on the same day as the new Rule.

Note: There will not be centralised procurement of signs however NZTA can provide procurement support and advice on procuring signs if RCAs request it. Please email procurement@nzta.govt.nz.



Policy Committee | Te Kōmiti Kaupapa Here 16 October 2024

Approval to Distribute Community Grant Funding

Purpose of report | Te pūtake

1. To receive and confirm the minutes of the 10 October 2024 Community Grants Committee meeting and ask the Policy Committee to make a forthwith decision to approve the funding recommendations from the 10 October 2024 Community Grants Committee meeting.

Recommendations | He tūhonga

2. That the Community Grants Committee confirm that the minutes (tabled and appended to the minutes of this meeting) of the 10 October 2024 meeting are a true and correct record of the meeting.
3. That the Policy Committee notes that under Standing Order 6.6 Forthwith Decisions, Council has delegated authority to a majority of its members the power to make a forthwith decision, and that such decisions:
 - I. May be exercised during a meeting of a Council committee,
 - II. The Mayor agrees that the matter must be acted upon as a matter of urgency, and
 - III. The decision must be unanimous.
4. That the Policy Committee, as a forthwith decision adopts the following recommendations from the Community Grants Committee:
 - I. receives the report,
 - II. notes that 69 applications totalling \$442,455 were received as per the Summary of Funding Applications 2024,
 - III. notes that \$140,000 is available for distribution,
 - IV. notes that the applications were considered according to the Community Grants funding criteria and priorities, and
 - V. approves its funding distribution which is appended as **Attachment 1** to the minutes of the 10 October 2024 Community Grants Committee meeting.

Discussion | Te matapaki

5. The Community Grants Committee does not have any delegated authority to approve and disperse Community Grant funding.

6. The next Council meeting that could consider the approval and disbursement of Community Grant funding is scheduled for 6 November 2024.
7. Rather than wait for the next Council meeting (6 November 2024), officers ask that the Policy Committee make a forthwith decision to adopt the recommendations of the Community Grants Committee and enable the disbursement of funding to community groups.

Considerations for decision-making | Ngā whai whakaarotanga

8. In accordance with Council's Standing Orders (adopted 16 September 2020) Item 6.6 Forthwith Decisions, The Council has delegated to a majority of its members the power to act in all matters (except those specified in Clause 32(1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002) but only in the following circumstances and subject to compliance with the following conditions, namely:
 - I. The power to act may be exercised only during a meeting of a committee of council in respect of a recommendation made by their committee,
 - II. The chair of the committee or the mayor must opine that the matter so recommended must be acted upon as a matter of urgency or expediency,
 - III. The decision must be the unanimous decision of all members of council present at the meeting, and
 - IV. The members of the council must be a majority of the members of council.

Previous relevant Council decisions | Ngā whakataunga o mua

9. Council have previously agreed to the recommendations of the Community Grants Committee.

Identification of inconsistent decisions | Te tautuhi o ngā whakataunga Hārakiraki

10. There are no inconsistent decisions relating to this matter.

Significance and engagement assessment | Te tino aromatawai

11. There are no significance and engagement implications at this time.

Sustainability | Rautaki whakauka

12. There are no sustainability implications relating to this matter.

Financial and resourcing | Mahere pūtea

13. There are no financial implications at this time.

Legal | Ture

14. There are no legal implications at this time.

Risk | Tūraru

15. There are no risks with regard to this decision.

Included attachment | Ngā āpitihanga

16. Attachment 1: Record of the meeting of the Community Grants Committee held on 10 October 2024 *To follow*

Date of report: 4 October 2024

Report writer:

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