

## 2 Introduction to Procedures

The purpose of the Introduction to Procedures chapter is to facilitate the on-going development and use of the District Plan. This section contains information required to direct the use and implementation of the District Plan. Methods used in the District Plan will be located within the Procedure section.

### 2.1 District Plan Rolling Review

#### 2.1.1 Introduction

Whangarei District Council intends to manage this Plan as a living document and to ensure its content is responsive to the performance of policies and methods in achieving anticipated environmental outcomes. Changes to the Plan will be sought when:

- (a) plan effectiveness monitoring identifies the need to enhance progress toward achieving anticipated environmental results
- (b) major resource management developments arise such as significant amendments to the Resource Management Act 1991 or the adoption of national policy statements or national environmental standards by Government that have major implications for the contents of this Plan
- (c) the results of new scientific work enhance this Plan and make plan provisions more certain for resource users.

The process used to review and change this Plan is set out in the First Schedule of the Resource Management Act 1991. Given the rapid pace of change in society today it is unrealistic to expect a document conceived and written today to accurately reflect the concerns of the future. The Council therefore proposes to continually review this document, particularly in light of its monitoring responsibilities. Limited resources and the Resource Management Act's approach mean that some issues need further work and refinement to match the community's expectations identified with the Long Term Council Community Plan. Council intends the Plan to be flexible enough to deal with issues that are raised in relation to new information that comes to light. To address these issues, Council is monitoring the performance of the District Plan.

The Council has identified a number of opportunities for further growth within the District through strategic planning documents such as the Urban Growth Strategy and Structure Plans. In particular the Structure Plans identify opportunities and constraints to growth of the District. These strategic planning documents will be used to guide the Council's evaluation of plan changes to re-zone land for future development.

The Council must also have regard to strategies prepared under other Acts which have relevance to the review of the District Plan.

#### 2.1.2 Expectations

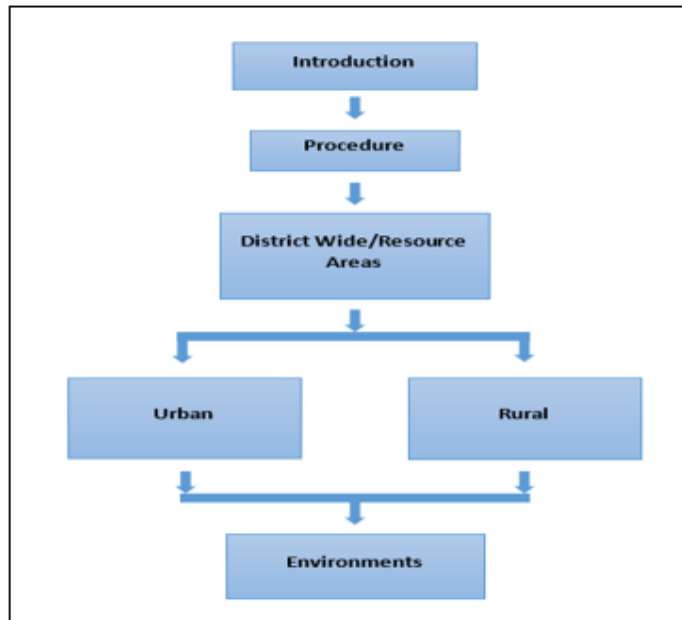
During the term of this rolling review Council will improve both the quantity and quality of information on resources and effects of activities. This will aid consultation and information sharing, and enable policies and rules to be more focused. This in turn will bring greater certainty and the potential for greater flexibility. The Plan can be changed to reflect these various needs for more effective and efficient resource management.

### 2.1.3 Outcomes Sought

- District Plan shall be streamlined and simplified
- policy and rules shall direct consenting process to provide certainty
- comprehensive policy and objectives shall reflect the sustainable management outcomes sought for the respective District Plan Environments and Policy Areas
- District Plan shall address resource management matters only and will cross reference to external legislation as required
- some methods shall only be utilised where expressly stated in the relevant Environment Rules Chapter.

## 2.2 New District Plan Structure

To improve the District Plan effects-based approach, a new District Plan structure will provide the ability to top load objectives and policy, setting clear direction for the District:



### 2.2.1 The Parts of the District Plan

Under the rolling review, the District Plan structure will evolve as and when plan changes are made operative. Accordingly, as the rolling review progresses, some Parts of the old District Plan structure will be deleted.

Currently, the District Plan contains the following Parts. When plan changes progressed under the rolling review become operative, they will be located in one of these Parts.

- Part A – Table of Contents: Part A contains the cover page and table of contents.
- Part B – Introduction: Part B contains the following chapters:
  - 1 – Introducing the District Plan

- 2 – Introduction to Procedures
- Part C – Procedures / Statutory Requirements: Part C contains the following chapters:
  - 4 – Meaning of Words
  - 80 – Financial Contributions
  - 85 – Designations
  - REF – Referenced Documents
  - SAK – Statutory Acknowledgements
- Part D – Objectives and Policies: These objectives and policies are those which remain from the old District Plan structure. As each chapter is reviewed under the rolling review, the relevant chapter in Part D will be deleted. The following chapters form Part D:
  - 5 – Amenity Values
  - 6 – Built Form and Development
  - 7 – Tangata Whenua
  - 8 – Subdivision and Development
  - 9 – Financial Contribution
  - 11 – Riparian and Coastal Margins
  - 12 – Water Bodies
  - 14 – Heritage Trees
  - 15 – Open Space
  - 17 – Indigenous Vegetation and Habitat
  - 19 – Natural Hazards
  - 20 – Contaminated Sites
  - 21 – Hazardous Substances
  - 22 – Road Transport
  - 23 – Network Utility Operations
  - 24 – Whangarei Airport
  - 25 – Marsden Point Port Environment
  - 26 – Town Basin Environment
  - 27 – Local Authority Cross Boundary Issues
  - 28 – Scheduled Activities or Overlay Areas
- Part E – District Wide: District Wide provisions apply to the use and development of natural and physical resources across the Whangarei District regardless of which Environment they occur. The following operative chapters are District Wide:
  - PKH – Papakāinga Housing
  - NTW – Network Utilities
  - NAV – Noise & Vibration
  - MPT – Management Plan Technique
- Part F – Resource Areas: Resource Area provisions apply to areas of the District which have particular characteristics, values and qualities that require special management to protect these features and control activities that would adversely affect them. The following operative chapters are Resource Area chapters:
  - 55 – Introduction to Resource Area Rules
  - 56 – Natural Hazard Resource Area Rules
  - 59 – Heritage Trees Resource Area Rules
  - 60 – Sites of Significance to Maori Resource Area Rules.

- 61 – Esplanade Priority Resource Area Rules
- 63 - Contaminated Sites Rules
- CEL – Critical Electricity Lines and Substations
- HH – Historic Heritage
- NTW – Network Utilities
- CA – Coastal Area
- LAN – Landscapes and Features
- MIN – Minerals
  
- Part G – Environments: Environments manage the way in which areas of land in the District are managed. All land in the District has an Environment which are identified on the Planning maps. The District Plan has the following Environments:
  - 35 – Introduction to Environment Rules
  - 36 – Living 1, 2 and 3 Environment
  - 37 – Future Chapter Environment
  - 39 – Business 1 Environment
  - 40 – Business 2 Environment
  - 41 – Business 3 Environment
  - 42 – Business 4 Environment
  - 43 – Town Basin Environment
  - 44 – Marsden Point Port Environment
  - 45 – Airport Environment
  - 46 – Open Space Environment
  - 47 – Road Transport Environment
  - 48 – Future Environment
  - 49 – Scheduled Activities
  - 50 – Port Nikau Environment
  - MPC – Marsden Primary Centre
  - UTE – Urban Transition Environment
  - KWE – Kamo Walkability Environment
  - REE – Ruakaka Equine Environment
  - RA – Rural Area
  - RCE – Rural Countryside Environment
  - SRIE – Strategic Rural Industries Environment
  - RVE – Rural Village Environment
  - RLE – Rural Living Environment
  - RUEE – (Rural Urban Expansion) Environment
  
- Part H – Subdivisions: Under the rolling review structure, subdivision rules are generally included in the relevant Environment Chapter. However some chapters have not yet been reviewed, and therefore have their own subdivision chapter under the old District Plan Structure. As each chapter is reviewed under the rolling review, the relevant chapter in Part H will be deleted. The following chapters form Part H:
  - 70 – Introduction to Subdivision Rules
  - 71 – Living 1,2 and 3 Subdivision Rules
  - 72 – Spare Blank Chapter Subdivision Rules
  - 74 – Business 1, 2, 3, 4, Town Basin, Marsden Point Port, Port Nikau, Airport
  - 75 – Open Space Sub Environment Subdivision Rules
  - 76 – Future Environments Subdivision Rules

- Part I – Appendices: this contains additional information referred to in the other Parts of the District Plan. The District Plan has the following appendices:
  - Appendix 1 – Building Line Restrictions
  - Appendix 2 – Heritage Trees
  - Appendix 4 – Sites of Significance to Maori
  - Appendix 5 – Esplanade Priority Areas
  - Appendix 6 – Road Transport
  - Appendix 7 – Town Basin Preliminary Design Concepts
  - Appendix 8a – Use, Storage and On-Site Movement of Hazardous Substances
  - Appendix 8b – Use, Storage and On-Site Movements of Hazardous Substances - Procedures
  - Appendix 8c – Base Quantities for Use and Storage of Hazardous Substances
  - Appendix 8d – Rating Criteria for Storage of Hazardous Substances
  - Appendix 9 – Engineering Performance Standards
  - Appendix 11 – Daylight Angles
  - Appendix 12 – Signs in the Business 2 and 3 Environments
  - Appendix 13 – Outstanding Natural Features and Geological Sites in the Whangarei District
  - Appendix 15 – Artificial Lighting

At any point in time the Council's information bases and justification for its policies may be incomplete. Chapter structure and format may vary from section to section as and when a review takes place. For interpretation purposes (resource consent processing) no one procedure shall take precedence.

Where a rule for a resource area overlay, scheduled overlay, environment, or precinct controls an activity by reference to a proportion or percentage of the site, the control will be limited to that part of the site to which the resource area overlay, scheduled overlay, environment, or precinct applies.

## 2.3 Introduction to Methods Tool Box

District Plan objectives and policies will be implemented through the exercising of Whangarei District Council's functions as a consent authority. A range of methods, both regulatory and non-regulatory, are available to implement the objectives and policies of the Plan. Acknowledging that the District Plan will be managed as a living and responsive document the methods tool box will contain interchangeable methods. This tool box will be added to as new methods are brought into the plan.

### 2.3.1 Methods of District Plan Implementation

Council is required to consider all methods of District Plan implementation when making changes to the District Plan. Examples of these are:

- regulatory methods, such as rules
- economic instruments, such as financial contributions, annual plan funds, and provision of rates relief
- consideration of other plans andl such as status, by-laws, and management plans
- completion of Council implemented physical works and services
- information, education and advocacy such as guidelines, information brochures

- Monitoring, Council is required to monitor the effectiveness of the District Plan
- the Urban Growth Strategy
- structure plans
- current strategic planning documents including the Northland Regional Transport Strategy and the Whangarei Transportation Network Strategy.

Revision and Sign-off Sheet

Date Approved	Editor	Paragraph	Change Reference	Decision Date	Approved By
2 June 2010	FP	2.11 third paragraph	'These strategic... will be used to direct the Council's evaluation... <u>now reads</u> ... to guide the council's...	Clause 16 (2)	NW
9 June 2010	FP	Replacement of the whole chapter with some additions in 2.1 and 2.4.1	Plan Change 106 Introduction Section 'Sophisticated Yet Simple' 10/24764 and Clause 16(2) 10/37288	9 June 2010 10/40950 Operative 22 June 2010	NW
26 September 2011	FP		Various reformatting	23 September 2011	NW

Editor **France Prevost (FP)**  
 Editor Position Team Administrator Policy Division

Approved By **Nick Williamson (NW)**  
 Approver Position District Plan Team Leader (NW)