

District Plan Review – April 2021 Update

Meeting: Council Briefing
Date of meeting: 7 April 2021
Reporting officer: Michael Day, Strategy, Governance and Policy Manager

Purpose | Ngā whāinga

To introduce the first two District Plan review ‘discussion documents’ to Elected Members and to get feedback on these discussion documents.

Context | Horopaki

The District Plan review is a significant, multi-year project, which is an opportunity to reconsider all matters contained within the Operative (2013) District Plan and to ‘test’ whether existing plan provisions are still fit for purpose and remain the most appropriate for our district. This review programme is an opportunity to ensure that the new district plan enables economic and residential growth, whilst protecting the things that make Kaipara unique and special.

The first step in this journey is the production (and subsequent community engagement on) of discussion documents. The intention is to engage with the community regarding the discussion documents after July 2021.

Discussion | Ngā kōrerorero

The focus of this briefing will be to introduce the draft discussion documents for ‘Strategic direction and Zones’ (see **Attachment A**) as well as ‘Subdivision’ (see **Attachment C**). Members of the District Planning team will be in attendance to talk to key points of the discussion documents and to answer questions from Elected Members.

As their name suggests, the main idea of discussion documents is to start a conversation with the community about what the next district plan might look like. To do this, we discuss the following:

- How the topic (such as subdivision) fits into the National Planning Standards framework
- What’s the key legislation and higher order directives that we will need to consider
- Outline what the relevant provisions are from the Operative District Plan and what the key issues are that we will need to address in the new Plan
- What are the key public messages in respect to the key issues and the proposed way forward?

Resource Management Act reform

At the March 2021 briefing, staff outlined that Central Government has recently announced their intention to reform the resource management system this parliamentary term. However, at this stage, there is very little information about the details of the proposed reform (other than a proposed timeline for reform). Staff will provide a verbal update at the briefing if Central Government releases further information.

Additionally, at the March briefing, staff outlined that we will most likely need to ‘compress’ our overall District Plan review work programme to enable the proposed District Plan to be notified by the end of 2022. Staff are currently reviewing the key milestones in this work programme and the intention is to provide a further update at the May 2021 briefing.

Next steps | E whaiake nei

There will be monthly briefing sessions with Elected Members until July 2021 as we ‘workshop’ our way through the discussion document material. Community engagement on discussion documents is likely to commence in August 2021.

Following this briefing, Elected Members will have a further two-week period to provide their feedback to staff. This will be considered in the preparation of the final discussion document material.

Attachments | Ngā tapiritanga

	Title
A	Strategic direction and zones discussion document
B	Appendix 1 to Strategic direction and zones discussion document – Potential zones for the new District Plan
C	Subdivision discussion document
D	Appendix 1 to Subdivision discussion document