

Agenda

Canterbury Policy Forum

Date	Friday 7 July 2017
Time	12.00pm (lunch) for 12.30pm (meeting commences)
Venue	Council Chambers, Selwyn District Council, 2 Norman Kirk Drive, Rolleston
Attendees	Bill Bayfield (Chair, Environment Canterbury), David Ward (Selwyn), Angela Oosthuizen (Kaikōura), Hamish Dobbie (Hurunui), Mike Roesler (Waitaki), Geoff Meadows and Simon Markham (Waimakariri), Richard Osborne (for Brendan Anstiss, Christchurch), Mark Low (Timaru), Toni Morrison (Mackenzie), Ronnie Cooper, (Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu), Carolyn Johns (for Stuart Duncan, Waimate), David Perenara-O'Connell (for Jill Atkinson, Environment Canterbury), Vincie Billante (Ashburton),
In Attendance	Cameron Smith (ECan), Nicole Randall (CCC), Secretariat: Anna Puentener, David Bromell, Louise McDonald (Minutes)
Apologies	Jill Atkinson (Environment Canterbury), Brendan Anstiss (CCC), Stuart Duncan (Waimate)

Item	Person
1. Welcome, introductions and apologies	Chair
Housekeeping	
2. Confirmation of Agenda	
3. Minutes from the previous meeting	Chair
a. Confirmation of meeting Minutes, 7 April 2017	
b. Action points	
For discussion and decision	
4. Climate change working group draft terms of reference	Chair
5. Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) update	
6. National Water initiatives – update (verbal)	Chair
7. Review of regional submissions	Cameron Smith
8. Resource Legislation Amendment Act impact	Cameron Smith
9. Regional submissions 2017	Anna Puentener
For information	
10. CCC Centre of Excellence for Quality Advice	Nicole Randall
11. Regional transport update	Chair
12. Selwyn District Plan review (verbal)	David Ward
13. Freedom camping update	Anna Puentener
14. Regional Pest Management Plan review update	Chair
15. Braided rivers management update	Chair
16. Canterbury Planning Managers Group update (verbal)	Geoff Meadows
17. Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy update	David Bromell
General business	
18. Other matters identified	
19. Next meeting: Friday 6 October 2017	

Canterbury Policy Forum

Date: Friday 7 April 2017
Time: 12.30pm
Venue: Selwyn District Council, 2 Norman Kirk Drive, Rolleston
Present: Bill Bayfield (Chair, Environment Canterbury), Simon Markham and Geoff Meadows (Waimakariri), Richard Osborne (Christchurch), Toni Morrison (Mackenzie), Carolyn Johns (Waimate), Hamish Dobbie (Hurunui), Mark Low (Timaru), Jill Atkinson (Environment Canterbury), David Ward (Selwyn), Ronnie Cooper (Ngāi Tahu)
In attendance: Murray Washington (Selwyn)
Secretariat: Anna Puentener, David Perenara-O'Connell, Bernadette Sanders (Minutes)
Apologies: Brendan Anstiss (Christchurch), Vincie Billante (Ashburton), Michael Ross and Mike Roesler (Waitaki), Stuart Duncan (Waimate), David Bromell (Secretariat), David Perenara-O'Connell (Secretariat, lateness)

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies

Bill Bayfield welcomed attendees to the meeting. Apologies were noted.

2. Confirmation of agenda

Geoff Meadows requested a discussion on the recent notice served by Ngāi Tahu to the region's councils relating to foreshore legislation.

3. Minutes from the previous meeting

a. Confirmation of meeting Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held 2 December 2016 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Bill/David
Carried

b. Action Points

The action schedule was reviewed. Secretariat to insert an updated status on Spark coverage data.

4. Climate change and councils' roles in Canterbury

Bill Bayfield spoke to the agenda item and provided a summary of the impacts of climate change discussions and legislation for the Canterbury region. This policy issue will affect all TLAs in the region and a collective view is recommended in terms of land use change, water use and sea level rise. The Paris Agreement, Net Zero report and the models for land use change were briefly outlined. The formation of a region-wide working group to consider climate change issues was proposed.

Support for a working group was voiced by Christchurch, Selwyn, Waimakariri and Ngāi Tahu, along with a request for clear terms of reference to ensure a consistent view of the nature of the problem and responses. The scope will consider the range of issues for

councils, engagement with elected representatives, and the systems in place to manage climate change information. Ngāi Tahu has already received a comprehensive South Island-wide report prepared by NIWA.

Bill noted that the group, through the Chief Executives Forum, would inform the Canterbury Mayoral Forum on the likely view of impacts across the region.

Resolved

The Canterbury Policy Forum

1. discussed the role of councils in climate change
2. agreed to the formation of a regional climate change working group to progress thinking and planning across the region on adaptation to and mitigation of climate change.

Bill Bayfield/Hamish Dobbie
Carried

The secretariat will prepare the working group’s scope and draft terms of reference and will circulate for feedback.

AP: The secretariat to circulate the Net Zero report to the Forum

AP: The secretariat to prepare the climate change working group’s scope, and draft terms of reference, in conjunction with Environment Canterbury’s Director of Science, and circulate to the Forum for feedback

5. Compliance, monitoring and enforcement of environmental law

Bill Bayfield spoke to the agenda item, providing a summary of the high-level findings relevant to councils of the Environmental Defence Society report, and proposing the formation of a region-wide compliance, monitoring and enforcement working group to look at compliance, draw on experience and lift capability across the region.

A discussion took place, including advice that MfE has asked for this topic to be discussed at the Canterbury Planning Managers Group meeting scheduled for 12 May 2017. A suggestion that the Auditor-General’s Office be approached for further information was made. Agreement to the formation of CME working group was voiced by Waimate, Christchurch and Hurunui.

Resolved

The Canterbury Policy Forum

1. discussed the relevant findings of the EDS report *Last Line of Defence – compliance, monitoring and enforcement of New Zealand’s environmental law*
2. noted there are several councils in the region in a position to provide advice and guidance across the region
3. noted that Chief Executives will consider setting up a regional compliance, monitoring and enforcement working group.

Bill Bayfield/Toni Morrison
Carried

AP: The secretariat to draft terms of reference for a compliance, monitoring and enforcement working group for Chief Executives’ agreement.

6. Regional submissions 2017

Anna Puentener spoke to the agenda item. A brief discussion took place, including:

- a thank-you was extended to Christchurch for leading the recent submission on the Health (Fluoridation of Drinking Water) Amendment bill which received positive feedback from the select committee
- a further request for Councils to notify the secretariat of any missing legislation and/or interest in leading submission processes
- Richard Osborne (Christchurch) to confirm whether MfE is proposing to lead the Pest Management Strategy in June/July 2017
- the scheduling of a one-day workshop for council staff on the submission writing process, on a date to be determined by the availability of the Office of the Clerk
- David Bromell's publication "The Art and Craft of Policy Advising", available from www.springer.com.

Also noted was the effectiveness of a joint submission process for the region, case in point being last year's RLA joint submission.

Following a request by Simon Markham, Bill Bayfield, via the Chief Executives Forum, will request an independent review and feedback of the region's joint submissions in terms of process and success.

AP: Hamish Dobbie will forward Hurunui feedback to the secretariat

AP: David Ward will forward Selwyn feedback to the secretariat

AP: The secretariat to note Mackenzie's interest in the Dam Safety legislation

AP: Bill Bayfield to discuss with Chief Executives Forum commissioning an independent review of process and effectiveness in regional joint submissions

David Perenara-O'Connell joined the meeting at 1.12pm.

Resolved

The Canterbury Policy Forum:

1. agreed which legislation and national policy instruments require a regional submission in 2017
2. agreed which councils and/or working groups will lead development of regional submissions
3. approved a one-day workshop for Canterbury council staff on submission writing.

*David/Jill
Carried*

7. Freshwater management - update

Bill Bayfield spoke to the agenda item, providing a summary on freshwater management activity, and the implications for Canterbury, specifically covering:

- NPS – Freshwater Management implementation review, which will be released to the region's councils once publicly released; a draft submission by Environment Canterbury was distributed to attendees – councils to advise the secretariat of their preference for a regional submission

- Clean water package and swimming targets and the need for the region to report on how targets will be shifted to 80% by 2030
- Resource Legislation Amendment Bill. Environment Canterbury will assess the impact of the changes in legislation and feed back to councils
- Havelock North drinking water enquiry/Canterbury Drinking Water Reference Group
- Land and Water Forum.

Resolved

The Canterbury Policy Forum noted the following activities and their implications for Canterbury:

- National policy statement - Freshwater management
- Clean Water Package and swimmability targets
- Resource Legislation Amendment Bill
- Havelock North drinking water inquiry
- Land and Water Forum

and agreed that councils advise the secretariat if a regional submission on the clean water package is supported.

AP: Geoff Meadows to forward information received on behalf of the CPMG to the Rūnanga.

8. Regional forums

Bill Bayfield spoke to the agenda item. The following points were raised:

- clarification about how transport fits into the working group structure will be provided
- the new Operations and Finance Forums will hold their inaugural meetings on 1 May 2017
- the Canterbury Rating Officers Group has been set up on a short-term basis only
- working groups will be asked to provide a one-page work programme and annual report that will feed back to their sponsor Chief Executives
- it will be important that there is a system for information to be shared between forums.

The Canterbury Policy Forum noted the new arrangements for the structure, function planning and reporting of regional forums and working groups.

9. Long-Term Plan Working Group Update

David Ward provided a brief update on the Long-Term Plan Working Group. The Group will next meet on 28 July 2017; the Office of the Auditor General will be in attendance.

Resolved

The Canterbury Policy Forum noted the contents of the update report.

*Bill/Hamish
Carried*

10. Long-Term Plans: Opportunities for collaboration

Richard Osborne spoke to the agenda item, on behalf of Brendan Anstiss, outlining a workshop scheduled for May 2017, being attended by most UDS partners, including the CDHB, to review how collaborative opportunities for health and well-being can be worked into Long-Term Plans. It was noted that Christchurch and Environment Canterbury have Health in All Policy agreements with the CDHB.

Simon Markham will provide a report back to the Canterbury Policy Forum on the workshop.

Resolved

The Canterbury Policy Forum;

1. noted that the May 2017 workshop will identify opportunities to work together in developing 2018-28 Long-Term Plans
2. noted that the key findings from the workshop will be reported to the Canterbury Policy Forum on 7 July 2017.

AP: Simon Markham to provide a report back on the workshop to the Canterbury Policy Forum scheduled for 7 July 2017

11. Health and Safety Advisors Group update

David Ward spoke to the agenda item, providing a brief update on the Health and Safety Advisors Group, noting that the Group will meet three times during 2017.

The Canterbury Policy Forum noted the contents of the report.

12. Rating and Valuation Services project update

David Ward spoke to the agenda item noting that agreement had been reached to procure a Request for Information on technology suites with a focus on minimising risk to Canterbury councils. A report will be provided to the Chief Executives Forum scheduled for 8 May 2017.

The Canterbury Policy Forum noted the contents of the report.

13. Canterbury Planning Managers Group

Geoff Meadows provided an update on the Canterbury Planning Managers Group, noting meeting attendances by Canterbury and Christchurch Tourism and Dairy NZ, and presentations on the Regional Pest Management Plan and NPS for Freshwater Management.

14. Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy refresh

Bill Bayfield spoke to the item. The second meeting of the Canterbury Mayoral Forum included a CREDS workshop where objectives of each work programme were refreshed across the triennium. To drive the work programmes, funding requests have been submitted to MBIE's Regional Growth Programme.

The draft 2017-19 CREDS will go to the Chief Executives Forum on 8 May 2017 ahead of adoption at the next Canterbury Mayoral Forum. The CREDS may be relaunched in June 2017 following consideration by Cabinet of the funding proposals.

15. Other matters identified

Foreshore legislation

Ronnie Cooper outlined Ngāi Tahu's holding action of a land title application to the High Court relating to foreshore legislation under the Marine and Coastal Area (**Takutai Moana**) Act, noting that

- the deadline for applications expired on 3 April 2017
- it is a requirement that notice be served on all councils with responsibilities in marine and coastal areas
- Ngāi Tahu expects the process to formally commence in approximately six months' time
- consultation will take place with Papatipu Rūnanga, landowners, councils, etc., in due course.

Implementation of Resource Legislation Amendment Bill

In response to a query by Simon Markham, it was noted that the recent legislative changes in relation to their impact on councils will be reviewed and a session held at the Canterbury Planning Managers Group with MfE.

Productivity Commission's "Better Urban Planning"

In response to a query by Simon Markham, it was noted that the issue is being discussed at UDSIC, with UDS taking the lead and reporting back to the Chief Executives and Canterbury Policy Forums.

16. Next meeting

Friday 7 July 2017, Selwyn District Council.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.23pm.

Action Points

Canterbury Policy Forum

As at 7 July 2017

Items will be removed once complete.

Date	Subject	Actioned by	Deadline	Status
29.01.16	Local government regulation and CREDS Secretariat to circulate the updated Spark coverage data to Forum members.	Secretariat	ASAP	This action from January 2016 has been overtaken by events.
2.12.16	Regional submissions 2017 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise the Secretariat which item/s they have an interest in and/or interest in leading Forward to the Secretariat any other regulations they believe may be upcoming, for consideration 	All Councils All Councils		07.04: Hurunui, Selwyn to provide feedback. Secretariat to note Mackenzie's interest in Dam Safety.
7.04.17	Climate change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Circulate the Net Zero government report to Forum Prepare climate change working group scope and draft TOR and circulate to Forum for feedback 	Secretariat Secretariat	ASAP ASAP	Complete Agenda item 4
7.04.17	Compliance, monitoring and enforcement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft terms of reference for a compliance, monitoring and enforcement working group for Chief Executives' agreement. 	Secretariat	7 July 2017	In progress
7.04.17	Freshwater Provide clean water package information to Te Rūnanga.	Geoff Meadows	ASAP	Complete
7.04.17	Long-Term Plans Provide a report back on the health and wellbeing in LTP workshop.	Geoff Meadows	7 July 2017	
7.04.17	RLA impact Assess Resource Legislation Amendment Bill impact on councils and disseminate to TAs	ECan	TBC	Agenda item 8
7.04.17	Review of regional submissions process and effectiveness CEs Forum to consider commissioning an independent review	Bill Bayfield	8 May 2017	Agenda item 7

Canterbury Policy Forum

Item 4

Date: 7 July 2017

Presented by: Bill Bayfield

Canterbury Climate Change Working Group terms of reference

Purpose

This paper presents draft terms of reference for the Canterbury Climate Change Working Group.

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Policy Forum:

- 1 **discuss** the draft terms of reference for the Canterbury Climate Change Working Group.

Background

- 1 On 7 April 2017, the Canterbury Policy Forum agreed to the formation of a regional climate change working group to progress thinking and planning across the region on adaptation to and mitigation of climate change.
- 2 New Zealand is a signatory to the Paris Agreement (Accord de Paris) – an agreement within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) dealing with greenhouse gas emissions mitigation, adaptation and finance, starting in the year 2020. The agreement went into effect on 4 November 2016.
- 3 As councils, we need to develop our long-term thinking about what Canterbury might look like in 2070 in relation to climate change, what the opportunities and threats could be, and then plan. A regional working group approach has proved to be an effective process for collaboration, establishing regional perspectives, and acting regionally, and climate change is a hot issue that needs our collective focus.
- 4 These draft terms of reference have been developed for discussion by the Policy Forum, to be discussed and agreed by the working group when it first meets, for presentation to Chief Executives for their agreement.

Draft Terms of Reference

Canterbury Climate Change Working Group

As agreed by the **Chief Executives Forum** on **xxxxxxx**

Background and purpose

1. The Chief Executives Forum agreed to the formation of the Canterbury Climate Change Working Group in May 2017 to progress thinking and planning across the region on adaptation to and mitigation of climate change.
2. The purpose of the Working Group is to develop a shared understanding of the likely implications of climate change for the region, and strategies to manage the associated threats and opportunities. The working group will also support the provision of consistent information and advice to the community.
3. The Working Group reports to the Canterbury Policy Forum and through that to the Chief Executives Forum. Through the Chief Executives Forum, the group will inform the Canterbury Mayoral Forum on the above work and associated key messages

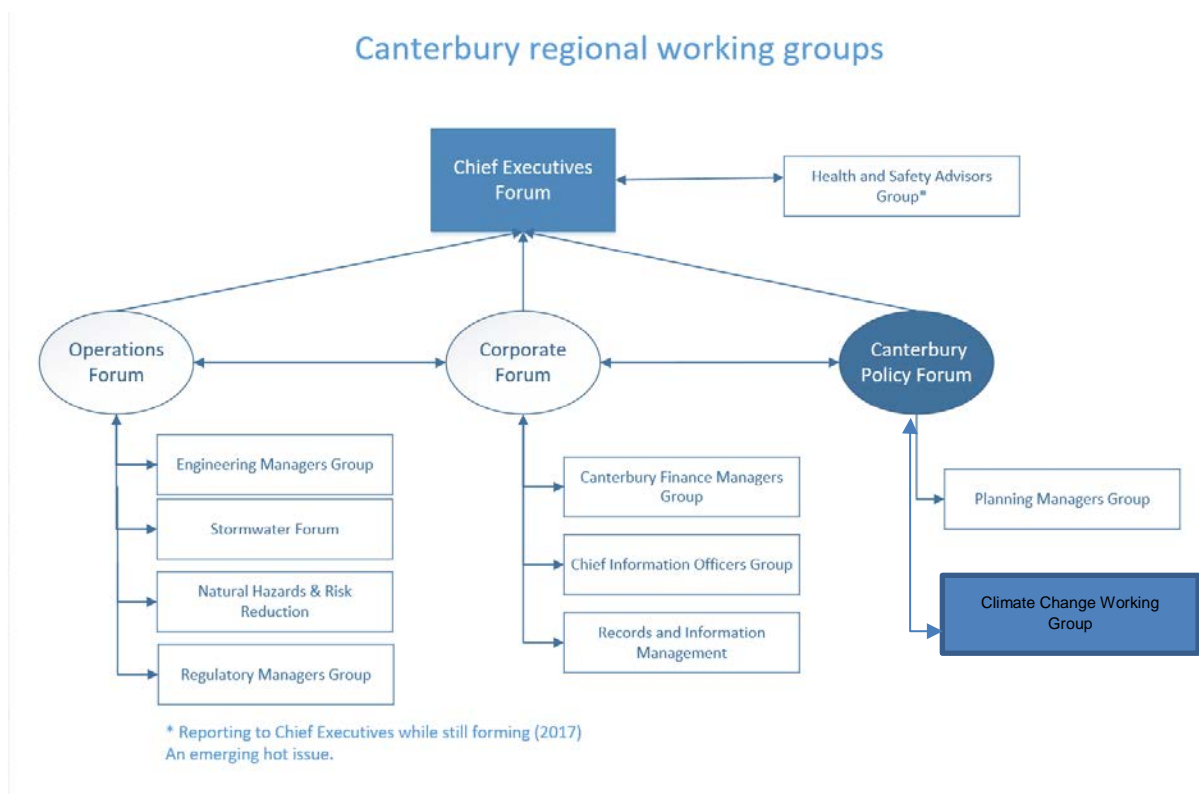


Figure 1: Proposed Climate Change Working Group reporting line

Scope

4. Matters subject to the Working Group's consideration include:
 - sharing resources and learning
 - reaching common ground and having a common understanding of climate change science

- establishing regional perspectives on the implications of climate change
- alignment in policy, approach and communications across the region
- collective advocacy to Central Government and others
- identifying and addressing emerging threats and opportunities.

Membership and operation of the Forum

5. Membership will include one member from each Canterbury council and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, with up to two members from larger councils (Environment Canterbury and Christchurch City Council). Representatives will be able to engage and influence across their organisation on this complex and significant issue. They will represent a cross-organisation view on climate change.
6. Membership should ensure that there is organisational representation from both territorial authorities and the regional council. It should include contributions from across disciplines including at least two members from Engineering/Operations, Science, Communications and Policy.
7. The group may allocate an issue(s) to a sub-group(s), which may include other staff, or another appropriate collaborative grouping, to consider and develop a response(s). Sub-group(s) will periodically update the Climate Change Working Group.
8. The Chair of the Working Group will be appointed by either the Chair of the Canterbury Policy Forum.
9. The Chair is responsible for arranging secretariat support for the group, maintaining relationships and ensuring that the group is functioning under these Terms of Reference.
10. The Working Group will meet in person at least quarterly to:
 - refine the work programme to reflect feedback from Chief Executives and Mayoral Forum
 - report progress on Working Group work programme items, and review where necessary
 - allocate responsibility for items in the work programme
 - share knowledge and identify emerging opportunities and threats
 - determine any recommended changes in key messaging
11. The Working Group will maintain regular electronic exchanges to consider issues and monitor progress and to exchange ideas.
12. The Working Group Chair will ensure that the group's work programme is aligned with the Natural Hazards Risk Management working group.
13. The Working Group Chair shall report quarterly to the Canterbury Policy Forum.

Decision Making and Representation

14. The group has no decision-making ability. It will develop advice to be presented to the Canterbury Policy Forum for agreement to go to Chief Executives and the Mayoral Forum.

Changes to the Terms of Reference

15. The Working Group may recommend changes to the Terms of Reference to the Policy Forum, to be agreed by Chief Executives Forum.
16. The Policy Forum will review the Terms of Reference every three years for agreement by Chief Executives.

Canterbury Policy Forum

Item 5

Date: 7 July 2017

Presented by: Caroline Hart

Canterbury Water Management Strategy update

Purpose

This paper updates the Canterbury Policy Forum on the Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) report presented to the Canterbury Mayoral Forum on 26 May 2017.

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Policy Forum:

- 1 **note** the progress report on the CWMS.

Progress report

CWMS Zone and Regional Committees

- 1 All committees have approved an Annual report to the community for the 2016 year. These are being presented to Councils and to Ngāi Tahu Rūnanga.
- 2 This year has seen Ashburton and Waimakariri 'refresh' selection processes undertaken. No further routine refresh selection processes are planned for this year. Most zone committees will require a selection process next year.

CWMS 2020 Targets Reporting

- 3 The biennial CWMS Target Progress report is due at the end of June 2017. Data is being collated and will be shared at the August Mayoral Forum meeting.

Infrastructure

Ministry of Primary Industries and Crown Irrigation Investments Ltd

- 4 CWMS infrastructure personnel are actively engaging with both the Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) and Crown Irrigation Investments Ltd (CIIL) over access to funding support for investigation of Canterbury infrastructure concepts.

Hurunui-Waiiau

- 5 On 7 October 2016 Hurunui Water Project (HWP) submitted its application to CIIL's Regional Irrigation Development Fund for funding assistance for its feasibility phase programmed to occur over an 18-month duration. HWP has identified approximately 15,000ha of demand south of the Hurunui River and are investigating larger in-scheme storage as an additional supply solution. HWP has entered into an Early Contractor Involvement basis with Rooney Earthmoving and a funding agreement with the Irrigation Acceleration Fund.

- 6 Amuri Irrigation Co. Ltd (AIC) expects to commission a 130km pipe network by September 2017. This will substantially reduce distribution water losses and energy use.
- 7 Emu Plain scheme is contracted with the Irrigation Acceleration Fund (CIIL) for pre-resource consent application investigations. This contract has been extended to October 2017 following the nearby earthquakes.

Waimakariri

- 8 An interim decision from the Environment Court on the Waimakariri Irrigation Ltd (WIL) 8.2Mm³ storage resource consent appeal, issued on 7 September 2016, indicated “Court at this stage not able to indicate whether consent will be forthcoming or not” and requested further information and evidence from WIL. WIL’s resulting Emergency Plan was reported to the Court in March and has been forwarded to the other party.

Selwyn Waihora

- 9 Central Plains Water Ltd (CPWL) Sheffield scheme and Stage 2+ is underway (September 2017 completion).
- 10 During the 2015/16 irrigation season, CPW Stage 1 resulted in 75% (60Mm³) of groundwater in the area being replaced by scheme water. Electricity disconnections from CPW Stage 1 shareholders now exceed 7 megawatts (March 2017) with a similar capacity connected but not used.
- 11 The Targeted Stream Augmentation (TSA) project is in construction for solar-powered groundwater supply of the Selwyn River tributary upstream from Chamberlains Ford.
- 12 A Freshwater Improvement Fund application has been lodged for the Selwyn/Waikirikiriri Near River Recharge concept utilising the CPW 2+ pipeline.

Ashburton

- 13 Rangitata Diversion Race Management Ltd (RDRML) lodged consents for a 53Mm³ maximum volume storage facility at Klondyke, plus an additional take of 10M³/s from the Rangitata River at high levels. The consent hearing has been delayed to October 2017 so that fish exclusion and seismic matters can be considered further.
- 14 Ashburton-Hinds Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) pilot project is underway. Monitoring results confirm a substantial rise in ground water levels, along with a drop in nitrate levels at some sites.
- 15 Stage 1 of the south Hinds Near River Recharge infrastructure will start construction this month.
- 16 Submissions closed in early April 2017 for Barrhill Chertsey Irrigation’s resource consent application for a 1.6Mm³ Akarana storage pond near Methven.
- 17 Ashburton Lyndhurst Irrigation (ALIL) expect to complete piping of their 30,000ha scheme by September 2017. ALIL also obtained resource consent to increase their storage dam volume by 20,000m³.
- 18 Mayfield-Hinds Carew Ponds have now received their Certificate of Compliance.

South Canterbury

- 19 Hunter Downs Water Ltd (HDWL) issued a Product Disclosure Statement with a final extended formal closing date of 28 April. The HDWL Board was inviting additional offers of interest until 15 May.
- 20 The OTO coastal zone water resource study has concluded and a follow-up Irrigation Accelerated Fund project is under negotiation with CIIL (and possibly MPI) to develop concepts to supply water to replace water that will no longer be available from aquifers and hill-fed rivers. The current project scoped a north zone scheme to provide high reliability 'top-up' water to replace current groundwater abstraction (and some Opuha-supplied Kakahu scheme irrigators). It also identified an extension to this scheme to supply the Levels Plain scheme, thus allowing Lake Opuha additional upper catchment supply. The new project will provide initial design and costs for these concepts. The current project also identified the importance of operating Lake Opuha to its design maximum and building more on-farm storage to maintain reliability in dry seasons.

Water use effectiveness and efficiency

- 21 Opportunities to encourage effective and efficient use of water are integral to good infrastructure practices. A work programme with Irrigation NZ as a key partner involving industry organisations, research agencies and other relevant parties continues to evolve. A particular success has been a programme of field testing water distribution efficiency in on-farm systems in Ashburton District. This work has accelerated uptake of practical and relevant water efficiency approaches as part of a "SMART Tips and tools" Sustainable Farming Fund project supported by MPI, Environment Canterbury and other parties.

Regional planning

- 22 The Canterbury Regional Policy Statement has strong references to the CWMS and provides ongoing statutory support for the vision and principles of the CWMS. The LWRP is now operative, and sets outcomes and limits for water quality for urban and rural water bodies that can be adjusted at local level as sub-regional chapters are added. A number of separate catchment plans are also in place and are being reviewed progressively between now and 2025.
- 23 The Omnibus Plan Change to the LWRP (Plan Change 4) was made operative on 11 March 2017. The Plan Change covers a range of issues and applies throughout Canterbury, including in areas where a sub-region section of the LWRP has been developed.
- 24 A change to the LWRP that revises the regional level approach to farm nutrient management, and incorporates nutrient discharges based on industry agreed Good Management Practices, was notified on 13 February 2016 (Plan Change 5). The hearing has now closed and deliberations are underway, with a decision expected in May/June 2017.
- 25 Work continues on developing local solution packages with the Zone Committees and then reflecting the solutions in sub-regional chapters. The table below outlines the current status of all sub-regional processes.

Zone	Progress	Next steps
Selwyn Waihora	Selwyn-Te Waihora Plan Change 1 to the LWRP made operative from 1 February 2016	Implementation
Ashburton	Three High Court appeals received on the Hinds Plan Change 2 to the LWRP; one appeal (Federated Farmers) has been resolved by Court order; discussions ongoing on other appeals (Barrhill Chertsey Irrigation and Rangitata Diversion Race)	Operative date depends on resolution of appeals
Waitaki catchment (Upper and Lower Waitaki Zones)	All changes to the Waitaki Catchment Water Allocation Plan are now operative	Implementation of Plan Change 3 including consent reviews
	Decision on the South Coastal Canterbury Plan Change 3 to the LWRP notified 1 October 2016; one appeal (Federated Farmers) received, discussions ongoing. This plan change provides a mechanism for updating limits following OVERSEER version changes. Updated limits in response to the November 2016 update are available on the ECan website.	In appeal period at time of writing
	Waitaki Plan Change 5 to the LWRP notified on 13 February 2016	The hearing has closed and deliberations are underway, with a decision expected in May/June 2017.
Banks Peninsula	Wairewa Plan Change 5 to the LWRP made operative 1 February 2017	Implementation of Wairewa Plan Change 6 and progressing on-the-ground actions
Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora	Currently in collaborative process led by Zone Committee to develop package of actions for freshwater management, including recommendations for a sub-region plan change and for on-the-ground actions	'What if' scenarios for greater water efficiency and new alpine water are being explored with public workshops in May 2017, followed by development of a solutions package, and notification of a sub-region plan change in 2018 alongside implementation of on-the-ground actions
Waimakariri	Currently in collaborative process led by Zone Committee to develop package of actions for freshwater management, including recommendations for a sub-region plan change and for on-the-ground actions	'What if' scenarios for water management have been explored in public workshops, followed by development of a solutions package, and notification of a sub-region plan change in 2018 alongside implementation of on-the-ground actions
Hurunui Waiau	Setting up for a collaborative process, looking at water management across the zone, including existing plans. Process design now mindful of the impact of the earthquakes in the northern part of this zone.	Collaborative process has begun; notification of a plan change in 2019 alongside implementation of on-the-ground actions

On-the-ground action: ZIP delivery

26 Up to April 2017, \$5.9 million has been approved for 325 projects under the CWMS *Immediate Steps* biodiversity programme. Key projects include pest control to improve

river bird habitat on braided rivers on the Upper Rangitata, Rakaia and Clarence Rivers. *Immediate Steps* is also supporting ongoing restoration at Te Waihora and Wainono Lagoon and projects to support the recovery of native biodiversity as a result of the Port Hills fires.

- 27 Environment Canterbury established Zone Delivery teams to focus resources on delivering to each Zone Committee's Zone Work Programme. Each Zone Work Programme covers a wide range of objectives set out as 'five-year outcomes' that contribute to CWMS targets. Activities include biodiversity enhancement and protection, improving on-farm practices, and specific local projects on local water bodies.
- 28 Zone Managers have been in place for approximately 16 months. Each Zone Manager leads a team, comprising staff with expertise in biodiversity, land management, extension and compliance. Zone Managers co-ordinate and report on the Zone Work Programme to their Zone Committee on a quarterly basis, and progress is published online.
- 29 Environment Canterbury have recently installed a new Zone Manager position in the Lower and Upper Waitaki zones. The Zone Managers are:

Name	Zone	Location
Andrew Arps	Waimakariri	Tuam St, Christchurch
Kevin Heays	Kaikōura	Kaikōura
Leanne Lye	Hurunui, Waiiau (during earthquake response)	Amberley
Michael Hide	OTOP	Timaru
Chris Eccleston	Lower Waitaki, Upper Waitaki	Timaru
James Tricker	Christchurch, West Melton, Banks Peninsula	Tuam St, Christchurch
Janine Holland	Ashburton	Ashburton
Michaela Rees	Selwyn Waihora	Templeton

- 30 Environment Canterbury implemented an Integrated Zone Delivery Pilot in August last year. The pilot was initiated to develop a zone-based integrated delivery approach to monitoring high risk consents, responding to incidents and achieving zone priorities. The pilot also trialled how region-wide and national priorities and work programmes relating to water, biodiversity and land could be integrated into zone delivery work programmes and aligned with zone priorities.
- 31 The pilot staged in the Selwyn-Waihora zone in December 2016 and was tasked with building prioritisation tools, developing an integrated work programme for the zone and delivering the work over a set period of time.
- 32 Environment Canterbury is now in the process of 'rolling out' this approach across the remaining zones by July 2017.
- 33 In addition to the zone-based Zone Work Programmes, Environment Canterbury is updating and establishing new work programmes with key partners (sector groups and key agencies), such as Dairy New Zealand, Beef & Lamb New Zealand, Irrigation New Zealand, Fish & Game New Zealand and the Canterbury District Health Board. The work programmes provide a strong project focus for each of these partners.
- 34 There is a region-wide push to ensure that all Canterbury farms are at industry-agreed Good Management Practice. Practices relating to water quality were developed from the Canterbury Matrix of Good Management project and were first published in April 2015. While intended for use in Canterbury, there is strong central government interest in the

Canterbury approach and the possible use of these Practices as a basis for a nationwide drive.

- 35 Responding to community and stakeholder concerns around stock in waterways, Environment Canterbury staff have developed a robust framework in which to respond and manage these issues. Significant improvement in performance against targets include:
 - The number of Infringement fines issued had more than doubled; and
 - All significant breaches had been responded to.
- 36 The water use compliance programme is currently in a transition phase of implementing the newly acquired data management system enabling daily monitoring from around 4000 water takes with input from all groups within the organisation. Last year there were a number of significant achievements delivered including:
 - all water takes are either now metered or have an action plan in place
 - over 3,500 water take consents were monitored (representing around a 300% improvement from the previous year).
- 37 To date, approximately 2,630 Farm Environment Plans have been completed in Canterbury, with support from industry stakeholders such as Fonterra, Dairy New Zealand, Beef & Lamb New Zealand and the major irrigation schemes.
- 38 We are also seeing strong support from the irrigation schemes that have already audited 250 farms to track progress towards Good Management Practice.

Canterbury Policy Forum

Item 7

Date: 7 July 2017

Presented by: Cam Smith

Review of regional submissions

Purpose

This paper considers regional submissions and advocacy letters to central government, and explores what value these have provided to Canterbury councils.

It assesses how these submissions and letters have been developed, whether corresponding submissions have been made by individual councils, and whether the issues or requests raised have been consistent with government decision-making.

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Policy Forum:

- 1 **discuss** the value to councils of jointly produced submissions and advocacy letters; and
- 2 **agree** to take this paper, with any amendments considering 1 above, to the Chief Executives Forum.

Key points

- 1 This assessment shows:
 - it is challenging to draw attribution between regional submissions and central government policy, but this shouldn't devalue the role of regional submissions
 - regional submissions likely give a stronger voice to smaller councils
 - regional advocacy letters appear effective at drawing Ministerial attention to regional economic issues, and influencing action.

Background

- 2 The Canterbury Policy Forum in April 2017 and the Chief Executives Forum in May 2017 asked that a review of the effectiveness of regional submissions made jointly by Canterbury councils be undertaken.
- 3 Canterbury councils have made joint submissions through central government consultation processes, and jointly delivered advocacy letters on specific issues to relevant Ministers. These actions are consistent with the Terms of Reference for the Canterbury Policy Forum, which include:
 - ensure a strong local government “voice” on issues affecting Canterbury;
 - reduce duplication of policy effort and, as a result, work more effectively and efficiently together; and

- provide support to smaller councils when assessing national and regional policy initiatives.
- 4 This paper also takes into account the “Working together for Canterbury” paper presented to the Mayoral Forum in February this year, and particularly the policy and process for joint advocacy outlined in Appendix 4 of that paper. This included a process whereby:

“the relevant Forum or its Chair identifies and commissions a lead council or councils to prepare a draft joint submission in consultation with member councils and with the support of, and in consultation with, technical working groups as appropriate. The lead council is to reach agreement with other councils on the joint submission.”

Process

- 5 The following process was undertaken for this paper:
- identify all submissions and advocacy letters produced by, or on behalf of the Forum since 2014
 - identify the agency responsible for drafting these documents
 - select five submissions/letters for further analysis, including whether individual council submissions were also produced, and whether/what Ministerial/policy response was generated.
- 6 As noted, the analysis has been broadened to also include regional advocacy letters. Broadly speaking, regional submissions respond to central government policy or legislative proposals through consultation processes. Advocacy letters are used by Canterbury Councils to proactively raise issues or advocate actions with Ministers.
- 7 A full list of submissions and letters is provided in Appendix A. This shows:

Total submissions = 27	Submissions = 14
	Letters = 13
Drafting agency	Mayoral Forum Secretariat = 15
	Environment Canterbury = 6
	Other = 6

- 8 The documents range in length (and required effort). Some are substantive (the submission on the Resource Legislation Amendment Bill numbered 27 pages), while others, and especially letters, can be limited to 2 or 3 pages.
- 9 The Mayoral Forum Secretariat has produced much of the material (and letters in particular), while Environment Canterbury has produced the bulk of large submissions.

Assessing the impact of submissions and advocacy letters

- 10 Establishing whether and how regional submissions have impacted on final policy decisions is difficult. A regional submission will be one of many submissions received, some or all of

which may support similar points, and generally there is limited/no feedback received from Select Committee or departments.

- 11 Assessing Ministerial responses to advocacy letters is less challenging. In most cases, Ministers (or their staff) reply directly to letters, which gives some basis to assess how effective a letter has been at a) drawing a Ministers attention to an issue, and b) influencing Ministerial action.
- 12 Further analysis has been undertaken on five submissions and advocacy letters to assess what Ministerial/policy response was generated, and whether individual council submissions were also produced (Appendix B).
- 13 Submissions influence and help shape policy and legislative proposals, and the analysis in Appendix B shows that points raised within the selected regional submissions have been consistent with policy outcomes. However, while direct attribution is difficult to prove, this shouldn't devalue the role of (regional) submissions.
- 14 Regional advocacy letters appear to be effective at drawing attention to issues and influencing action. This would seem an efficient mechanism given the relatively low resource requirements for crafting letters (when compared to drafting submissions).

Value to Canterbury councils

- 15 The value of regional submissions and letters can also be assessed against the relevant sections of the Canterbury Policy Forum terms of reference (outlined in paragraph 2 above).
- 16 It seems reasonable to assume regional submissions give a stronger voice to local government in Canterbury, and that regional advocacy letters will hold more weight with Ministers than letters from individual councils.
- 17 On reducing duplication and working more efficiently, individual councils have submitted on policy or legislative proposals with significant implications e.g. large RMA or LGA proposals. This is understandable given the implications of these proposals may differ across councils.
- 18 There appears limited duplication for smaller scale issues, or on issues with a regional economic focus e.g. ultrafast broadband, telecommunications, migrant support (it's assumed that individual councils aren't replicating Mayoral forum letters). However, it is on these issues where letters seem to have received greater traction.
- 19 Submitting and presenting as a collective also presents efficiencies for those running submission and hearing processes. The Office of the Clerk positively commented on this following a joint presentation at a Select Committee hearing.
- 20 Whether or not smaller councils have received support for assessing national and regional policy initiatives is a matter for smaller councils to judge. Their views on this will be useful.

Appendix A – List of regional submissions and advocacy letters

Date	Subject	Submission/ advocacy letter	Audience	Drafting agency	Did individual councils submit?
Dec-14	Settlement support for new migrants	Letter	Ministers of Immigration and Ethnic Communities	Secretariat	n/a
Dec-14	Rural connectivity in Canterbury	Letter	Ministers for Communications and Economic Development	Secretariat	n/a
Apr-15	Heritage NZ Pouhere Taonga Statutory Policies	Submission	HNZPT	ECan	n/a
May-15	Environment Canterbury Review	Submission	MfE	Waimakariri, with support from Secretariat	Yes, majority
Jun-15	Selection process for UF Broadband	Letter	MBIE	Secretariat	n/a
Jul-15	Fire services review	Submission	DIA	Secretariat	Yes, majority
Nov-15	Access for migrants to health care	Letter	Minister of Health	Ashburton	n/a
Nov-15	Environment Canterbury Transitional Governance Bill	Submission	Select Committee	Waimakariri, , with support from Secretariat	Yes, majority
Dec-15	Fast broadband in rural Canterbury	Letter	Minister for Communications	Secretariat	n/a
Feb-16	Convention and Events Centre	Letter	Prime Minister	Secretariat	n/a
Mar-16	Resource Legislation Amendment Bill	Submission	Select Committee	ECan	Yes, majority
Mar-16	Tourism in Canterbury – and planning for further expansion	Letter	Prime Minister/Minister of Tourism	Secretariat	n/a
Apr-16	Fresh Water next steps	Submission	MfE	ECan	Yes, several
May-16	Partnering with government to encourage and support tourism in Canterbury	Letter	Prime Minister/Minister of Tourism	Secretariat	n/a
Jul-16	National Policy Statement Urban Development Capacity	Submission	MfE	ECan	Yes, several

Jul-16	Local Government Act Amendment Bill (No 2) 2016	Submission	Select Committee	ECan/Secretariat	Yes, majority
Aug-16	Telecommunications (Property Access and other matters) Amendment Bill	Submission	Select Committee	Secretariat	No
Aug-16	Regulations to support the Fire and Emergency New Zealand Bill	Submission	DIA	Secretariat	unclear
Aug-16	Fire and Emergency New Zealand Bill	Submission	Select Committee	Secretariat	Yes, several
Sep-16	Growth of tourism – and economic development in Canterbury	Letter	Prime Minister/Minister of Tourism	Secretariat	n/a
Sep-16	Migrant children's access to education services	Letter	Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment	Waimakariri	n/a
Nov-16	Telecommunications (Property Access and other matters) Amendment Bill (interim report)	Submission	Select Committee	Secretariat	No
Jan-17	Health (Fluoridation of Drinking Water) Amendment Bill	Submission	Select Committee	CCC	Yes, several
Feb-17	Endorsing the mission and urgency of the Lincoln hub	Letter	Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment, and Minister of Finance	Secretariat	n/a
May-17	Clean water consultation	Submission	MfE	ECan	Yes, several
Jun-17	Immigration as an election issue	Letter	Political party leaders	SDC	n/a
Jun-17	Economic growth and immigration in Canterbury	Letter	Prime Minister and Minister of Immigration	Secretariat	n/a

Appendix B – Further analysis on 5 regional submissions and advocacy letters

Submission	Were individual submissions made?	Were policy decisions consistent with the submission?	Comment
<i>Resource Legislation Amendment Bill</i> (Select Committee).	Yes, majority of councils submitted.	Majority of points raised consistent with final RLAA changes.	
<i>Local Government Act Amendment Bill 2016</i> (Select Committee).	Yes, majority of councils submitted.	It is understood disputed provisions have been amended (around mandatory performance reporting and service amalgamation).	The Select Committee reported back on 16 June 2017. Implications still being assessed.
<i>Telecommunications (Property Access and other matters) Amendment Bill</i> (Select Committee).	No. The submission supported Northpower's submission for a supplementary order paper (SOP).	Yes. SOP was included in Select Committee report back and reflected in final amendment Act.	Successfully partnered with private sector through a Select Committee process.
Advocacy letter	What was being advocated?	Has there been any progress?	Comment
<i>To Minister of Health – Access for migrants to health care.</i>	Policy change for publicly funded healthcare in Canterbury.	No. Minister satisfied with existing provisions.	Another letter was sent, but without a material response from the Minister.
<i>To Minister of Tourism – Tourism in Canterbury – and planning for further expansion.</i>	Central government leadership; funding assistance; certainty on construction of convention centre build.	Yes, establishment of tourism infrastructure fund, announcement on construction; limited progress on central government leadership.	Canterbury councils secured approx. 1/3 of funding in round 1, and ¼ of funding in round 2.

Canterbury Policy Forum

Item 8

Date: 7 July 2017

Presented by: Cam Smith

Assessing RLAA implications

Purpose

This paper provides a brief overview of Environment Canterbury's approach to assessing implications of the recently passed Resource Legislation Amendment Act (RLAA). It is intended for information only, and is presented to the Policy Forum as a means of sharing policy work.

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Policy Forum:

- 1 **note** Environment Canterbury's approach to assessing implications of the RLAA.

Background

1. The Resource Legislation Amendment Act 2017 (RLAA) represents the Government's second phase of reform of the Resource Management Act (RMA). It is the most comprehensive package of reforms to the RMA since its inception 26 years ago.
2. The RLAA obtained Royal Assent on 18 April 2017. Some of the changes take immediate effect, while others have transitional periods e.g. most changes to resource consent processes come into force on 18 October 2017.

Environment Canterbury's approach

3. Environment Canterbury's approach is two-fold:
 - a. a high-level assessment has been undertaken (and is attached as Appendix A). The aim is to understand the broad impacts on the organisation, and help identify linkages between various parts of the organisation.
 - b. a detailed assessment by relevant sections of Environment Canterbury. Sections will be best placed to assess what the changes mean on a day-to-day basis, and to implement changes.
4. The high-level assessment has built off advice received by Wynn Williams, who were commissioned by Environment Southland to assess changes relevant to regional councils. This advice was shared with regional councils.
5. The Wynn Williams advice was then assessed against the Environment Canterbury submission on the Resource Legislation Amendment Bill (RLAB), to identify what

changes were supported, what weren't, and whether anything new was inserted into the Bill following the Select Committee stage.

6. These changes have then been expanded on, using the Ministry for the Environment's RLAA guidance where relevant. High level actions have then been recorded against each of the changes.
7. Consideration is being given to how implementation progress should be reported through existing governance arrangements.

Resource Legislation Amendment Act- implication analysis

- First two columns are taken from Wynn Williams advice. 3rd and 4th columns are ECan additions, informed by MfE guidance and ECan submission on the RLAB.
- As per WW advice, many of the changes are now in force (as of 19 April 2017) but some are delayed by 6 months or more. Where this is the case, WW have identified the delayed timeframe in a footnote to the section reference.
- WW's remit was to outline key changes made to the RMA by the RLA Act relevant to regional council functions. Implication analysis is limited to those changes identified by WW (assume that none have been overlooked).
- See MfE guidance on the RLAA here: <http://www.mfe.govt.nz/node/21411/>
- The below tasks should be allocated to various teams, whose responsibility it will be to unpack and implement. Accountability could sit with those teams, with progress reported to PCC managers group.

Priorities:

- Proactive engagement with MfE to influence potential regulations, particularly for National Planning Standards. Note that a tranche of discussion documents (10) were released 9 May, submissions due 31 July.
- Map-out changes to consent processes and build into existing processes (by October).
- Assess fixed charges changes and how they align to existing practice, make necessary changes, update online info (by October).
- Assess extent to which we are meeting iwi participation requirements, and steps to implement (e.g. building into plan and strategy development processes).
- Assess extent to which we are applying new procedural principles, and develop steps to implement (e.g. QA and peer review), and monitoring.
- Assess changes to planning processes and whether any should apply to upcoming plan processes (many are optional).
- Assess new interpretations and rules (e.g. drinking water for stock, public notification rules).

1. NATIONAL DIRECTION

Changes introduced by the Amendment Act	Section	Comment/ Actions
"the management of significant risks from natural hazards" is a new matter of national importance under section 6. This is an explicit requirement for decision-makers to manage significant risks from all natural hazards as part of any Part 2 assessment. Further, section 106 of the RMA has also been amended to require consideration of all risks from natural hazards in subdivision consent applications.	Section 6(h) (in addition to amendments in sections 30, 31 and 106)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We supported this change. • Assess whether existing processes suffice (assume they do if we have a focus on s30(1)(c)(v) and as per sub commentary)
New procedural principles have been incorporated in the Amendment Act. People exercising powers and performing functions are required to take all practicable steps to apply the new procedural principles, including to use timely, efficient, consistent and cost effective processes and to promote collaboration.	Section 18A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We supported this change. • We need to make an assessment of whether we are taking all practicable steps. • Where needed we'll need to implement practical measures adopting the following principles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Decision-making is to be customer focused (whole of ECan direction and peer review) ○ Plans and policy statements are only to address matters relevant to the RMA (action through QA and peer review) ○ Plans and policy statements are to use clear and concise wording (action through QA and peer review) ○ Collaborating on common resource management issues (action through?? How far do existing processes go in achieving 'all practicable steps'?)
Councils also have new functions to ensure that there is sufficient residential and business development capacity to meet expected demand. These amendments reflect the direction prescribed in the National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity 2016. In particular, regional councils are required to establish, implement and review objectives, policies and methods in their Regional Policy Statements to ensure there is sufficient development capacity in relation to housing and business land.	Sections 30 (and 31)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We supported this change. • Fits within the Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy Review. • Actions align with those required as part of NPS UDC. • Action through new NPS UDC work programme. <p>Further info from guidance material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new function only applies to urban environments, existing and planned.
The control of hazardous substances is no longer an explicit function of councils, therefore councils are not required to regulate hazardous substances in RMA plans, policy statements or resource consents.	Sections 30 (and 31)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We supported this change. • Action through plan/strategy changes and reviews <p>Further info from guidance material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councils are not required to make immediate changes to their plans, but should implement this amendment when they review their plans and policy statements, and when they consider private plan changes and resource consent applications.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In most cases HSNO and Worksafe controls will be adequate to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse environmental effects (including potential effects) of hazardous substances. Councils still have a broad function of achieving integrated management, and may use this function to place extra controls on hazardous substance use under the RMA, if existing HSNO or Worksafe controls are not adequate to address the environmental effects of hazardous substances in any particular case
<p>A range of changes have been made to the scope and process for developing national environmental standards and national policy statements. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A coastal policy statement, national policy statement or a national environmental standard can now apply either generally, specifically to a district or region of any council, or within a specified part of New Zealand. Councils can now charge to monitor any permitted activities that are specified in a NES under section 43A(8), and the process for setting a charge is included in a new section 36(1)(cc) of the RMA. A NES can now specify non-technical methods or requirements under section 43(2)(da). Further, section 43B of the RMA has been amended so that councils can now make a rule or resource consent that is more lenient than a NES, if the particular NES enables that. A NES can specify a resource consent duration under section 43A(2)(a)(1). A NES can specify consent durations of less than 20 years for aquaculture activities under section 123A. A NES can also direct regional councils to review land use consents they administer under sections 43A and 128 of the RMA. Changes to section 46A of the RMA provide for a single consultation process for NESs and NPSs, including the NZCPS, called a proposal for national direction. 	<p>Various changes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We did not support change that allows NPS or NES to apply only to a particular region, district or specified part of New Zealand. Unsure whether proposal for national direction and combining consultation processes is limited to where NES and NPS are on a similar/related issue, as sought through our submission (doesn't appear to be based on RLA Act). We supported in principle a new s45A setting out the contents of NPSs, which may include prescriptions for council's policy statements and plans and the processes to develop them Keep watching brief on any NPS and NES development <p>Further info from guidance material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re cost recovery, the change does not allow councils to charge for monitoring permitted activities generally – only those specified in a NES, where the NES allows it. If a NPS sets out a constraint or limit, councils must amend their plans and policy statements (without using a Schedule 1 process) when necessary, to make the plan or policy statement consistent with the constraint or limit.

2. NATIONAL PLANNING STANDARDS

Changes Introduced by the Amendment Act	Section	Comment/ Actions
<p>A new type of national direction has been introduced in the form of National Planning Standards, which will form a standardised national framework for RMA plans and policy statements. National planning standards must give effect to NPSs and be consistent with any NES, RMA regulations, and water conservation order.</p> <p>National planning standards may specify a range of matters, including national policy direction and content of plans and regional policy statements (including objectives, policies and methods (including rules)). The national planning standards may specify that a local authority must review a discharge, coastal or water permit, or a land use consent required in relation to a regional rule. The national planning standards may also specify the structure and form of regional policy statements and plans (including references to NPSs, NESs and regulations, standardised definitions, and requirements for electronic functionality and accessibility of plans and policy statements), require inclusion of specific provisions or allow councils to choose from provisions. The national planning standards may apply generally, or to specific regions or districts. The standards may specify timeframes for giving effect to the standards, including that different timeframes can apply to different councils.</p> <p>The proposed national planning standards must be notified for consultation and submissions and it will be important that regional councils engage in this process.</p> <p>The first set of national planning standards must be Gazetted within two years of Royal Assent (by 19 April 2019).</p> <p>The process for local authority recognition of national planning standards depends on whether the direction is mandatory (in which case no Schedule 1 process is required) or discretionary (in which case a Schedule 1 process is required).</p>	<p>Sections 58B to 58J</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We supported in principle, noting the need for a collaborative process when developing NPStds. Action through active engagement with MfE to develop first set of standards. High priority given expected impacts of new standards on ECan RMA documents e.g. standardised definitions. <p>Further info from guidance material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The first set of national planning standards must cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a standard structure and form for policy statements and plans, including references to NPSs, NESs and regulations standardised definitions requirements for electronic functionality and accessibility of plans and policy statements. For plans that have been notified but are not yet operative, the implementation period in relation to changes required by the RMA Schedule 1 process only starts to run once the plan is operative (unless a time is specified with the national planning standard). The Ministry for the Environment will engage with stakeholders (including councils and iwi authorities) to develop the first national planning standards.

<p>If a Schedule 1 process is required to give effect to the first national planning standards, councils must make the amendments within 5 years of the Gazette notice (subject to some exceptions, including where a proposed policy statement or plan has been notified prior to the Gazettal of the standards).</p>		
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3. NEW REGULATION MAKING POWERS

Changes Introduced by the Amendment Act	Section	Comment/ Actions
<p>Regulation making powers to enable regulations to be made to prescribe the form, content and conditions of water permits and discharge permits. The introduction of these regulations cannot retrospectively change existing consent conditions but they could result in a review of council processes when considering future consent applications.</p>	<p>Section 360(1)(da)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did not comment on this change. • No action required at this time. • Keep watching brief on any reg development.
<p>Regulations may be made to set standardised monitoring practices for any of the matters listed in section 35(2) of the RMA, regarding the efficiency and effectiveness of council processes under the RMA. Such regulations could standardise information collation, comparison between councils, and improve the overall quality and consistency of information.</p>	<p>Section 360(1)(hk)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did not comment on this change. • No action required at this time • Keep watching brief on any reg development • Assume this is to support the new procedural principles outlined above. • We should look for linkages or potential linkages with our need to better identify, set and measure against outcomes (rather than outputs). This would seem to be consistent with monitoring effectiveness of council processes. <p>Further info from guidance material :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These regulations could address: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ pre-existing council monitoring duties (such as the state of the environment, or the efficiency and effectiveness of plan provisions, the exercise of resource consents, and any responsibilities it has transferred under section 33) ○ new duties for councils to monitor efficiency and effectiveness of their processes
<p>Regulation making powers to prescribe measures to exclude stock from waterways and related infringement offences. The regulations may set infringement fees of up to \$100 per animal, up to a maximum of \$2000, rather than the maximum \$1000 that applies to other infringement notices under the RMA.</p>	<p>Sections 360(1)(bb), (hn) and (ho)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We supported this change • Regs are being drafted and likely to be gazetted ahead of 1 July. Based on material in Freshwater consultation. <p>Further info from guidance material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The regulations may require a council to withdraw or amend plan rules that are inconsistent with them without using an RMA Schedule 1 process. • A draft regulation on stock exclusion is already being developed as part of the Government's freshwater reforms. A proposal is being developed to create a national regulation excluding dairy cattle (on milking platforms) and pigs from water bodies by 1 July 2017, and other stock types at later dates.
<p>Regulation making powers prescribing requirements that apply to the use of models under the RMA.</p>	<p>Section 360(1)(hp)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We supported in principle • We noted the lack of detail about what might be included in proposed regs • Keep watching brief on any reg development
<p>Regulation making powers to prohibit or remove rules that duplicate, overlap with, or deal with subject matter already included in other legislation (other than in relation to genetically modified organisms).</p>	<p>Section 360</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We supported this change • Keep watching brief on any reg development

<p>Councils are required to fix charges for certain activities under section 36 of the RMA (a new section 36AAB(4) has been inserted by the Amendment Act requiring councils to publish on a publicly accessible website an up-to-date list of charges).</p> <p>New regulation making powers allow the government to create a schedule of activities that councils must fix charges for, to require councils to fix charges for payment of hearings commissioners, and to fix in advance the overall charge payable by an applicant for the hearing of a resource consent application or plan change.</p> <p>Changes have been made to provisions regarding the criteria for fixing administrative charges. A new section 36AAB provides that where a charge under section 36 is payable (subject to some exceptions) that the local authority need not perform the action to which the charge relates until the charge has been paid in full.</p>	<p>Section 360F¹</p> <p>Amendments to section 36 and new sections 36AAA and 36AAB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did not comment on changes to s26AAB(4) (publishing fixed charges) • We raised some issues associated with regulations setting criteria for fixing charges, and fixing using a special consultative procedure (as is the status quo). • Action required to ensure all fixed charges under s36 are on-line and up-to-date • Action required to fix charges for notices issued under the new provisions in relation to exemptions for marginal or temporary non-compliances • Action required to fix charges for the costs of a requested independent commissioner as per s357AB and 357CA (unsure if this is mandatory as MfE guidance says Councils 'are able' to fix). • Keep watching brief on any reg development • We supported the change where local authorities need not perform the action to which a charge under s36 relates until the charge has been paid to it in full. <p>Further info from guidance material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The regulations cannot fix the actual charge amounts, which will be left to councils. • If regulations are made requiring councils to fix charges under section 36(1) there is no ability for councils to recover additional costs under section 36(5).
<p>New regulation making powers to prescribe additional activities or classes of activities subject to the fast track process, the methods to identify those activities or classes of activities and the information required as part of the fast track consent process.</p>	<p>Section 360G2²</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This change came out of Select Committee. • Keep watching brief on any reg development <p>Further info from guidance material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If regulations are not made that specify the information requirements for fast-track applications, then the information requirements set out in Schedule 4 apply.
<p>New regulation making powers to prescribe particular activities or classes of activities as being precluded from public notification, precluded from limited notification, and having restrictions on who can be considered affected for the purpose of limited notification or the methods or criteria that a consent authority must use.</p>	<p>Section 360H3³</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did not support many of the changes associated with public notification. • Keep watching brief on any reg development • See links to Consenting Processes below

4. IWI PARTICIPATION ARRANGEMENTS

Changes Introduced by the Amendment Act	Section	Comment/ Actions
<p>Councils must engage with iwi authorities on draft plans and policy statements prior to notification by providing a copy of any draft policy statement or plan, allowing adequate time and opportunity for those iwi authorities to consider the draft and provide advice to the council, and having particular regard to any advice received from those iwi authorities before notifying the draft document. This does not apply to collaborative or streamlined planning processes.</p>	<p>Clause 4A of Schedule 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We supported this change. • Action through building into plan/strategy development processes. • Unclear on whether this is already BAU.
<p>Any evaluation reports about proposed policy statements, plans or plan changes (prepared under Schedule 1 using either the standard, streamlined or collaborative planning processes) must include summaries of all advice received from iwi authorities on the proposal and how the proposal responds to that advice, including any reference to any proposed provisions that are intended to give effect to the advice.</p>	<p>Section 32</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did not comment on this change • Action through building into s32 evaluation development process. • Unclear on whether this is already BAU.
<p>Councils are required, when appointing commissioners for plan or policy statement hearings to consult with tāngata whenua through relevant iwi authorities about whether it is appropriate to appoint a commissioner with an understanding of tikanga Maori and of the perspectives of local iwi and hapū. If considered appropriate, the Council must appoint at least one commissioner with such an understanding, in consultation with the relevant iwi authority. This does not apply to collaborative or streamlined planning processes.</p>	<p>Section 34A(1A)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We supported this change. • ECan sub noted that this is already normal practice.

¹ The requirement for councils to fix charges for notices issued under the new exemptions in section 87BA or 87BB will take place on 18 October 2017, in line with the other consenting change

² Comes into force 18 October 2017

³ Comes into force 18 October 2017

<p>Iwi authorities have the option to invite Councils to form a Mana Whakahono a Rohe. Upon receiving an invitation the relevant council must convene a hui or meeting. The purpose of the hui is to provide an opportunity to discuss and agree upon a process for negotiation of a Mana Whakahono a Rohe. Local authorities may also initiate the process.</p> <p>The Mana Whakahono a Rohe agreed upon must be recorded in writing, identify the participating authorities, and must set out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how an iwi authority will participate in plan making processes; • how the participating authorities will undertake consultation requirements; • how the participating authorities will work together to develop and agree on methods for monitoring under the RMA; • how the participating authorities will give effect to the requirements of any relevant iwi participation legislation, or any agreements associated with or entered into under that legislation; • a process for identifying and managing conflicts of interest; and • the dispute resolution process parties will use regarding the implementation of the Mana Whakahono a Rohe. <p>A proposed policy statement or plan must be prepared in accordance with any applicable Mana Whakahono a Rohe</p>	<p>Sections 58L to 58U</p> <p>Clause 1A Schedule 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We noted the proposed new system could potentially be constraining of our established working relationships with Ngāi Tahu. • ECan sub noted that we already have agreements under Tuia for protocols for Ngāi Tahu input into planning processes. • Unsure on whether Ngāi Tahu would seek to form a Mana Whakahono a Rohe given existing agreements. • Note that, if they wish, iwi and council can maintain any existing arrangements they have, or use existing arrangements or part of that arrangement as the basis of a Mana Whakahono a Rohe, if they both agree. • Could discuss with Ngāi Tahu on how they view the Mana Whakahono a Rohe provisions- is it more attractive than existing arrangements, and could they see it being used in future plan making processes?
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5. CONSENTING PROCESSES

Changes Introduced by the Amendment Act	Section	Comment/ Actions
<p>The ability to strike-out a submission has been extended to include a submission that contains offensive language or is supported only by evidence that purports to be independent expert evidence, but has been prepared by a person who is not an expert.</p>	<p>Section 41D</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This change came out of Select Committee. • Minor implications for ECan • Action through building into consent guidance and processes.
<p>Certain activities may be exempt from requiring a resource consent if the activity only involves a "marginal or temporary" rule breach. A number of criteria for deciding whether to provide an exemption have been included. The exemption is made by way of a notice issued by the local authority. A consent authority can issue a notice after receiving an application for resource consent or on its own initiative. Notices are deemed to lapse after 5 years. Section 36 has been amended to enable councils to fix charges for notices issued under the new provisions in relation to minor non-compliances.</p>	<p>Section 87BB and section 36⁴</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We noted advantages of proposal but also potential risks. • We sought that MfE establish a collaborative working group to establish implementation guidance. • We should pressure MfE to establish a working group to develop guidance on the implementation of s87BB. • Action through building into consent guidance and processes and have ready for October. <p>Further info from guidance material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The criteria for deciding whether to provide an exemption, as set out in section 87BB, includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the activity would be a permitted activity except for a marginal or temporary non-compliance with the requirements, conditions and permissions specified in the RMA, regulations (including any national environmental standard) or any plan or proposed plan for that area ○ any adverse environmental effects of the activity are no different in character, intensity or scale than they would be in the absence of the marginal or temporary non-compliance ○ any adverse effects of the activity on a person are less than minor. • If these criteria are met, the consent authority has the discretion to provide written notice to the person that their activity is permitted. • It is intended that this process will be used as a discretionary tool for councils, for example, at the building consent stage when marginal or temporary planning infringements are identified, or when a resource consent application is received and the council determines that the activity meet the requirements of 87BB.

⁴ Comes into force 18 October 2017

<p>A fast track consent process has been introduced whereby certain resource consent applications must be processed within 10 days. The fast track process applies to resource consent applications that are district land use activities with controlled activity status, if an electronic address for service has been provided.</p> <p>However, as set out above new regulation making powers also provide for additional activities or classes of activities to be subject to the fast track process. The regulations may also prescribe the methods to identify those activities or classes of activities and the information required as part of the fast track consent process.</p> <p>While the fast track process is not of immediate relevance to regional councils, if regulations are introduced, then it could have a range of ramifications for the processing of consents by regional councils.</p>	<p>Section 87AAC provides for the meaning of a fast track application. Consequential changes to section 115 and 95 regarding timeframes.⁵</p> <p>Section 360F⁶</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We supported in principle. • Keep watching brief on any reg development • The fact track process does not apply to consents processed by regional councils. However this could change through new regulations.
<p>The processes for Councils to determine whether to publicly notify or give limited notification of applications for resource consent have been amended. Specifically, the general discretion for councils to publicly notify a resource consent application has been removed, new preclusions on public and limited notification have been introduced, notably in relation to housing-related resource consents, and a 10 working day timeframe has been introduced for notification decisions on fast track applications.</p> <p>As set out above, new regulation making powers enable Councils to prescribe particular activities as being precluded from public notification, precluded from limited notification, and having restrictions on who can be considered affected for the purpose of limited notification.</p>	<p>Sections 95 to 95B RMA replaced⁷ and new Section 360G⁸</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did not support many of the changes associated with public notification. • Appear to be considerable changes to consent notification provisions, all of which come into force October 2017 • Action through building into consent guidance and processes and have ready for October
<p>Councils are now required to have regard to any measure proposed or agreed by an applicant or requiring authority to ensure positive effects on the environment that offset or compensate for any adverse effects on the environment.</p>	<p>Section 104(1)(ab)⁹</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We supported this change • Action through building into consent guidance and processes and have ready for October
<p>New requirements for conditions of resource consents prescribe the circumstances when consent conditions may be imposed and what those conditions must be directly connected to.</p>	<p>Section 108AA¹⁰</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We supported this change • Action through building into consent guidance and processes and have ready for October <p>Further info from guidance material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conditions can only be imposed on a consent if at least one of the following is satisfied: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the applicant agrees to the condition; ○ the condition is directly connected to an adverse effect of the activity on the environment; ○ the condition is directly connected to an applicable district rule, regional rule, or national environmental standard; or ○ the condition relates to administrative matters that are essential for the efficient implementation of the relevant resource consent.

⁵ Comes into force 18 October 2017.

⁶ Comes into force 18 October 2017.

⁷ Comes into force 18 October 2017

⁸ Comes into force 18 October 2017

⁹ Comes into force 18 October 2017

¹⁰ Comes into force 18 October 2017

<p>The ability to appeal decisions to the Environment Court on certain types of activities has been removed (except if those activities have non-complying activity status). The types of activities are boundary activities (defined in section 87AAB), subdivision consents, and residential activities (defined in section 95A(6)). The changes are of most relevance to district councils, but the definition of residential activities includes consents required under regional plans.</p> <p>Section 120 has also been amended to clarify that a submitter on a resource consent application, or for a change of consent conditions, or on a review of consent conditions can only appeal to the Environment Court if the appeal is related to a matter raised in their submission (scope) and their submission, or the part to which the appeal relates, has not been struck out under section 41D of the RMA. This largely reflects the previous case law, although some decisions had indicated an appeal could be brought in relation to a matter not raised in a submission.</p>	<p>Amendments to section 120¹¹</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We supported this change • No action required
<p>Resource consent applicants or consent holders can now request that an objection against a decision be heard by an independent commissioner, if that objection relates to a decision on an application or review described in section 357A(1)(f) or (g). The discretion for Councils to appoint independent commissioners to hear any other type of objection under the RMA remains. Commissioners can commission reports and make requests that the consent authority or person making the objection provide further information under a new section 357CA. Consequential amendments to section 36 have also been made</p>	<p>Sections 357AB and 357CA and section 36¹²</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did not comment on this change • Action required to fix fees (see fixed fees section earlier) • No further action <p>Further info from guidance material</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If an applicant requests their objection be considered by an independent hearings commissioner, the council must use one or more independent commissioners, who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ cannot be members of the consent authority ○ must be accredited, unless there are exceptional circumstances. • Section 357CA enables commissioners to call for further evidence if that will help them make a decision on an objection. To do so, commissioners can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ require the person or body who made the objection to provide further information ○ require the consent authority to provide further information ○ commission a report on any matter raised in the objection. • Councils are able to fix fees under section 36 for the costs of the independent commissioner, payable by the applicant.

¹¹ Comes into force 18 October 2017

¹² Comes into force 18 October 2017

<p>From 18 April 2022, councils can no longer require financial contribution (of money or land) as a resource consent condition. This change will not retrospectively remove any financial contribution conditions placed on resource consents. Councils do not need to use the Schedule 1 process to remove provisions for requiring and calculating financial contributions from their RMA documents. Councils only need to give public notice of the change, as soon as practicable after that change is made.¹³</p>	<p>Sections 108(2)(a), (9) and (10), 108AA(5), 110 and 111 will be repealed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We supported in principle • Noted concerns that the LGA might not allow for allow for the adoption of a development contributions policy by regional councils • Action required to test and discuss with DIA whether LGA provisions allow for development contributions • Note the 2022 deadline <p>Further info from guidance material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councils do not need to use a RMA Schedule 1 process to remove provisions for requiring and calculating financial contributions from their RMA documents. Instead councils only need to give public notice of the change, as soon as practicable after making the change. • Councils can still include financial contribution resource consent conditions as long as the provisions allowing them are in the plan, up to 18 April 2022. Once issued, the financial contribution conditions in resource consents remain valid even after the plan provisions are removed. <p>Alternatives to financial contributions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When reviewing plans to remove financial contributions, councils may want to consider how the purposes for financial contributions that were specified in their plans can be achieved through other methods, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ development contributions under the LGA, including developer agreements under sections 207A–F of that Act ○ resource consent conditions to require developers to construct infrastructure directly related to the development, or to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse environmental effects ○ resource consent conditions the applicant proposes to generate positive environmental effects that mitigate or offset adverse environmental effects from the activity ○ council construction of infrastructure and/or mitigation works, with targeted rates on the users of the new development to repay the investment ○ alternative funding sources, such as the Housing Infrastructure Fund (for applicable councils).
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6. PLANNING PROCESSES

Changes Introduced by the Amendment Act	Section	Comment/ Actions
<i>Changes to the planning process</i>		
<p>There is a new requirement for councils to apply to the Minister for the Environment to extend the two year timeframe for processing proposed policy statements, plans and plan changes, if they are unlikely to meet that timeframe. This amendment overrides councils' powers under section 37 of the RMA to extend the two year timeframe.</p>	<p>Clause 10A of Schedule 1¹⁴</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did not comment on this change • Unsure on actions/implications- Have we overshot the two year period in the past? Is this foreseeable in the future? <p>Further info from guidance material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applies to proposed policy statements, plans and plan changes that are notified after that 18 October 2017.
<p>The weighting of operative and proposed regional policy statements when making decisions on proposed combined plans has been amended. Councils may now give effect to the proposed RPS in the combined document and only have regard to the previous operative regional policy statement.</p>	<p>Section 80(6B)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did not comment on this change • Unsure on actions/implications
<i>Limited notification</i>		
<p>Councils have the option to limit notification of a proposed policy statement change or variation, a proposed plan change or variation, and private plan change. Limited notification is only appropriate where all persons directly affected by the proposed change are identified and councils will need to assess who is directly affected by a proposed plan change on a case by</p>	<p>Clause 5A of Schedule 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did not comment on this change • Action through building into plan/strategy change and variation processes and guidance. <p>Further info from guidance material:</p>

¹³ Comes into force 18 April 2022.

¹⁴ Comes into force 18 October 2017.

<p>case basis. Councils still retain the discretion to publicly notify a plan change if it's considered appropriate to do so.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A limited notified plan change follows the standard Schedule 1 Part 1 process, but with some changes, as outlined below. • The council must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ serve notice of the proposed plan change on all directly affected persons ○ provide copies of the proposed plan change to iwi authorities of the area and relevant central and local government agencies ○ make available a copy of the plan change at the central public library of the relevant district/region, and any other place considered appropriate. Free access to an online version at the library may be sufficient to meet this requirement. • The closing date for submissions must be at least 20 working days after limited notification. A council can close the submission period early if it receives submissions, or written notices saying a submission won't be made, from all of the directly affected people that were notified.
<p>Persons able to make submissions and further submissions in cases where limited notification is given are limited to those originally notified of the proposed planning document and notice of the summary of decisions requested only needs to be given to those originally notified.</p>	<p>Clauses 6A, 7(3) and 8(1A)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did not comment on this change. • Action through building into plan/strategy change and variation processes and guidance.
<p><i>Collaborative planning process</i></p>		
<p>Part 4 of Schedule 1 to the RMA has been inserted to provide councils with the option of adopting a collaborative planning process. Councils must consider a range of matters in deciding whether to use a collaborative planning process.</p>	<p>Clause 37 of Schedule 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We supported the proposal to establish a new option for a collaborative planning process, although recommended some changes. • We did not comment on a number of specific changes within this. • Some ECan recommendations weren't adopted. At the time WW noted that this may impact on whether zone committees can be considered within the ambit of the collaborative planning process (although the Act will not prevent the ongoing use of the Zone Committees). • Unsure how important it is to be considered a collaborative group, and what this means for existing approaches in Canterbury e.g. Te Waihora, water zones etc. The reduced appeal provisions appear to be the main attraction along with a legislated requirement for Council to draft a proposed policy statement or plan which must 'give effect to the consensus recommendations'. Unsure how this aligns with ECan's existing arrangements. • There is a transitional arrangement for existing collaborative processes (Clause 14 of Schedule 12). This can be used where a local authority has commenced preparing, changing, or reviewing a policy statement or plan; but has not publicly notified the proposed policy statement or plan or change under Part 1 of this schedule.
<p>If a council decides to use the process it must give public notice of its decision to use a collaborative planning process.</p>	<p>Clause 38 of Schedule 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did not comment on this specific change • Assume we are comfortable with this
<p>The council must appoint a collaborative group. The criteria for appointing the group are set out in clause 40. In the case of a regional policy statement or regional plans, the persons appointed to the collaborative group must include persons to represent the territorial authorities in the relevant area.</p>	<p>Clauses 39 and 40 of Schedule 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See commentary above
<p>The council is required to set terms of reference for the collaborative group, in consultation with the group.</p>	<p>Clause 41 of Schedule 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did not comment on this specific change • Assume we are comfortable with this
<p>The council is required to give public notice, outlining the appointments to the group and where the terms of reference can be viewed.</p>	<p>Clause 42 of Schedule 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did not comment on this specific change • Assume we are comfortable with this
<p>The collaborative group is required to provide the council with a consensus report in accordance with the terms of reference. The report must include recommendations that the group reached consensus on and reasons why, a summary of the costs and benefits identified, any alternatives considered, a record of matters on which the group did not reach consensus, and a summary of how the group obtained and considered the views of the community in coming to its recommendations.</p>	<p>Clause 43 of Schedule 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did not comment on this specific change • Assume we are comfortable with this.
<p>The council is required to give public notice of where the collaborative group report can be viewed.</p>	<p>Clause 44 of Schedule 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did not comment on this specific change • Assume we are comfortable with this.

The council must then produce a draft proposed policy statement or plan which must "give effect to the consensus recommendations of the collaborative group". The council can draft its own provisions on parts of the plan or policy statement where the group has not reached consensus, provided those matters are within the terms of reference of the collaborative group.	Clause 45 of Schedule 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We did not comment on this specific change Assume we are comfortable with this.
Advice must be sought from iwi authorities on the draft.	Clause 46 of Schedule 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We did not comment on this specific change Assume we are comfortable with this.
Councils must also prepare and consider a section 32 evaluation report on the proposal.	Clause 47 of Schedule 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We did not comment on this specific change Assume we are comfortable with this.
Councils are required to publicly notify the planning instrument and call for submissions.	Clauses 48 and 49 of Schedule 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We did not comment on this specific change Assume we are comfortable with this.
Once submissions are received and analysed, councils must prepare a report and call for further submissions. Within 3 months after further submissions have closed, councils are required to prepare a report on whether the decision requested is consistent with the consensus recommendations and provide a copy of that report to the collaborative group and iwi authorities for comment.	Clause 50 of Schedule 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We did not comment on this specific change Assume we are comfortable with this.
Councils are required to establish a review panel in accordance with certain criteria.	Clauses 63 and 64 of Schedule 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We did not comment on this specific change Assume we are comfortable with this.
The review panel must hold a hearing and has the ability to require mediation and allow cross-examination.	Clauses 51, 66-73 of Schedule 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We did not comment on this specific change Assume we are comfortable with this.
Councils must decide whether to accept or reject the review panel's recommendations and then notify the amended proposed policy statement or plan.	Clauses 54 and 56 of Schedule 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We did not comment on this specific change Assume we are comfortable with this.
Decisions may be appealed to the Environment Court by way of rehearing on parts of the proposed policy statement or plan that are not based on a consensus recommendation from the collaborative group, that are changes recommended by the review panel that were opposed by the collaborative group, or in certain other circumstances in the case of district plans (relating to notices of requirement and heritage orders).	Clause 59 of Schedule 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We supported this proposal.
Decisions may also be appealed to the Environment Court on points of law where there is no ability to appeal for a rehearing.	Clause 60 of Schedule 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We recommended that appeals be made directly to the High Court rather than via the Environment Court. This was not adopted. No action required.
<i>Streamlined planning process</i>		
Part 5 of Schedule 1 to the RMA provides for a new streamlined planning process which enables councils to make a request to the Minister to use a streamlined planning process proportional to the issues being addressed, rather than the standard planning process. The requirements for that request and how the Minister will consider the request are set out in part 5.	Clauses 75 and 76 of Schedule 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We supported the proposals to establish a new option for a streamlined planning process. We did not comment on a number of specific changes within this. <p>Further info from guidance material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Before a council can make a request for a streamlined planning process, it must be satisfied that the proposed policy statement, plan, change or variation meets at least one of a set of entry criteria. These criteria are that the proposed policy statement, plan, change or variation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> will implement national direction is urgent as a matter of public policy is required to meet a significant community need deals with an unintended consequence of a policy statement or plan will combine several policy statements or plans requires an expeditious process for a reason comparable to those listed above.
The Minister's direction (a written instruction that a streamlined planning process applies) must specify procedural steps and timeframes to be followed by the relevant council. The process	Clauses 78 and 81 of Schedule 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We did not comment on this specific change Assume we are comfortable with this.

must provide for written submissions and it may (but does not have to) provide for a hearing. If a hearing is held, cross examination is permitted. The council can request an extension of any timeframes set in the direction.		
Once the council has undertaken the planning process prescribed by the direction, they must submit the proposed policy statement, plan, change or variation to the Minister for approval, along with a summary report of written submissions received, a report showing how submissions have been considered and any modifications made as a result, a section 32 or 32AA report, a summary document regarding the consideration of the statement of expectations, a summary document showing how the proposed policy statement, plan, change or variation complies with the RMA, national directions and any regulations, and any other information required by the direction.	Clause 83 of Schedule 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We did not comment on this specific change Assume we are comfortable with this.
The Minister makes the decision whether to approve the proposed policy statement, plan, change or variation, or to refer it back to the council for reconsideration, or to decline it altogether.	Clause 84 of Schedule 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We did not comment on this specific change Assume we are comfortable with this.
The council must give public notice of the Minister's decision to approve a proposed policy statement, plan, change or variation which will then become operative in accordance with clause 20 of Schedule 1.	Clause 90 of Schedule 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We did not comment on this specific change Assume we are comfortable with this.
There is no ability to appeal provisions made through the streamlined planning process (except for designations and notices of requirement). The only avenue of appeal is judicial review proceedings in the High Court.	Clause 91 to 94 of Schedule 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We did not comment on this specific change Assume we are comfortable with this.

7. CHANGES TO COURT PROCESSES

Changes introduced by the Amendment Act	Section	Comment/ Actions
The Environment Court may require people with authority to make decisions to attend judicial conferences and mediations. Regional councils should take this into account when deciding who to delegate authority to.	Section 268A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We did not comment on this section Assume we are comfortable with this.
Other changes have also been made to Environment Court processes to allow more functions to be delegated to commissioners or judges sitting alone and to allow regulations to set criteria for the registrar of the Environment Court to waive, reduce or postpone fees.	Sections 279(5), 280(1AA) and 281A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We did not comment on this section Assume we are comfortable with this.
The Environment Court may direct councils to acquire land under section 85 of the RMA if the landowner and council agree.	Section 85	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We did not comment on this section Assume we are comfortable with this.

8. PROCESS CHANGES AND OTHER TECHNICAL CHANGES

Changes introduced by the Amendment Act	Section	Comment/ Actions
Individuals and corporates taking drinking water for stock are to be treated equally and so the term "individual" has been replaced with "person" to clarify that the allocation of drinking water for stock applies to both "natural" and "non-natural" persons.	Section 14(3)(b)(ii)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We noted that the change will address equity concerns, but also recommended that the RMA be amended to focus on the adverse effect of water takes through including a directive to ensure that all relevant council plans include a permitted activity for acceptable water takes, where these do not already exist in the plans. This was not adopted. Action new use of 'person' through consent and plan processes. We recommended that MfE and MPI establish a collaborative process to develop appropriate, consistent provisions in council plans for water takes and to set criteria for determining adverse effects on the environment from water takes.

<p>Schedule 3 regarding water quality classes and standards used for setting rules in regional plans no longer applies to fresh water. The standards are still available for use as consent conditions if a council considers them appropriate.</p>	<p>Section 69</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We did not comment on this section Assume we are comfortable with this. <p>Further info from guidance material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any existing use of these standards in plans, consent conditions and in water conservation orders can continue. This amendment does not have any additional impact on RC processes to review freshwater plans using the national objectives framework as required by the NPS-FM.
<p>There are new provisions regarding electronic publication of public notices.</p>	<p>Section 2AB, meaning of public notice (this change comes into force on 18 October 2017)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We supported these provisions. Action through all public notice processes. <p>Further info from guidance material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This requires: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> public notices to be published (along with all the relevant information) on a freely accessible internet site instead of a newspaper a short summary of the online notice to be published in at least one newspaper circulated in the whole area affected by the topic of the notice, along with a web address directing readers to the full notice. electronic delivery is now the default method of service for RMA processes. There is no minimum length of time that public notices must remain on a website. A general guideline is that notices should be available online for at least the entire period that the notice is relevant to the public (for example, the submission period it relates to). The requirement for decision-makers to serve public notices to particular people has not changed. The changes do not apply to public notices regarding proposals for national direction under the RMA, or public notices under other Acts, which have separate notification requirements.
<p>Councils must monitor the efficiency and effectiveness of their processes</p>	<p>Section 35(2)(ca)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We noted the double up with existing requirements under the NMS, links to SOE, and whether regs (rather than NES) would be best mechanism to set requirements for models. Keep watching brief on any reg development regarding requirements that apply to monitoring and/or the use of models. From sub, assume we already meet requirements through existing monitoring. <p>Further info from guidance material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Efficiency and effectiveness of processes includes, but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> timeliness cost customer satisfaction¹ other matters that the council considers appropriate. Monitoring must be undertaken in accordance with any procedures set in regulations under section 360(1)(hk)(i).

9. CHANGES TO OTHER LEGISLATION

The Amendment Act also introduced changes to a range of other legislation that may be of relevance to regional councils. Changes include in relation to joint processes under the RMA and the Reserves Act 1977; changes to land acquisition under the Public Works Act 1981; changes to the Conservation Act 1987 to align concession and access arrangement application processes with those processes in the RMA; and changes to the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011, regarding regional council powers in relation to structures in the common marine and coastal area. The Amendment Act also makes changes to the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects) Act 2012.

Canterbury Policy Forum

Item 9

Date: 7 July 2017

Presented by: Anna Puentener

Regional submissions 2017

Purpose

The table below lists central government legislative changes identified by the Canterbury Policy Forum that may require a regional response in 2017. The table has been updated for review as a standing item for the Policy Forum. The agreed process for regional submissions is attached as Appendix A.

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Policy Forum:

- 1 **agree** which legislation and national policy instruments require a regional submission in 2017
- 2 **agree** which councils and/or working groups will lead development of regional submissions
- 3 **note** we are working to broaden the focus of this list beyond the RMA/environmental arena.

Topic	Regional sub?	Timing and status	Lead Council / working group
Air (amendments to the NES)	Y	July – August 2017	ECan
Dam safety	Y	August-Sept 2017	ECan
National Planning Standards	?	Submissions due 31 July 2017	Planning Managers Group (tbc)
Biodiversity NPS	Y	Collaborative working group discussions 2017-18. NPS late 2018	ECan
Natural hazards	Y	NPS delivery date expected to be in early 2018	Regional working group
Drinking water inquiry and NES	Y	Stage 2 report due 8 Dec 2017	Canterbury Drinking Water Reference Group

Appendix A: One strong voice for Canterbury

1. Some reasons for establishing the Canterbury Policy Forum in 2013 were to:
 - identify issues affecting Canterbury and investigate whether they can benefit from collaboration and/or joint advocacy
 - reduce duplication of policy effort and, as a result, work more effectively and efficiently together
 - provide support to smaller councils when assessing national and regional policy initiatives.

2. Member councils agree that an issue impacts significantly on Canterbury on a regional or sub-regional basis, EITHER:
 - through the Mayoral Forum
 - through horizon scanning of what's coming at us – as a standing item on the Policy Forum agenda, AND/OR
 - by a member council raising it with other councils and the relevant Forum Chair by email and/or a teleconference call, AND/OR
 - by the Secretariat alerting the relevant Forum Chair, in response to an invitation or opportunity to submit on an issue.

3. The relevant Forum or its Chair identifies and commissions a lead council or councils to prepare a draft joint submission in consultation with member councils and with the support of, and in consultation with, technical working groups as appropriate. The lead council is to reach agreement with other councils on the joint submission.

4. Our Mayors are committed to 'standing together for Canterbury' to secure the best possible outcomes for our region and its communities. It is accepted and to be expected, however, that Mayors will not be of a single mind on every issue, and that joint submissions may need to express majority/minority views and do not require unanimity. Mayors and member councils reserve the right to make individual submissions.

5. Regional submissions as agreed are normally signed by the Chair of the Mayoral Forum and/or the lead Mayor of relevant Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy work programmes. Wherever possible, Mayors request a joint appearance (in person or by teleconference) before select committees and government inquiries.

6. The Secretariat's role is to support process and facilitate decision making by:
 - circulating a final draft to all Mayors, copied to all Chief Executives, for prior approval by 'reply all'
 - working with the lead council/s to prepare an agreed final version, formatted onto Mayoral Forum letterhead, for signature by the relevant Forum chair
 - emailing the submission to the recipient/s, or lodging it on the Parliament website for Select Committee submissions
 - circulating a copy of the final, signed letter or submission to all members of the Forum
 - saving documents into the Regional Council's document management system, in order to comply with requirements of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the Public Records Act 2005.

Canterbury Policy Forum

Item 10

Date: 7 July 2017

Presented by: Nicole Randall

Improving the standard of advice, policies and strategies

Purpose

This paper offers Canterbury Policy Forum organisations access to resources to improve the standard of advice, policies and strategies developed for local government decision-makers.

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Policy Forum:

- 1 **note** the Christchurch City Council's Centre of Excellence for Quality Advice and Policy Development offers Forum members:
 - attendance at professional development events
 - copies of best practice reports, policies and strategies
 - guidance material including standards for reports, policies and strategies.
- 2 **note** that the Christchurch City Council will approach Chief Executives to establish a cross-agency group to share best practice for advice, policies and strategies.

Background

- 1 Christchurch City Council established a Centre of Excellence for Quality Advice and Policy Development in October 2016. The Centre aims to improve the standards of advice, policies and strategies developed for elected member and/or senior management approval.
- 2 The Centre offers individual coaching to Council staff and team coaching, and professional development through free or low cost workshops. Christchurch City Council and Waimakariri District Council staff have attended the three workshops held to date:
 - a. Challenges of Policy Development at Local Government
 - b. Strategic Thinking
 - c. Who are our clients and what do they need from us?
- 3 The Centre is developing written material to assist writers, peer reviewers and authorisers of documents. This material draws on several sources including the quality improvement programme at Environment Canterbury.

Next Steps

- 4 The Christchurch City Council will approach Chief Executives and Policy Forum members to offer attendance at workshops and the sharing of materials. This approach will propose the establishment of a cross-agency group to share best practice.

Canterbury Policy Forum

Item 11

Date: 7 July 2017

Presented by: Bill Bayfield

Regional transport update

Purpose

- 1 To update the Canterbury Policy Forum on the work undertaken to develop a regional transport work programme for the Canterbury Regional Transport Committee (RTC).

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Policy Forum:

- 1 **note** the work that has been undertaken to develop a regional transport work programme for the RTC that reflects its statutory function and expanded strategic function to implement the Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy's transport workstream
- 2 **note** the priority initiatives of the regional transport work programme that have been agreed in principle to be the focus of the RTC in the short term
- 3 **note** that Environment Canterbury is supporting the South Island Regional Transport Committee Chairs Forum to develop a South Island-wide programme, with a similar focus on improving resilience, enabling freight growth, and supporting visitor retention and regional distribution.

Context

Background

- 2 At their meeting on 24 February 2017, the RTC agreed to work alongside Mayor Winton Dalley of Hurunui District Council to implement the transport workstream of the Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy (CREDS), which aimed to enable integrated transport planning and infrastructure investment in Canterbury.
- 3 A prioritised strategic work programme is required to progress the CREDS transport workstream while continuing to meet the RTC's statutory obligations.

CREDS transport workstream

- 4 Canterbury Mayors are united in advocating for an integrated, multi-modal transport network (road, rail, air and coastal shipping) that is more resilient to disasters and better able to serve our growing tourism and export industries. Such a transport network would

better ensure the efficient movement of freight within Canterbury and the South Island, between the North and South Islands, and to our various international markets.

5 The objective of the transport workstream in CREDS 2017 is as follows:

Integrated transport planning across modes (air, rail, shipping and road transport) that:

- *prioritises a resilient transport network*
- *enables the efficient movement of people and freight into, out of and within the Canterbury region*
- *improves social connectedness and wellbeing, supports visitor strategies and improves road safety.*

6 The milestones of the transport workstream in CREDS 2017 are as follows:

- *Work with sector partners to turn data into information to support transport planning and investment*
- *Work with the Ministry of Transport, the New Zealand Transport Agency and the sector steering group to develop resilient, multi-modal transport solutions for Canterbury and the South Island, including secondary roads and coastal shipping*
- *Encourage the RTC with its expanded mandate to develop a detailed work plan for multi-modal transport planning and investment, including a statutory review (2017) of the Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP)*
- *With the South Island RTC Chairs Group, advocate for a stronger central government focus on multi-modal transport strategy in the 2018 and 2021 Government Policy Statements on Land Transport.*

Regional transport work programme

Approach

7 The prerequisites for developing a regional transport work programme for the RTC include that it:

- meets the statutory obligations of the RTC
- supports the transition to integrated transport planning and investment
- builds on existing strategies, plans and work programmes.

8 Environment Canterbury has identified numerous existing transport strategies, plans and work programmes, and used these to develop an integrated strategy map (Figure 1) that outlines how these component parts work together to contribute to the CREDS transport outcomes and vision for Canterbury.

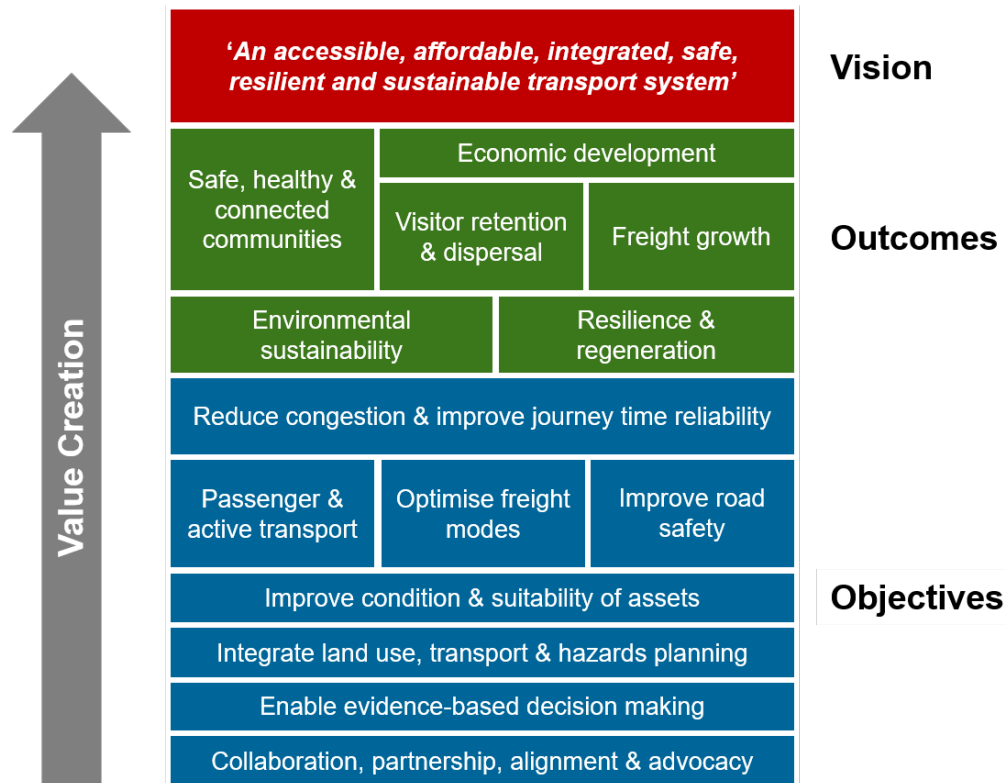


Figure 1: Regional Transport Strategy Map (read from bottom to top, with each objective and outcome building on those underneath)

- 9 A number of observations on the existing strategic framework for regional transport in Canterbury were identified from this exercise, including:
- **on-going efforts to grow collaboration and alignment** between transport-related committees and groups in Canterbury, the South Island and New Zealand
 - the need for better access to and use of **data and information** to enable more evidence-based decision making. As a first priority, a scorecard of key indicators is crucial to supporting the RTC to monitor progress towards the strategic outcomes
 - developing a better understanding of the potential for, and barriers to, **freight mode optimisation**
 - an integrated, one network approach is key to improving **public transport** patronage. Major and local road design, bus lanes, park and ride facilities, car parking availability and bus service design are all critical success factors.
 - the need for a joined up approach when considering **rail solutions** (freight growth, visitor journeys and commuter services) rather than considering each opportunity in isolation
 - the need for a greater focus on **resilience planning**, to better understand the key risks to the regional (and South Island) transport network, and associated implications for our communities, supply chains and Civil Defence planning
 - the likelihood of technology-driven disruption to the transport sector over the next decade, hence the importance of understanding the **drivers of change** and their implications for investment decisions, including the **risk of stranded assets**.

Draft work programme

- 10 The above work informed the work programme that was agreed to in principle by the RTC at its meeting on 26 May 2017, and will be further developed over the coming months. Given the need for adaptability, this is intended to be a living document.
- 11 The work programme incorporates initiatives related to both the statutory functions of the RTC and its expanded strategic function of enabling and supporting the transport components of CREDS.
- 12 The priority initiatives that have been agreed to in principle by the RTC are:
 1. Statutory review of the RLTP, due for completion in April 2018.
 2. Identify opportunities to align the Canterbury RTC and South Island RTC Chairs Group work programmes.
 3. Seek to improve access to additional data and information to support the RTC and Canterbury councils' transport investment decisions.
 4. Commission work to quantify the opportunity from freight mode optimisation.
 5. Work with NZTA to initiate a transport network resilience stocktake for Canterbury.
 6. Advocate to achieve the vision of the RLTP.
- 13 In order to help resource this work programme, the Canterbury Mayoral Forum has obtained funding from the Regional Growth Programme for an Environment Canterbury senior advisor to help accelerate progress on the priority initiatives for 2017/18.
- 14 In parallel, the Greater Christchurch Public Transport Joint Committee is developing a Public Transport Future Business Case. Consistent with the CREDS objectives, it will be critical that this work is integrated with broader transport network and land use planning activities across Greater Christchurch.
- 15 Environment Canterbury are also working with NZTA, the Ministry of Transport and other South Island RTCs to align regional work programmes with a South Island programme currently being developed by the South Island Regional Transport Committee Chairs forum.

RLTP review 2018 – strategic priorities

- 16 A statutory review of the RLTP has been ongoing since 2016. RTC have agreed in principle that the following five priority areas will be the basis of the updated RLTP:
 - Travel time reliability
 - Accessibility
 - Condition and suitability of assets
 - Safety
 - Resilience.
- 17 Figure 1 shows how these contribute to the objective and outcomes of the CREDS transport workstream. These priority areas will provide the basis for deciding which regional projects will be prioritised when seeking funding from NZTA's National Land Transport Fund.

Canterbury Policy Forum

Item 13

Date: 7 July 2017

Presented by: Anna Puentener

Update on freedom camping

Purpose

This paper informs the Canterbury Policy Forum about activity taking place nationally with regards to freedom camping.

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Policy Forum:

- 1 **note** action undertaken by the Responsible Camping Forum
- 2 **note** work proposed to investigate including freedom camping questions in residence surveys
- 3 **note** that with the refresh of the Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy, there is an opportunity to take a broader look at tourism issues generally.

Background

- 1 International visitor numbers have increased significantly in recent years, and are projected to continue to rise. Some visitors choose freedom camping as one of the options for their New Zealand experience. This has put pressure on existing facilities in many districts, especially those with a high number of visitor attractions and a small rating base, most notably in Canterbury, in Mackenzie District.
- 2 In 2016, the Canterbury Policy Forum agreed to the establishment of a regional working group to implement a joined-up approach to address freedom camping issues. Environment Canterbury was a member of this group which was supported by the secretariat. The group met several times and identified regional activity to address the issues.
- 3 While a consistent approach to freedom camping across the region would be ideal from a visitor perspective, Canterbury councils undertook a range of approaches to the problem. For example, Mackenzie District and Christchurch City introduced bylaws, while Ashburton and Waimakariri District Councils did not. Consequently, a region-wide regulatory approach was not adopted.
- 4 Regional Forum Secretariat (the secretariat) staff from Environment Canterbury and staff from several other Canterbury councils also attend the Responsible Camping Forum convened by the Tourism Industry Association. The national forum work programme duplicates much of what was proposed by the Canterbury working group. To avoid duplication, the Canterbury working group work programme was put on

hold, with the agreement that the secretariat (ECan staff) would keep Canterbury councils up to date with developments nationally.

National activity - summer 2016/2017

- 5 There is a range of activity undertaken by central government, the tourism industry and stakeholders such as the New Zealand Motor Caravan Association, to address issues arising from freedom camping.

Central government activity

- 6 Central Government's response to the issue is led by the Department of Internal Affairs. The Department's freedom camping work programme includes:
 - a guidance document for councils on freedom camping management
 - national freedom camping regulation geospatial dataset
 - communication messages targeting visitors (with Responsible Camping Forum)
- 7 The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) administer a \$12 million Regional Mid-sized Tourism Facilities Grants Fund announced in 2016. In the first round of funding, Canterbury received the largest amount out of all regions – total of around \$990,000 – almost a third of the total funding granted. In the most recent funding round, of the \$5 million available, four Canterbury councils received \$1.1 million for tourism infrastructure projects (Hurunui, Ashburton, Mackenzie and Waitaki). Projects included toilet facilities in tourist hotspots, and in areas where freedom camping has placed demand on existing facilities or where new facilities are required.
- 8 The Canterbury Mayoral Forum supported Canterbury applications, advocating for the region as a whole, and advising government that the \$12 million fund was insufficient to address the growing demand of tourism on small communities.
- 9 Budget 2017 saw the announcement of the Tourism Infrastructure Fund which will provide \$100 million over the next four years in partnership with local councils and other community organisations, for projects such as new carparks, toilets and freedom camping facilities.
- 10 In early June 2017, MBIE announced an amendment to the standard for self-contained vehicles. The amendment addresses issues around the definition of a self-contained vehicle, and helps ensure freedom campers do not affect the environment. Freedom campers will now be required to have a usable toilet within their motor caravan or caravan to gain certification under Standards New Zealand's amended self-contained standard. Certification is needed in order for freedom campers to camp in certain restricted areas provided for by councils and the Department of Conservation.

Responsible Camping Forum activity

- 11 The Responsible Camping Forum (RCF), convened by the Tourism Industry Association, includes representatives from central and local government and industry. Recent activity includes:

- a freedom camping social media campaign to promote good practice to freedom campers which had over 2.4 million views and 18,000 followers over the recent summer period. The campaign is likely to be repeated next summer.
 - a 'toolkit' for councils to use with communities and freedom campers to encourage consistent messaging across the country and assist councils to address media enquiries
 - a literature review to identify the gaps in knowledge and data about freedom camping and its impacts in New Zealand
 - reporting on a pilot project undertaken with Queenstown District Council and Jucy Campers to trial quick processing of infringements to prevent visitors leaving the country with outstanding fines.
- 12 The RCF work programme for 2017-18 focusses on communication, including promoting the new self-containment standard, repeating the social media campaign, recirculating communications messages ahead of summer, considering the need to update or refresh www.camping.org.nz and collecting good news stories on freedom camping to support media work heading into summer. An insight sub-group will continue to look at gaps in knowledge and data. The Forum agreed to be a strong voice on encouraging non-self-contained vehicles to go to designated areas. They note that councils need to be aware that enforcing restrictions, the blue sticker is not necessarily valid. The forum has made a short video to show the difference between self-contained and non-self-contained vehicles.
- 13 The Canterbury Forum secretariat has been tasked by the RCF to investigate the inclusion of questions about the impact and perception of freedom camping through resident surveys for councils to understand the degree of social licence to operate in their districts.

The bigger tourism picture

- 14 There is new activity in the tourism space that may require a regional position and response. These include the announcement of the Tourism Infrastructure Fund; other regions' activity (proposed or otherwise) around visitor levies; the need (or otherwise) for data about freedom camping in the region.
- 15 The refresh of the Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy provides an opportunity to develop a regional work programme around the Visitors workstream. The secretariat will prepare a paper for Chief Executives which brings these issues into one package for their consideration.

Date: 7 July 2017

Presented by: Bill Bayfield

Regional Pest Management Plan review update

Purpose

This paper provides a progress update on the Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) review.

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Policy Forum:

- 1 **note** the aims and the process of the Regional Pest Management Plan review

Background

- 1 Currently we are operating under the Regional Pest Management Strategy (2011-2015). The current review was initiated to update the document and prepare for future changes to national legislation. The current Strategy remains solely in effect until the proposed Plan becomes operative.
- 2 The RPMP is being reviewed to ensure that the right rules are in place to manage both existing legacy pests and new and emerging pests. The public submission period for the review ended 3 July 2017.
- 3 Discussions are ongoing with local communities, rūnanga, central government agencies, territorial authorities and industry to ensure that the proposed plan objectives will be achievable and reflect the aspirations of stakeholders and communities. Territorial authorities have been consulted during this process, both with targeted meetings and through the Planning Managers forum.
- 4 The RPMP must comply with requirements of the Biosecurity Act (1993), as well as the National Policy Direction for Pest Management (NPD) (2015). These are the relevant legislation for Biosecurity, rather than the Resource Management Act (RMA).

Smarter pest management for our region

- 5 The approach to the review has had four key objectives:
 - i) Increase the focus on emerging pests
We want the plan to enable greater gains to be made with new and emerging pests. We want to be more future-focused and do more surveillance to mitigate risks from emerging pests. It is more efficient and effective when pests are managed early before they become well established.
 - ii) Set the regulatory backstop for legacy pests
We've learnt through consultation so far that the community wants us to be more future focused, but also does not want a reduction of our regulatory approach for legacy pests (e.g. broom and gorse, rabbits, wallaby).

- iii) Apply focus and resources to where they are needed (site-led approach)
We are able to protect and reduce in the impacts from pests in a site or ecosystem-based area. This is an approach we have proposed to support biodiversity projects.
 - iv) Establish rules for pest spread that apply to all exacerbators (Good Neighbour Rules)
The NPD enables use of Good Neighbour Rules to bind the Crown to rules in the plan. This is the first time that regional councils have been able to bind the Crown to rules in pest management plans. However, there is set criteria for when and how these can be used in the plan.
- 6 The Proposal for the RPMP contains objectives for managing 49 organisms classified as pests. Only 8 pests have specific land occupier rules, however, all the pests are bound by provisions in the Biosecurity Act preventing sale, distribution and movement. There are no changes proposed for the roadside responsibility provisions impacting territorial authorities. All territorial authorities are bound by the pest management provisions for council held or occupied land.

Review Process

- 7 The RPMP is legislated under the Biosecurity Act, and while the process contains some similarities with the regional plan making process under the RMA, there are some significant differences. The process involves six key steps to “make” a regional pest management plan (See Table 1).
- 8 The hearing panel will consist of three Environment Canterbury Councillors (Crs Iaeen Cranwell, Tom Lambie, and Cynthia Roberts) and one external technical expert (yet to be selected).
- 9 The next critical step in the process is the summary of submissions and the hearings commencing (August/September 2017).

Table 1 Steps to “make” a regional pest management plan under the Biosecurity Act 1993 and Environment Canterbury’s approximate timeframes

Prior to public notification of the Proposal for the Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan		
S70, First step	Plan is initiated by a proposal (s70 prescribes the matters that must be set out in the Proposal)	25 May 2017
S71, Second step	Satisfaction on requirements (matters the Council must consider and be satisfied with when it approves the Proposal)	25 May 2017
S72, Third step	Council is satisfied with consultation, or requires further consultation to be undertaken (for example through public notification of the Proposal)	25 May 2017
Public notification of the proposal, receipt of submissions		3 June to 3 July 2017
Hearing of submissions		August/September 2017
After public notification and the hearing on the Proposal for the Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan		
S73, Fourth step	Approval of preparation of a plan and decision on the management agency (the hearing panel issues a minute)	October/November 2017
S74, Fifth step	Satisfaction on contents of the plan and requirements (included in hearing panel report to Council as per sixth step)	December 2017
S75, Sixth step	Hearing panel recommendations to Council on submissions and the plan. Council makes decision on plan.	December 2017

Canterbury Policy Forum

Item 15

Date: 7 July 2017

Presented by: Bill Bayfield

Braided rivers management update

Purpose

This paper provides an update on a project to progress towards the braided rivers Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) target.

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Policy Forum:

- 1 **note** the aims of the project and its contribution to the Canterbury Water Management Strategy.

Background

- 1 Maintaining the natural character of braided rivers is one of the ten target areas CWMS partners are committed to achieving.
- 2 Braided rivers are an important part of our region's landscape and provide a multitude of benefits across a wide variety of values, including biodiversity, recreation, economic and cultural. Braided rivers are dynamic, ever-changing environments. The natural character of braided rivers includes the ability of the river to move laterally across the landscape over time. This can be affected by development in and on the margins of the rivers.
- 3 An Environment Canterbury report from April 2015¹ suggests that a significant amount of formerly forested or undeveloped berm land has been converted to intensive agriculture. Between 1990 and 2012, along the 24 rivers studied, a total of 11,630 hectares of undeveloped or forested river margin was converted to intensive agricultural use.
- 4 Approximately 60% of this land was private freehold, 24% was public reserve land and the remaining 16% was unallocated or unoccupied Crown land.
- 5 Most importantly, this indicated that the natural character of braided rivers was being impacted and signalled a risk to Canterbury's progress towards the CWMS braided rivers target.
- 6 In response to this, the recently adopted Land and Water Regional Plan (through Plan Change 4) includes provisions to tighten controls on land use change along the margins and in the beds of braided rivers. This aims to protect the natural character of braided rivers by limiting development in and on the margins of the rivers.

¹ Environment Canterbury Technical Report, April 2015, 'Land use change on the margins of lowland Canterbury braided rivers, 1990-2012' R15/49

- 7 However, this also signals an opportunity for central and local government organisations to assess whether our land is managed in accordance with the values of the CWMS.

Collective Action

- 8 Environment Canterbury convened a group of key stakeholders in February 2017 to discuss the land use change issue and start to progress solutions. This included representatives from Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Land Information New Zealand, Department of Conservation, Forest & Bird, Fish & Game, Territorial Authorities, Environment Canterbury and Federated Farmers. This Group is known as the Braided Rivers Action Group (BRAG).
- 9 One of the focus areas of the group has been starting to build a picture of land tenure along the seven alpine-fed braided rivers; there is currently poor understanding of who owns parts of dry, inundated or former river beds for any particular river. Owners could include the Crown, local authorities and private land owners of properties adjoining a river (who can in some cases hold legal rights of ownership out to the middle of the bed).
- 10 In addition, each agency manages its land in accordance with relevant legislation and process, which varies greatly between central and local government.
- 11 This group continues to meet on a 4-6 weekly basis and has scoped a project consisting of a number of objectives to be achieved in 18-24 months:
 - a) Develop and agree terms of reference for the group;
 - b) Identify and complete ten quick wins;
 - c) Develop accurate baseline ownership, parcel and lease data sets for the seven large alpine-fed rivers;
 - d) Agree a funding and work programme including recommendations for improvement to public land management for all agencies;
 - e) Ensure the outcome achieves public and agency confidence – or at least clearer understanding of differences of opinion;
 - f) Consider implementing opportunities for land ownership / management changes amongst agencies.
- 12 Territorial Authorities generally manage a small number of land parcels in and around braided rivers, but are nevertheless a key component of the project from a strategic perspective.
- 13 Territorial Authority involvement has been provided through Ian Hyde, Planning Manager for Ashburton District Council. In lieu of a full endorsement from all Territorial Authorities, Ian has been acting in an observational and advisory role to the group.
- 14 Resourcing requirements include staff time to review and collate detailed information on ownership, parcel and lease data sets for public land. Environment Canterbury will collate and map this data.

Canterbury Policy Forum

Item 17

Date: 7 July 2017

Presented by: David Bromell, Secretariat

Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy

Purpose

This paper updates the Policy Forum on the launch of the *Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy 2017–19* (CREDS) and government funding for implementation of CREDS ‘accelerator projects’.

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Policy Forum:

- 1 **note** that the Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy has been refreshed and was launched by the Mayoral Forum on 23 June 2017
- 2 **note** that the Mayoral Forum has secured \$2.185m from the Regional Growth Programme and the Ministry of Social Development for 11 CREDS ‘accelerator projects’.

Launch of CREDS

- 1 The Mayoral Forum developed a refreshed CREDS for this local government term and launched it in Christchurch with Hons Simon Bridges and Nathan Guy on 23 June 2017.
- 2 Through consultation with the CREDS reference group, the Mayoral Forum re-affirmed the seven work programmes established in 2015. Lead Mayors are:

CLUSTER	WORK PROGRAMME	LED BY	
Infrastructure, regulation and investment	Integrated regional transport planning	Mayor Winton Dalley	Hurunui District
	Digital connectivity	Mayor Damon Odey	Timaru District
	Freshwater management and irrigation infrastructure	Councillor David Caygill	Environment Canterbury
Human and social capital	Education and training for a skilled workforce	Mayor David Ayers	Waimakariri District
	Newcomer and migrant settlement	Mayor Donna Favel Mayor Sam Broughton	Ashburton District Selwyn District
Working with industry	Value-added production	Mayor Craig Rowley	Waimate District
	Visitor strategy	Mayor Winston Gray Mayor Graham Smith Mayor Sam Broughton	Kaikōura District Mackenzie District Selwyn District

- 3 Four key objectives for 2017–19 are to:
 - position the Canterbury region for long-term, sustainable prosperity

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Next steps

- 13 The secretariat will work with Jim Palmer (Chair, Chief Executives Forum), lead councils and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment on funding agreements.
- 14 Recruiting a CREDS Implementation Manager is a high priority, as the appointee will be responsible for:
 - co-ordination and facilitation of detailed project planning and implementation across the CREDS work programmes and accelerator projects
 - reporting to the Mayoral Forum, Chief Executives Forum and central government.