



Taupō District Plan
REVIEW

Te Arotakenga i te Mahere ā-Rohe o Taupō

Section 32 Evaluation Report
Plan Change 38: Strategic Directions

October 2022

Table of Contents

1	Introduction	5
2	Glossary.....	5
3	Section 32 RMA.....	5
4	Statutory and Planning Context.....	8
4.1	Resource Management Act 1991	8
4.1.1	Ngati Tuwharetoa, Raukawa, and Te Arawa River Iwi Waikato River Act 2010	10
4.1.2	Ngāti Manawa Claims Settlement Act 2012 and the Ngāti Whare Claims Settlement Act 2012	11
4.2	The National Planning Standards	12
4.3	National Policy Statements	13
4.3.1	National Policy Statement Electricity Transmission 2008.....	13
4.3.2	National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation 2011	13
4.3.3	National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management 2014 and 2017 (NPSFM).....	13
4.3.4	The National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity 2016 (NPS-UDC)	13
4.4	13
4.5	National Environmental Standards.....	13
4.6	Regional Policy Statements and Plans.....	14
4.6.1	Waikato Regional Policy Statement (WRPS) and Regional Plan	15
4.6.2	Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement (BoPRPS) and Regional Plan.....	15
4.6.3	Hawkes Bay Regional Policy Statement (HBRSP) and Regional Plan	15
4.6.4	Horizons Regional Council One Plan	16
4.6.5	Regional Plans	17
4.7	District Policy/Strategies	17
4.7.1	Taupō District Growth Strategy.....	17
4.7.2	Taupō Rural Lifestyle Economic Assessment	19
4.7.3	Taupō Waters Management Plan	19
4.8	Settlement and Iwi legislation	20
4.8.1	Higher Order Documents	20
4.9	Iwi Management Plans	21
4.10	Joint Management Plans	22
4.10.1	Central North Island Forests Iwi Collective (CNI): He Mahere Pūtahitanga (2018)....	22
4.10.2	Individual Management Plans	22
5	Taupō District Operative Plan Approach	24

5.1	Phase 1 Evaluation Report.....	24
5.2	Taupō District Council Challenges Paper 2016/2017	25
5.3	District Plan Monitoring and Issues Identification Report	25
5.3.1	Issue 1 – Amenity and Character	25
5.3.2	Issue 2 – Tāngata Whenua Relationships.....	26
5.3.3	Issue 3 – Heritage.....	26
5.3.4	Issue 4 – The Natural Environment	26
5.3.5	Issue 5 – The Avoidance of Hazards	26
5.3.6	Issue 6 – Growth Management.....	27
5.3.7	Issue 7 – Business Activity.....	27
6	Engagement	28
6.1	General Stakeholder and Community Engagement.....	28
6.1.1	Register	28
6.1.2	Meetings.....	28
6.1.3	Drop-in sessions	28
6.1.4	Energy Sector	28
6.2	Iwi Engagement	29
6.2.1	Key milestones of engagement with iwi	30
6.3	Developing the Strategic Directions Chapter and community and iwi engagement	33
6.3.1	Issues and Options Paper – Strategic Directions.....	33
7	Governance.....	36
8	Scale and Significance	37
9	Evaluation of the Objectives	38
9.1	Evaluation of the Proposed Objectives against the Purpose of the Act:.....	38
9.1.1	Strategic Direction 1: Tāngata Whenua	38
	Assessment of Alternative Objectives	40
9.1.2	Strategic Direction Two: Freshwater Quality / te mana o Te Wai	40
	Assessment of Alternative Objectives	42
9.1.3	Strategic Direction Three: Urban Form and Development	43
	Assessment of Alternative Objectives	45
9.1.4	Strategic Direction Four: Climate Change	45
	Assessment of Alternative Objectives	47
9.1.5	Strategic Direction Five: Significant and Local Infrastructure	48
	Assessment of Alternative Objectives	49
9.1.6	Strategic Direction Six: Natural Environment Values.....	50
	Assessment of Alternative Objectives	51

10	Assessment of the Provisions	53
10.1	Identification of Provision Options.....	53
10.2	Preferred Provision Option:.....	54
10.2.1	Strategic Direction 1 Tāngata Whenua	54
10.2.2	Strategic Direction 2 Freshwater Quality / Te Mana o te wai	56
10.2.3	Strategic Direction 3 Urban Form and Development	58
10.2.4	Strategic Direction 4 Climate Change	62
10.2.5	Strategic Direction 5 Significant and Local Infrastructure	64
10.2.6	Strategic Direction 6 national Enviroment Values.....	66
11	CONCLUSION.....	68
Appendix 1.	Significance of the Effects.....	69
Appendix 2.	Assessment of Provisions Against Higher Order Documents	72
11.1	National Policy Statements	72
	National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020.....	72
11.1.1	National Policy Statement For Freshwater Management 2020	76
	National Policy Statement on Electricty Transmission 2008	77
	National Policy Statement for ReNewable Electricity generation 2011	79
11.2	Regional Policy Statement's	85
	Waikato Regional Policy Statement.....	85
	Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement	100
Appendix 3.	Other Higher Order Documents	117
11.3	Te Ture Whaimana - The Vision and Strategy	117
11.4	Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki - Pathways of the Rangitaiki River	118
Appendix 4.	Draft Provisions Consulted on in May – June 2022	119
Appendix 5.	Proposed Chapter 2 Strategic Directions for Notification	126

1 Introduction

This report is the summary evaluation report for Plan Change 38: Strategic Directions to the Taupō Operative District Plan ('ODP'). This evaluation report is prepared to fulfil the requirements of Section 32 of the Resource Management Act 1991 ('the RMA').

The proposed Strategic Directions chapter; the subject of this Section 32 Report, is contained within Appendix 5 of this report.

2 Glossary

There are a number of occasions throughout this report where an external document is referred to, often by an abbreviation. This section provides a list of these documents, and the appropriate abbreviation.

Document	Abbreviation	Comment
Operative District Plan	ODP	The Taupō District Plan which was made operative on 11 October 2007.
Waikato Regional Policy Statement	WRPS	The Waikato Regional Policy Statement which was made operative on 20 May 2016.
Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement	BOPRPS	The Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement which was made operative on 1 October 2014.
Hawkes Bay Regional Policy Statement	HBPRPS	The Hawkes Bay Regional Policy Statement which was made operative on 28 August 2006.
Manawatu-Whanganui Regional Policy Statement	MWRPS	The Manawatu-Whanganui Regional Policy Statement which was made operative on 25 November 2014.
National Policy Statement	NPS	Several as promulgated by the government, see https://www.mfe.govt.nz/rma/rma-legislative-tools/national-policy-statements
National Environment Standard	NES	Several as promulgated by the government, see https://www.mfe.govt.nz/rma/rma-legislative-tools/national-environmental-standards

3 Section 32 RMA

This report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of section 32 of the RMA. Broadly, a section 32 evaluation involves the following steps:

- identifying the resource management issue
- evaluating the extent to which any objective is the most appropriate way to achieve the purpose of the RMA
- identifying alternative policies and methods of achieving the objective
- assessing the effectiveness of alternative policies and methods
- assessing the benefits and costs of the proposed and alternative policies, rules, or other methods
- examining the risk of acting or not acting if there is uncertain or insufficient information about the subject matter of the policies, rules, or other methods (meaning the nature and extent of the issue and the appropriateness of the objective)

- deciding which method or methods are the most appropriate given their likely effectiveness and their likely cost, relative to the benefit that would likely deliver
- carrying out the evaluation outlined above before the provisions being adopted and summarising the evaluation in a report.

The purpose of this report is to summarise the process and evaluations undertaken by Council and their consultants in formulating the Strategic Directions Chapter of the ODP.

The following are key terms in the application of s32 of the RMA:

Appropriateness - means the suitability of the plan provision to its proposed purpose. It has two related meanings:

In the context of section 32(3)(a) (evaluation of appropriateness of objectives) its meaning may (depending on the circumstances) include:

- relevancy
- usefulness
- achievability
- reasonableness

In the context of section 32(3)(b) (appropriateness of policies, rules or other methods) it includes the extent to which the provisions will be:

- effective
- efficient

Effectiveness - means how successful a particular option is or will be in achieving the stated objective. How successful an option is can be measured in terms of not just whether an objective will be achieved outright; but alternatively, it may relate to the extent to which progress will be made even if the objective will not be met in full. The speed at which progress is made may also be a relevant consideration.

Efficiency - means where the benefits will outweigh the costs, either immediately or over time. The most efficient policy or method will achieve the stated objective with the greatest benefit and at the least cost. Efficiency is not to be confused with the terms 'net benefit' or 'net present value' (a measure that implies that all benefits and costs can be converted to a common 'currency' and netted off against one another to generate a single measure).

Costs and benefits may be quantitative, semi-quantitative and/or qualitative. A mixture of these have been relied upon in formulating this section 32 report. Section 32 in full is as follows:

<http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1991/0069/latest/DLM232582.html>:

Section 32 Requirements for preparing and publishing evaluation reports

(1) An evaluation report required under this Act must—

(a) examine the extent to which the objectives of the proposal being evaluated are the most appropriate way to achieve the purpose of this Act; and

(b) examine whether the provisions in the proposal are the most appropriate way to achieve the objectives by—

(i) identifying other reasonably practicable options for achieving the objectives; and

(ii) assessing the efficiency and effectiveness of the provisions in achieving the objectives; and

(iii) summarising the reasons for deciding on the provisions; and

(c) contain a level of detail that corresponds to the scale and significance of the environmental, economic, social, and cultural effects that are anticipated from the implementation of the proposal.

(2) An assessment under subsection (1)(b)(ii) must—

(a) identify and assess the benefits and costs of the environmental, economic, social, and cultural effects that are anticipated from the implementation of the provisions, including the opportunities for—

(i) economic growth that are anticipated to be provided or reduced; and

(ii) employment that are anticipated to be provided or reduced; and

(b) if practicable, quantify the benefits and costs referred to in paragraph (a); and

(c) assess the risk of acting or not acting if there is uncertain or insufficient information about the subject matter of the provisions.

(3) If the proposal (an amending proposal) will amend a standard, statement, national planning standard, regulation, plan, or change that is already proposed or that already exists (an existing proposal), the examination under subsection (1)(b) must relate to—

(a) the provisions and objectives of the amending proposal; and

(b) the objectives of the existing proposal to the extent that those objectives—

(i) are relevant to the objectives of the amending proposal; and

(ii) would remain if the amending proposal were to take effect.

(4) If the proposal will impose a greater or lesser prohibition or restriction on an activity to which a national environmental standard applies than the existing prohibitions or restrictions in that standard, the evaluation report must examine whether the prohibition or restriction is justified in the circumstances of each region or district in which the prohibition or restriction would have effect.

(4A) If the proposal is a proposed policy statement, plan, or change prepared in accordance with any of the processes provided for in [Schedule 1](#), the evaluation report must—

(a) summarise all advice concerning the proposal received from iwi authorities under the relevant provisions of [Schedule 1](#); and

(b) summarise the response to the advice, including any provisions of the proposal that are intended to give effect to the advice.

(5) The person who must have particular regard to the evaluation report must make the report available for public inspection—

(a) as soon as practicable after the proposal is made (in the case of a standard, regulation, national policy statement, or New Zealand coastal policy statement); or

(b) at the same time as the proposal is notified.

(6) In this section,

Objectives means,—

(a) for a proposal that contains or states objectives, those objectives:

(b) for all other proposals, the purpose of the proposal

Proposal means a proposed standard, statement, national planning standard, regulation, plan, or change for which an evaluation report must be prepared under this Act

provision means,—

(a) for a proposed plan or change, the policies, rules, or other methods that implement, or give effect to, the objectives of the proposed plan or change:

(b) for all other proposals, the policies or provisions of the proposal that implement, or give effect to, the objectives of the proposal.

Section 32AA of the RMA sets out the requirements for further evaluations as necessary following notification of a plan change. This relates to the public submission, hearings and decisions process, and recording evaluations in respect of changes to the notified provisions through these processes. If section 32AA evaluations are necessary, they will be added to this report as an addendum or be attached separately, with the decisions released on the Strategic Directions chapter of the ODP at the appropriate time.

4 Statutory and Planning Context

4.1 Resource Management Act 1991

The District Plan Change has been undertaken in accordance with RMA requirements. This report provides an overview of the key requirements, which are then assessed in more detail in each Section 32 report.

The matters addressed in District Plans are determined by the key functions of territorial authorities as outlined in section 31 of the RMA. The key functions for TDC are to:

- Achieve integrated management of the use, development, or protection of land and associated natural and physical resources of the district.
- Ensure sufficient development capacity in reports of housing and business land to meet the expected demands of the district.
- Control the actual or potential effects of the use and development of land, including for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating natural hazards, preventing or mitigating the adverse effects of contaminated land and maintaining biological biodiversity.
- Control the emission of noise and mitigation of noise effects.
- Control the effects in relation to surface water in rivers and lakes.

Sections 72 – 77 set out the purpose and processes associated with District Plans. District Plans allow the Council to fulfil its functions under the RMA (Section 72).

Every Council must have a District Plan that is prepared under the requirements of the 1st schedule (Section 73). The 1st schedule outlines the statutory requirements for preparing a Proposed Plan, including consultation and process matters both prior to and post District Plan public notification.

The Council needs to consider higher order documents when preparing its District Plan and also any Iwi Management Plans and their bearing on the resource management issues of the district (Section 74).

Sections 75 – 77 outline what must be and what may be included in District Plan (i.e. objectives, policies and methods) and authorises the inclusion of rules and the 'activity status' that can be given to activities.

Section 5, the purpose of the RMA, promotes the sustainable management of natural and physical resources, as outlined in Section 5(2).

In this Act, sustainable management means managing the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources in a way, or at a rate, that enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing, and for their health and safety while –

- (a) Sustaining the potential of natural and physical resources (excluding minerals) to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations; and
- (b) Safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil, and ecosystems; and
- (c) Avoiding, remedying, or mitigating any adverse effects of activities on the environment.

Section 6 of the RMA specifically requires that the Council recognise and provide for matters of national importance. These are:

- (a) The preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment.
- (b) The protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate subdivision, land use and development.
- (c) The protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna.
- (d) The maintenance and enhancement of public access to and along the coastal marine area, lakes and rivers.
- (e) The relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wahi tapu and other taonga.
- (f) The protection of historic heritage from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.
- (g) The protection of customary rights.
- (h) The management of significant risks from natural hazards.

Section 7 of the RMA requires the Council to have particular regard to the following other matters:

- (a) Kaitiakitanga
 - (aa) The ethic of stewardship
- (b) The efficient use and development of natural and physical resources
 - (ba) The efficiency of the end use of energy
- (c) The maintenance and enhancement of amenity values
- (d) Intrinsic values of ecosystems
- (e) Maintenance and enhancement of the quality of the environment
- (f) Any finite characteristics of natural and physical resources
- (g) The protection of the habitat of trout and salmon
- (h) The effects of climate change
- (i) The benefits to be derived from the use and development of renewable energy

Section 8 of the RMA requires the Council to take into account the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi). Tangata whenua, through iwi authorities have been consulted as part of the review process and the obligation to make informed decisions based on that consultation is noted.

4.1.1 NGATI TUWHARETOA, RAUKAWA, AND TE ARAWA RIVER IWI WAIKATO RIVER ACT 2010

The overarching purpose of the legislation is to restore and protect the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River for present and future generations. Amongst several significant features of the legislation, it provides co-management arrangements for the Waikato River. The legislation is being given effect to through joint management agreements with the iwi, and through the statutory importance of Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato – The Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River.

Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River

Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato – The Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River ('the Vision and Strategy') was immediately incorporated into the Waikato Regional Policy Statement and has the status of a national policy statement. The Vision and Strategy is intended by Parliament to be the primary direction-setting document for the Waikato River and activities within its catchment affecting the river. The Vision and Strategy was adopted by the Waikato River Authority ('WRA') as part of the settlement process in accordance with the legislation.

The ultimate vision is: "*the Waikato River will be safe for people to swim in and take food from over its entire length.*" The Vision and Strategy then has thirteen objectives that amplify this overall vision:

In order to realise the Vision, the following objectives will be pursued:

- a. *The restoration and protection of the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River.*
- b. *The restoration and protection of the relationship of Waikato-Tainui with the Waikato River, including their economic, social, cultural, and spiritual relationships.*
- c. *The restoration and protection of the relationship of Waikato River iwi according to their tikanga and kawa, with the Waikato River, including their economic, social, cultural and spiritual relationships.*
- d. *The restoration and protection of the relationship of the Waikato region's communities with the Waikato River including their economic, social, cultural and spiritual relationships.*
- e. *The integrated, holistic and coordinated approach to management of the natural, physical, cultural and historic resources of the Waikato River.*
- f. *The adoption of a precautionary approach towards decisions that may result in significant adverse effects on the Waikato River, and in particular those effects that threaten serious or irreversible damage to the Waikato River.*
- g. *The recognition and avoidance of adverse cumulative effects, and potential cumulative effects, of activities undertaken both on the Waikato River and within its catchments on the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River.*
- h. *The recognition that the Waikato River is degraded and should not be required to absorb further degradation as a result of human activities.*
- i. *The protection and enhancement of significant sites, fisheries, flora and fauna.*
- j. *The recognition that the strategic importance of the Waikato River to New Zealand's social, cultural, environmental and economic wellbeing requires the restoration and protection of the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River.*
- k. *The restoration of water quality within the Waikato River so that it is safe for people to swim in and take food from over its entire length.*
- l. *The promotion of improved access to the Waikato River to better enable sporting, recreational, and cultural opportunities.*

m. The application to the above of both maatauranga Maaori and latest available scientific methods.

There are also twelve strategies to achieve the objectives:

- 1. Ensure that the highest level of recognition is given to the restoration and protection of the Waikato River.*
- 2. Establish what the current health status of the Waikato River is by utilising maatauranga Maaori and latest available scientific methods.*
- 3. Develop targets for improving the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River by utilising maatauranga Maaori and latest available scientific methods.*
- 4. Develop and implement a programme of action to achieve the targets for improving the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River.*
- 5. Develop and share local, national and international expertise, including indigenous expertise, on rivers and activities within their catchments that may be applied to the restoration and protection of the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River.*
- 6. Recognise and protect waahi tapu and sites of significance to Waikato-Tainui and other Waikato River iwi (where they so decide) to promote their cultural, spiritual and historic relationship with the Waikato River.*
- 7. Recognise and protect appropriate sites associated with the Waikato River that are of significance to the Waikato regional community.*
- 8. Actively promote and foster public knowledge and understanding of the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River among all sectors of the Waikato regional community the WRA would like to achieve in order to meet the vision.*
- 9. Encourage and foster a 'whole of river' approach to the restoration and protection of the Waikato River, including the development, recognition and promotion of best practice methods for restoring and protecting the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River.*
- 10. Establish new, and enhance existing, relationships between Waikato-Tainui, other Waikato River iwi (where they so decide), and stakeholders with an interest in advancing, restoring and protecting the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River.*
- 11. Ensure that cumulative adverse effects on the Waikato River of activities are appropriately managed in statutory planning documents at the time of their review.*
- 12. Ensure appropriate public access to the Waikato River while protecting and enhancing the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River*

The PDP is required to 'give effect to' the Vision and Strategy, given its status as a national policy statement. An evaluation of how the PDP Strategic Directions chapter gives effect to the Vision and Strategy is provided in Appendix 2.

4.1.2 NGĀTI MANAWA CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT 2012 AND THE NGĀTI WHARE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT 2012

The Ngati Manawa Claims Settlement Act 2012 established the Rangitāiki River Forum, with representation from local authorities (Whakatane District Council, Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Taupō District Council), Ngati Whare, Ngati Manawa, Ngati Awa and Ngati Tuwharetoa (Bay of Plenty) iwi. The Rangitāiki River Forum developed the Rangitāiki River document (Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki – Pathways of the Rangitāiki).

The Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement must recognise and provide for the vision, objectives and desired outcomes of the Rangitāiki River document. The vision for the Rangitāiki River is 'a

healthy river, valued by the community, protected for future generations. The Mauri ora.' 'E ora ana te mauri o te awa o Rangitāiki, e manaakitia ana e te iwi, e tiakina ana mo ngā whakatipuranga o muri mai. Tihe Mauri Ora.'

The Rangitāiki River and its tributaries have played an important role in the lives of the many Bay of Plenty hapu and iwi that live alongside them. As kaitiaki, hapu and iwi traditionally carried the responsibility of ensuring the health and wellbeing of the Rangitāiki River and its resources, for the benefit of present and future generations.

All persons exercising functions and powers under the RMA that affect the Rangitāiki River must have particular regard to the habitat of tuna (*anguilla dieffenbachia* and *anguilla australis*) in that river. This relates only to a small portion of the Taupō District in the north. The legislation has been considered in evaluations for that portion of the district.

4.2 The National Planning Standards

The National Planning Standards were gazetted in April 2019. Whilst the NPS format has not been adopted for the entire plan, some of the definitions and context has been utilised for this plan change. It is anticipated that the entire Taupō District Plan will be moved comprehensively to the NPS formatting prior to 2024. Plan changes prior to this will be consistent with the planning standards, while ensuring the District Plan functions between new and older chapters in its current format.

The National Planning Standards determine the sections that should be included in a District Plan. Mandatory directions are also set out that determine how the District Plan should be ordered.

The National Planning Standards contain the following direction relating to the contents of the Strategic Directions chapter:

Strategic direction

1. *If the following matters are addressed, they must be located under the Strategic direction heading:*
 - a. *an outline of the key strategic or significant resource management matters for the district*
 - b. *issues, if any, and objectives that address key strategic or significant matters for the district and guide decision making at a strategic level*
 - c. *policies that address these matters, unless those policies are better located in other more specific chapters*
 - d. *how resource management issues of significance to iwi authorities are addressed in the plan.*
2. *Rules must not be included under the Strategic direction heading.*
3. *An Urban form and development chapter must be included under the Strategic direction heading.*
4. *Each strategic direction matter must be its own chapter and be included alphabetically under the Strategic direction heading.*

The proposed chapter includes Objectives and Policies relating to six strategic directions. Issues have not been included to ensure consistency with the wider plan and to also provide for a more efficient planning document that assists planning and decision making.

Policy development has been undertaken in consideration of the staged plan review process. The proposed policies are intended to provide high level strategic guidance to assist in implementing the objectives. However, it is assumed that additional and more specific policy will be developed in the wider plan, as it is reviewed, to provide further and more detailed direction on the strategic directions.

The proposed Strategic Directions chapter includes provisions relating to urban form and development and resource management matters of significance to iwi.

The numbering of the chapter has been kept consistent with the existing ODP and it is anticipated that it will be revised when the wider plan is reformatted to meet the requirements of the standards.

4.3 National Policy Statements

There are several higher order national statutory planning documents that the District Plan must give effect to. There are five other National Policy Statements (NPS) that are currently adopted. The directions in these statements have been given effect where relevant in the Strategic Directions, within the individual chapters, and within the associated Section 32 reports as outlined below.

NPSs currently in effect are:

- National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020
- National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014
- National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Generation 2011
- National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission 2011
- New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010

4.3.1 NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION 2008

This National Policy Statement (NPS) sets out the objective and policies to enable the management of the effects of the electricity transmission network under the RMA. The national grid plays a vital role in the well-being of New Zealand and its people. This NPS prioritises this importance while managing the potential effects associated with this large-scale infrastructure. The Taupō District has an electricity transmission network that must be managed to give effect to the NPS requirements. This NPS is further considered in the Energy, Infrastructure and Transport section (Network Utilities).

4.3.2 NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY GENERATION 2011

This NPS sets out objectives and policies for renewable electricity generation under the RMA. This NPS provides a consistent approach to planning for renewable electricity generation across New Zealand.

4.3.3 NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT ON FRESHWATER MANAGEMENT 2014 AND 2017 (NPSFM)

This NPSFM sets out a consistent approach to managing freshwater resources across New Zealand. It sets out implementation programmes for regional councils to give effect to. Local authorities must ensure District Plans provide for and recognise freshwater as a matter of national importance.

4.3.4 THE NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT CAPACITY 2016 (NPS-UDC)

The NPS-UDC recognises the national significance of urban environments and provides direction to decision-makers on planning for urban environments. The NPS-UDC seeks to ensure there is sufficient development capacity for housing and business with a suite of objectives and policies to guide decision-making in urban areas. The NPS-UDC came into effect on 1 December 2016.

4.4

4.5 National Environmental Standards

There are six National Environmental Standards that are currently in place that prescribe standards that Councils must enforce. The relevance of these are summarised below:

- The NES for Telecommunication Facilities allows network operators to install some low impact telecommunication infrastructure in road reserves without the need to apply for resource consent, provided they meet specified conditions. The NES provides a set of rules for permitted telecommunication facilities. The Proposed Plan recognises these standards and ensures that no conflicts exist between rule provisions in the Proposed Plan and this NES.
- The NES Electricity Transmissions sets out to minimise the cost to councils of implementing the NPS for Electricity Transmission and ensure planning requirements are nationally consistent for maintenance and upgrading of transmission lines. The NES only applies to existing high voltage transmission lines and does not apply to new lines or substations. The Proposed Plan has considered the provisions set out in this NES for high voltage transmission lines and is consistent with the NES requirements.
- The NES for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health (NESCS) is a nationally consistent set of planning controls and soil contaminant values. It ensures that land affected by contaminants in soil is appropriately identified and assessed before it is developed and, if necessary, the land is remediated or the contaminants contained to make the land safe for human use. All territorial authorities are required to observe and enforce the NESCS. The Council has been administering and enforcing this NES since its enactment in 2012.
- The NES for Plantation Forestry seeks to maintain and improve the environmental outcomes of plantation forestry nationally and to increase certainty and efficiency in the management of plantation forestry activities. The NES provides consistent rules across the country for specified forestry related activities.
- The National Environmental Standard for Air Quality is a regulation that aims to set a guaranteed minimum level of health protection for all New Zealanders. Regional Councils are required to manage air quality and the requirements under this NES through their regional plans.
- The NES for Sources of Drinking Water protects human drinking water from becoming contaminated. The standard applies to source water before it is treated and only water that is used to supply human drinking water. These relate to lakes, rivers and groundwater. Regional Councils are required to manage contaminants that may enter drinking water sources through discharge permits.

4.6 Regional Policy Statements and Plans

The Taupō District falls within the jurisdiction of four regional councils: Waikato Regional Council (WRC), Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC), Hawkes Bay Regional Council (HBRC) and Horizons Regional Council (HRC). Most of the district falls within WRC, and only very small portions of the district fall within HBRC and HRC. For this reason, most of the assessment is against the Waikato Regional Policy Statement, with some assessment against the other three regional policy statements proportional to the extent of the district within each region.

District Plans are required 'to give effect to' a regional policy statement. In the case of Taupō District this requires evaluation of four regional policy statements as to how the PDP gives effect to these regional documents. These are summarised briefly below, with Appendix 2 containing more detailed evaluation tables for the WRC and BOPRC RPS documents.

District Plans also 'must not be inconsistent' with any regional plan pursuant to section 75(4) of the RMA.

4.6.1 WAIKATO REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT (WRPS) AND REGIONAL PLAN

The WRPS covers the majority of the district as the Waikato regional boundary is based on the catchment of the Waikato River, including Lake Taupō. Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato, the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River, has been incorporated within the WRPS, although it has an elevated status as a national policy statement. The WRPS was made operative on 20 May 2016. The most significant plan change to the WRPS is Plan Change 1: Healthy Rivers as it seeks to provide a comprehensive response to the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River. Plan Change 1 is currently under appeal.

The WRPS sets out 27 objectives and a range of policies. The most relevant provisions within the WRPS as they relate to the PDP evaluations for the Strategic Directions chapter are detailed within Appendix 2 attached to this report. It then provides a summary assessment of how the relevant provisions have been addressed in the PDP.

There is not considered to be any element of the proposed plan change that is inconsistent with the Waikato Regional Plan.

4.6.2 BAY OF PLENTY REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT (BOPRPS) AND REGIONAL PLAN

The BoPRPS covers a relatively small portion of the district within the Rangitaiki River catchment only. There are no settlements within this portion of the district. For this reason, lesser evaluation of the BoPRPS has been undertaken, although the imperative to 'give effect to' regional policy statements still applies. The BoPRPS itself recognises that the Taupō District is not solely located within the Bay of Plenty region and it identifies that strong liaison and joint effort on cross-boundary issues is therefore essential. The BoPRPS was made operative on 1 October 2014.

The most relevant provisions within the BoPRPS as they relate to the PDP evaluations for the Strategic Directions chapter are detailed within Appendix 2 attached to this report. It then provides a summary assessment of how the relevant provisions have been addressed in the proposed plan change.

4.6.3 HAWKES BAY REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT (HBRSP) AND REGIONAL PLAN

The HBRPS covers a relatively small portion of the district within the Mohaka River catchment. There are no settlements within this portion of the district. The Hawkes Bay Regional Resource Management Plan contains the HBRPS and the Hawkes Bay Regional Plan combined into one document. The document identifies the following issues, and provides policies in response:

- Loss and Degradation of Soil
- Scarcity of Indigenous Vegetation and Wetlands
- Effects of Conflicting Land Use Activities
- Agrichemical Use
- Management of Organic Material
- Groundwater Quality, Groundwater Quantity, Surface Water Quantity, Surface Water Quality
- River Bed Gravel Extraction
- Physical Resources
- Matters of Significance to Iwi/Hapu

The Hawkes Bay Regional Resource Management Plan was made operative on 28 August 2006. Given the extent of the District within the Hawkes Bay Region as relative to the Waikato and Bay of Plenty Regions, a detailed assessment of the Hawkes Bay Regional Resource Management Plan has not been carried out.

The RPS has been considered however and, the proposed objectives and policies that make up the Strategic Directions chapter generally do give effect to those parts of the RPS considered relevant to the Taupō District. Those relevant parts of the RPS are considered as follows:

- **Chapter 3.1A Integrated Land Use and Freshwater Management** which requires an integrated approach to the management of fresh water and land use and development. This approach is reflected in the proposed Strategic Direction 2 – Freshwater Quality / Te Mana O

Te Wai and also Strategic Direction 1 – Tāngata Whenua. The proposed directions recognise the importance of an integrated approach to promote positive water quality outcomes and also the need to recognise Tāngata Whenua values in resource management.

- **Chapter 3.4 Scarcity of Indigenous Vegetation and Wetlands** which seeks the preservation and enhancement of remaining areas of significant indigenous vegetation, significant habitats of indigenous fauna and ecologically significant wetlands. The relevant objectives in proposed Strategic Direction 6 Natural Environment Values recognise the importance of the districts natural values and seek the protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation etc. The provisions also support the enhancement of indigenous biodiversity areas. It is noted that the use of 'protection' could be considered as not being consistent with the RPS requirement to 'preserve' such areas. In this case the term 'protection' is considered to be appropriate given its consistency with the requirements set out in Sections 6 and 7 of the Act.
- **Chapter 3.10 Surface Water Resources** which has an objective of the water quality in rivers, lakes and wetlands to be suitable for sustaining or improving aquatic ecosystems and other identified freshwater objectives. In consideration of the scope of the District Councils responsibilities for fresh water management, the proposed Strategic Direction 2 – Freshwater Quality / Te Mana O Te Wai promotes positive water quality outcomes associated land use and subdivision.
- **Chapter 3.12 Natural Hazards** which has an objective of avoiding or mitigating the adverse effects of natural hazards on people's safety, property, and economic livelihood. This direction is reflected in proposed policy 2.3.3.11 that requires the design and location of activities to avoid or mitigate natural hazards to an acceptable level of risk to life, property and the environment.
- **Chapter 3.13 Maintenance and enhancement of physical infrastructure** which includes the recognition of regional infrastructure and the ongoing maintenance and development of physical infrastructure that supports the economic, social and cultural wellbeing of the region. Such matters are given effect to in the proposed Strategic Direction 5 – Significant and Local Infrastructure which covers the matters listed in the RPS Objectives.
- **Chapter 3.14 Recognition of Matters of Significance to iwi/hapū** which includes direction to recognise tikanga, Māori values and the contribution they make to sustainable development, the protection of waahi tapu, consult with iwi and tāngata whenua roles as kaitiaki in keeping with Māori culture and traditions. These objectives are given effect to by proposed Strategic Direction 1 – Tāngata Whenua.

4.6.4 HORIZONS REGIONAL COUNCIL ONE PLAN

The One Plan has been prepared by Horizons Regional Council (Manawatu-Whanganui region) and is a combined regional policy statement and regional plan. The One Plan was made operative on 25 November 2014. The One Plan covers a relatively small portion of the district only in the southern reaches of the district. There are no settlements within this portion of the district.

Given the extent of the District within the Hawkes Bay Region as relative to the Waikato and Bay of Plenty Regions, a detailed assessment of the Horizons Regional Council One Plan has not been carried out.

The RPS has been considered however and, the proposed objectives and policies that make up the Strategic Directions chapter give effect to those parts of the RPS considered relevant to the Taupō District. Those relevant parts of the RPS are considered as follows:

- **Chapter 2: Te Ao Maori** which requires that the mauri of natural and physical resources is had regard to, hapū and iwi are enabled to provide for their social and cultural wellbeing and kaitiakitanga must be given particular regard to. These objectives are given effect to by proposed Strategic Direction 1 – Tāngata Whenua and also specific provisions associated with Strategic directions 2 (Freshwater Quality) and 6 (Natural Environment Values).
- **Chapter 6: Indigenous Biological Diversity, Landscape and Historic Heritage** which contains objectives that require the protection of significant indigenous vegetation and habitats, the characteristics of natural features and landscapes and natural character and historic heritage. These matters are given effect to by proposed strategic direction 6 (Natural

Environment Values) and 3 (Urban Form and Development) which has policy that considers heritage values.

4.6.5 REGIONAL PLANS

In formulating the District Plan, regard is to be had to regional plans applying to parts of the district, with a requirement 'not to be inconsistent' with regional plans. Of particular note is the Waikato Regional Plan, which sets land use requirements in the Lake Taupō and Waikato River catchments. At the time of writing this report, the decisions on submissions received on Plan Change 1: Healthy Rivers - Waikato and Waipā River Catchments had been released, with appeals having been lodged with the Environment Court.

Plan Change 1 is Waikato Regional Council's primary response to date to Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato, the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River. The plan change introduces rules to manage both point source discharges (such as sewage from towns and waste from factories) and non-point source discharges linked to agriculture. The plan change applies to the Waikato and Waipā rivers at this time, but with a likelihood of similar approaches being applied to all river catchments within the region over time in response to government national direction on freshwater management issues.

Accordingly, regard has also been given to the following documents to the extent that they are relevant to the Strategic Directions chapter of the PDP, in addition to the Waikato Regional Plan:

- The Bay of Plenty Regional Natural Resources Plan
- Horizons One Plan
- Hawkes Bay Regional Resource Management Plan

There is not considered to be any element of the proposed Strategic Directions chapter that is inconsistent with the Waikato Regional Plan, the Bay of Plenty Regional Plan, the regional plan elements of the Hawkes Bay Regional Resource Management Plan, or the regional plan elements of the One Plan.

4.7 District Policy/Strategies

The District Plan does not sit in isolation, but rather it operates with Council's wider suite of policies, plans and strategies to provide direction for decision making. In particular, the following documents have been considered:

- Taupō District Growth Strategy 2050
- Long Term Plan 2021 to 2031
- Financial Strategy
- Infrastructure Strategy
- Challenges Paper
- The Demographic Snapshot 2017
- Council vision and values

These plans and policies are all available on the Taupō District Council website and have been considered in preparing this report to the extent that they are relevant to the strategic directions.

4.7.1 TAUPŌ DISTRICT GROWTH STRATEGY

Taupō District 2050 (TD2050) is a growth management strategy which outlines where Taupō District Council (Council) anticipates future urban growth to occur and the nature and scale of such growth. TD2050 was developed in 2006 to respond to the rapid development growth occurring within the district in the early 2000s. TD2050 was also about addressing a strategic planning gap that was apparent with the permissive effects-based approach of the ODP existing at that time, particularly in relation to rural housing demand. Prior to 2006, each subdivision application was addressed on a case-by-case basis. This led to the rural environment coming under significant pressure from lifestyle subdivision applications at this time.

The global financial crisis reduced demand and TD2050 was subsequently reviewed in 2018. The review process included consultation with the community and sought to review the strategy in response to the much lower than previously anticipated growth rates in the district. Uptake for development of land identified in TD2050 was much slower than anticipated, and generally has been more subdued since. The revised 2018 TD2050 has adopted Statistics New Zealand population projections for the district based on 2006 and 2013 census information. The district's usually resident population is expected to peak in the late 2030's before going into decline. As a result, less land is required for urban growth relative to that identified in 2006, and a number of areas that were identified as growth areas have been removed in the revised version of TD2050. This includes growth areas within the rural environment.

TD2050 contains the following series of strategic directions which guide the management of growth within the Taupō District:

1. Plan for a **district characterised** by contained urban communities, bordered by a productive, functional rural environment.
2. Design and plan compact, walkable and adaptable **urban areas**.
3. Create vibrant, diverse **places and spaces** where people love to live, work, play and invest.
4. Recognise **tangata whenua** cultural identity and build strong, collaborative relationships.
5. Provide the platform for a **sustainable economy**.
6. Integrate sustainable **infrastructure** provision, land use and funding.
7. Manage development to enhance and protect the **natural environment**.

TD2050 establishes a future development pattern for the District including identifying locations of future residential and industrial growth.

TD2050 contains a series of objectives for the different parts of the Taupō District as follows:

Residential:

- Enable greater intensification of residential dwellings within and around the Taupō town centre.
- Provide for a wide range of housing types to be developed.

Rural:

- Prevent the urbanisation of the rural environment.
- Protect functional activities within the rural environment.
- Consolidate rural lifestyle opportunities within existing areas.
- Ensure that the District Plan allows for appropriate and sustainable alternatives to farming.

Commercial:

- Continue to strengthen the Taupō Town centre's function as the commercial hub for the district.
- Ensure vibrant, walkable and compact town centres.

Industrial:

- Ensure adequate industrial land supply capacity for both light and heavy industrial land uses

TD2050 also includes the following objective relating to tāngata whenua and multiply owned māori land as follows:

- Build a strong relationship between tangata whenua and the Council.

4.7.2 TAUPŌ RURAL LIFESTYLE ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT

A part of the wider review of the District Plan Property Economics Limited was engaged by Council to assess the current and future potential demand and capacity for rural-residential 'lifestyle blocks' within the district. This report considered the demand and capacity of rural lifestyle living options in the Taupō District. Overall, the report concludes that the district already has more than sufficient capacity to accommodate housing growth over the next 30 years. This is primarily within the district's settlements but also within the existing rural residential localities. The report recommends that Council focus on providing sufficient capacity to accommodate current rural lifestyle demand and not seek to develop a policy framework that aims to fuel lifestyle growth through provision of large availability of additional lifestyle capacity requirements.

4.7.3 TAUPŌ WATERS MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Management Plan for the Taupō Waters has a purpose of providing for the continued use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection and preservation of Taupō Waters reserve for recreation purposes under s17 of the Reserves Act 1977, in partnership between the Crown and the Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board through a management board known as the Taupō-nui-a-Tia Management Board.

The purpose of this Management Plan is to provide for the continued use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection and preservation of Taupō Waters as if it were a Recreation Reserve and, to this end:

1. Support the people of New Zealand's freedom of entry to and access upon Taupō Waters without charge for non-exclusive, non-commercial recreation and non-commercial research; and
2. Provide for such conditions and restrictions on any rights of entry to or access upon Taupō Waters as the Taupō-nui-a-Tia Management Board considers to be necessary for the protection and well-being of Taupō Waters and for the protection and control of the public using them.

The goal of the Management Plan is to:

Holistically manage Taupō Waters to provide for the freedom of entry to and access upon Taupō Waters for non-exclusive, non-commercial recreation, while not diminishing the mauri, mana, intrinsic and environmental value of Taupō Waters.

This goal is to be achieved via the following nine specific management outcomes:

1. The special relationship between Ngāti Tūwharetoa and Taupō Waters is protected.
2. The people of New Zealand can access and use Taupō Waters for non-exclusive and non-commercial recreation and non-commercial research free of charge in the long-term.
3. Water quality within the lakes, rivers and streams of Taupō Waters is high in the long-term.
4. Taupō Waters is a safe recreational environment.
5. Structures improve the ability of people to access and use Taupō Waters.
6. Commercial activities add to the value derived by people accessing and using Taupō Waters.
7. The indigenous biodiversity of Taupō Waters is protected and retained.

8. Mahinga kai and taonga species (including trout) are managed to provide for needs of Ngāti Tūwharetoa, anglers and the community to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations.
9. The integrity of the landward margins surrounding Taupō Waters is retained.

4.8 Settlement and Iwi legislation

In addition to the obligations of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, the Taupō District Council has responsibilities to Mana Whenua under the following legislation:

- Ngāti Tūrangitukua Claims Settlement Act 1999
- Central North Island Forests Land Collective Settlement Act 2008
- Affiliate Te Arawa Iwi and Hapu Claims Settlement Act 2008
- Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Raukawa, and Te Arawa River Iwi Waikato River Act 2010
- Ngāti Manawa Claims Settlement Act 2012
- Raukawa Claims Settlement Act 2014
- Hineuru Claims Settlement Act 2016
- Ngāti Tūwharetoa Claims Settlement Act 2018

This legislation, and its complementary planning documents, outline values and interests of Mana Whenua, and the matters they seek to address and outcomes sought after, either individually or collectively in partnership with each other, government agencies and/or resource users.

Through engagement and in co-operation with Mana Whenua, the Taupō District Council has identified that the key matter to inform the strategic directions for the Taupō District is to recognise Te Tiriti o Waitangi and enable the outcomes that Treaty settlement redress and legislation is intended to achieve.

Key issues that are connected to the matter of recognition of the Treaty include providing for enhanced partnership with, and participation of, Mana Whenua in resource management processes and decision making. The appropriate development and use of ancestral lands and taonga so that Mana Whenua can provide for their economic and social wellbeing has also been recognised as a key issue.

Under Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991, the Council is also required to identify resource management issues of concern/significance to iwi authorities (Mana Whenua) and how those issues will be addressed throughout the relevant sections of the District Plan.

The mauri (or holistically the environmental, cultural and spiritual health and wellbeing) of the district's natural environment, and the integrated management of its natural resources, are key resource management issues of concern to Mana Whenua in the Taupō District. The mountainous landscapes, the whenua, and the freshwater and geothermal resources encompass the historical narratives and identity of Mana Whenua. It is in this regard that the importance of mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) and the practice of tikanga Māori by Mana Whenua is acknowledged in order to inform Council's decision making processes and implementation of the District Plan. This will ensure the Taupō District Council is meeting its statutory obligations under section 6(e) of the RMA.

Although the Plan includes a tangata whenua/mana whenua chapter, as directed by the National Planning Standards this must only include context and process-related provisions. Other tangata whenua/mana whenua provisions must be integrated throughout the Plan.

4.8.1 HIGHER ORDER DOCUMENTS

As a Territorial Authority, there is a number of higher order statutory documents that must be given effect to and/or be consistent with. Examples of the documents/legislation include:

- Ngāti Tūwharetoa Claims Settlement Act 2018
 - Te Kopua Kānapanapa and Kaupapa Kaitiaki
- Ngāti Tuwharetoa, Raukawa, and Te Arawa River Iwi Waikato River Act 2010
 - Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato – the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River
- Resource Management Act 1991
 - National Policy Statements
- Local Government Act 2002
- Ngāti Manawa Claims Settlement Act 2012
 - Te Ara Whanui o Rangitāiki - Pathways of the Rangitāiki
- Waikato Regional Policy Statement
- Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement
- Hawkes Bay Regional Policy Statement
- Iwi management plans

The types of matters that these documents include are:

- Te Ao Māori perspectives
- Mana Whenua direction to include and consider tikanga Māori in addressing significant resource management issues
- The degradation of the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River and its catchment which has flow on effects to community and cultural wellbeing
- The degradation of the environmental, cultural and spiritual health and wellbeing of the Rangitāiki River and the flow on effects to present and future generations
- Preservation of wetlands, lakes, rivers and their margins
- Protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes
- Protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation
- The relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga
- The protection of historic heritage from inappropriate subdivision, use and development
- The protection of protected customary rights
- The management of significant risk from natural hazards.

4.9 Iwi Management Plans

Within the boundaries of Taupō District are the ancestral lands of four iwi (tribes); Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Ngāti Tahu / Ngāti Whaoa and Raukawa. Each iwi has associated hapu or sub-tribes.

These tangata whenua groupings play a vital role as kaitiaki (guardians) of natural resources, cultural sites of significance and waahi tapu. Hapu and iwi are connected to the whenua (land) through occupation and whakapapa (genealogy).

These four main iwi hold mana whenua status for different parts of the Taupō District's land area and beyond. They also collaborate with other neighbouring iwi on matters of shared interest. Below is an overview of the various environmental management plans that have been developed by these iwi – either individually, or in partnership with others.

Council has sought to understand mana whenua perspectives on rural issues as part of formulating the Rural Environment. During preparation of the Rural Chapter, a process of evaluation of the iwi environmental management plans covering portions of the district plan was carried out to understand how they relate to key topics within the district's rural areas. This process of evaluation was in addition to direct engagement with mana whenua, as described in Section 6.

Clause 4A of Schedule 1 of the RMA establishes a process of consultation with iwi authorities before notifying a proposed plan or policy statement, then draft plans and policy statements are provided to

iwi within the district/region, with a requirement for Council to have particular regard to any advice received. At the time of writing this report this process is ongoing.

Where iwi have produced iwi environmental management plans ('IEMPs'), these have been considered in formulating the Strategic Directions chapter of the ODP. These IEMPs are:

- Central North Island Forests Iwi Collective (CNI): He Mahere Pūtahitanga (2018);
- Te Arawa River Iwi Trust (TARIT) Environmental Management Plan (2015);
- Ngāti Tūwharetoa Environmental Iwi Management Plan (EIMP) (2003);
- Ngati Tahu - Ngati Whaoa Iwi Environmental Management Plan (IEMP): Rising above the mist - Te aranga ake i te taimahatanga (2019);
- Raukawa Environmental Management Plan: Te Rautaki Taiao a Raukawa (2015).

In summary the key focus areas within each of the IEMP's are as described below.

4.10 Joint Management Plans

4.10.1 CENTRAL NORTH ISLAND FORESTS IWI COLLECTIVE (CNI): HE MAHERE PŪTAHITANGA (2018)

He Mahere Pūtahitanga is a pan tribal planning document articulating the collective aspirations of member iwi as they exercise kaitiakitanga over their Treaty Settlement Lands. The land that the plan covers specifically relates to the 176,000 hectares deeded to iwi as part of the Central North Island Forests Land Collective Settlement Act 2008.

He Mahere Pūtahitanga has been conceived as a modular, living, working document which will be added to in time. It does not supersede or replace planning documents developed by affiliate iwi but articulates CNI's desire to use their lands in a holistic manner that is mindful of the need for intergenerational equity.

Te Arawa River Iwi Trust (TARIT) Environmental Management Plan (2015)

This Environmental Management Plan is a high-level guidance document detailing priority issues and actions to support Te Arawa River iwi in their aspirations. The TARIT area of interest extends from the Upper Waikato River Catchment area at Huka Falls to Pōhaturoa, and policies and actions in the plan pertain to the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River.

In particular, TARIT considers itself an affected party for any activity that affects, or potentially affects, the Waikato River as regards the following:

1. Water Permits: To dam, divert, take and use from or in the Waikato River as well as surface water activities
2. Discharge Permits: To discharge contaminants into water or onto land where it may enter water
3. Land Use Consents: For riverbed disturbance – structures, drilling, plant introduction or removal, plant or animal habitat disturbance.

4.10.2 INDIVIDUAL MANAGEMENT PLANS

Ngāti Tūwharetoa Environmental Iwi Management Plan (EIMP) (2003)

Ngāti Tūwharetoa's EIMP is a high-level document that articulates issues of significance to the iwi, objectives, policies and actions to support them in their desire to participate as a partner in resource management decision making processes over their rohe. The aims of the plan are to:

1. Exercise kaitiakitanga in accordance with the kawa and tikanga of ngā hapū o Ngāti Tūwharetoa.
2. Promote and protect the mātauranga held by kaitiaki for the benefit of current ngā hapū o Ngāti Tūwharetoa.
3. Have external parties recognise the ownership that Ngāti Tūwharetoa have e.g. ownership of Lake Taupo-nui-ā-Tia and tributaries.

The EIMP details Ngāti Tūwharetoa's goals, issues and policies on a range of environmental issues that cover water, land, fisheries, sacred spaces, indigenous biodiversity and geothermal / mineral extraction.

Ngati Tahu - Ngati Whaoa Iwi Environmental Management Plan (IEMP): Rising above the mist - Te aranga ake i te taimahatanga (2019)

The IEMP is a comprehensive three-part document and an update to an earlier version of the same. Part one sets out the background, vision and overarching ethos for environmental management. Part two compares the historical and current state of the natural environment, as well as setting out principles for environmental management and iwi goals for each environmental resource. Part three is a collation of various action plans and associated implementation strategies.

The iwi has had customary lands returned and mana whenua established through various Treaty Settlements, making Ngati Tahu - Ngati Whaoa iwi one of the largest land holders in the Waikato River catchment. All of these have great cultural significance to the iwi and the IEMP details out at length the current state of the environment, iwi issues and proposed strategies for remedying the same over these areas. In particular, the IEMP sets out how Ngati Tahu-Ngati Whaoa will exercise kaitiakitanga over the following aspects of their rohe:

1. The waters of the Waikato River from Huka Falls to Pohaturua at Atiamuri
2. Extensive forest areas in Tutukau and the Paeroa ranges
3. The geothermal fields of Rotokawa (Tauhara North), Broadlands (Kaingaroa No.2), Ohaki (Tahorakuri), Nga Tamariki (Tahorakuri), Reporoa (Paeroa East), Waiotapu (Paeroa East), Waikite (Rotomahana Parekarangi), Te Kopia (Rotomahana Parekarangi), Orakei Korako (Tutukau) and Atiamuri (Tatua West). In some of these fields, Iwi Trusts continue to be landowners and joint venture partners. The geothermal habitats also harbour some of the rarest plants in the country.
4. Various wahi tapu and historic sites of significance that dot the landscape, especially alongside rivers and waterways, on high hilltops and in areas of native forest and pine forestry.

Raukawa Environmental Management Plan: Te Rautaki Taiao a Raukawa (2015)

Te Rautaki Taiao a Raukawa is a statement of the iwi's issues, aspirations, and priorities in relation to the environment. It provides not just a statement of Raukawa values and aspirations for environmental management, but also serves as a toolkit to guide and shape both policymaking and resource management decisions.

The plan is a wide-ranging document that touches on a diverse range of activities and environmental phenomena that impact on the iwi and the exercising of manaakitanga, whānaungatanga, mana whenua and ahi kā roa status over their rohe. Of particular relevance are the following sections of the plan:

1. Section 21: Water (Wai) - the health and wellbeing of the Waikato, Te Waihou, and the Upper Waipā River and their catchments are restored and protected for present and future generations.
2. Section 2.2: Land (Whenua): while acknowledging that the local economy is heavily dependent on the productive capabilities of the land, progressive intensification of these activities also negatively impacts on waterbodies and the indigenous biodiversity. As kaitiaki, Raukawa iwi's focus is to ensure these land activities are balanced within the environmental capacity of the whenua, to provide for the needs and wellbeing of current and future communities.
3. Section 2.4: Wetlands (Ngā Repo): ongoing loss of wetlands as a result of intensification of land uses and the conversion of large areas from plantation forestry to dairy production, with insufficient consideration given to the ecological importance and function of wetlands within broader natural systems.
4. Section 2.6 - Indigenous Plants and Animals (Ngā Tamariki a Tāne Whakapiripiri): a number of factors including the removal of indigenous vegetation; the changing nature and intensification of land use; and the ongoing modification of waterbodies and water systems have had profound impacts on indigenous biodiversity.
5. Section 2.7: Marae and Papakāinga: actualizing aspirations to provide quality housing and infrastructure and overcoming regulatory frameworks that can be a barrier to enabling the development of papakāinga.
6. Section 2.11: Infrastructure: which has resulted in ongoing adverse effects on the cultural and natural landscape through significant earthworking and damming of rivers.
7. Section 2.13: Geothermal (Ngā Wāhi Ngāwhā): geothermal resources within the rohe extend in a broad linear field from Wairākei in the south to Mangakino in the west to Okoroire in the north and Horohoro to the east. Electricity generation currently occurs at Wairākei and Mōkai, with the spa and thermal bathing facilities present at Ōkoroire. However, Raukawa iwi do not have strong relationships and understandings with major operators and landowners working within this sector, with the exception of Tuaropaki Trust at Mōkai.

5 Taupō District Operative Plan Approach

There is no Strategic Directions Chapter in the ODP. Chapter 2 of the ODP contains Significant Resource Management Issues. The SD chapter replaces the existing ODP Chapter 2, in its entirety, with statutory direction on key matters of importance for the district. While the existing Chapter 2 contains useful discussion on key district wide issues, the SD chapter provides guidance on key district wide matters through objectives and policies. This approach is also more consistent with that set out in the national planning standards.

5.1 Phase 1 Evaluation Report

In 2016 a 'Phase 1 Evaluation Report' was prepared by PLANZ Consultants on behalf of Council. The purpose of the report was to gain a better understanding of how the ODP aligned with higher order documents including national policy statements, national environmental standards and regional policy statements. It is important to understand what gaps may exist within the ODP given it is a requirement under the RMA that the District Plan 'gives effect' to national policy statements and regional policy statements. While the report identifies that there are some gaps in the ODP, they were not significant in the Phase 1 Evaluation Report. The main findings of the evaluation report are outlined below.

- With respect to national environmental standards, a more coherent and consistent approach could be provided, chiefly through referencing the respective standard and identifying the approach where discretion remains.
- For national policy statements, the key improvement that should be made to the District Plan is centred on amendments to the network utility provisions, to better distinguish and provide for renewable electricity generation, electricity transmission; and distinguish between the aspects of strategic infrastructure and remaining network utilities.
- The NPS on Urban Development Capacity requires consideration of strategic direction level provisions in the District Plan aimed at housing and business zoned land supply, the diversity of such supply and the integration with supporting infrastructure.
- The Taupō District Plan is largely aligned with requirements in the four respective regional policy statements, but some improvements in terms of energy, infrastructure and built form are needed.

5.2 Taupō District Council Challenges Paper 2016/2017

The Challenges Paper was the first step by TDC in the process of clarifying the challenges that are likely to impact on Council. The paper does not identify all of the challenges the Council will face in the next decade or so, but it does clarify some of the critical ones and the tools that are available to address them. The following challenges of relevance to the review of the Plan were identified:

We need to play our part in improving water quality and help our communities adjust to the changes in the way we use land.

- We need to use our water more efficiently
- We need to have a flexible approach to changing demands for housing type and location
- We need to balance the needs for growth in population with the anticipated decline
- We need to be flexible in responding to how our housing stock is used
- We need to be a leader in our community when it comes to dealing with climate change
- We need to make sure that our communities and assets are resilient to climate change
- We need to make the best use of our existing investment in infrastructure
- We need to ensure we have the right amount of land available for urban development
- We need to ensure we have sufficient industrial land available
- More enablement of opportunities for alternate uses of geothermal activity
- We need to ensure Turangi has a sustainable and vibrant town centre

5.3 District Plan Monitoring and Issues Identification Report

A [District Plan monitoring and issues identification report](#) was developed by TDC in 2020. The report discusses the performance of the Operative District Plan, takes the results from the various sources of data collected and identifies strategic issues for the District Plan review process.

The report included the following issues and associated observations:

5.3.1 ISSUE 1 – AMENITY AND CHARACTER

The current Operative District Plan appears to have been effective in maintaining some elements which contribute to character. For example, the community has expressed a desire through a number of planning processes for a town centre with a reasonably low-rise character. The plan has been effective in maintaining this through its 3-floor height limit.

Loss of character was not raised as an issue through the consultation for the issues report (which involved several meetings with regular users of the Plan). The low number of consents for large-scale developments is also evidence that development is essentially occurring as anticipated by the Plan.

Character and amenity and its maintenance will need to be retested through the District Plan review.

5.3.2 ISSUE 2 – TĀNGATA WHENUA RELATIONSHIPS

In many ways, the current Operative District Plan does not effectively recognise and provide for the relationship of Māori with their culture, traditions, ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga. An example of this is the requirement for multiple-owned Māori land to be developed through a structure plan process. This process has been one of a number of barriers which have prevented Māori land development.

Some small parts of the Plan, such as the papakāinga provisions, have been effective in allowing several papakāinga developments to occur. However, in some meetings with iwi partners, there appears to have been a complete lack of knowledge that the papakāinga provisions exist.

The Operative Plan only addresses tāngata whenua issues through the Tāngata Whenua Cultural Values section, which is fairly limited in its application. It is anticipated that the District Plan Review will look towards a collaborative development approach with the incorporation of the Māori world view throughout the Plan.

Council has, however, taken steps to forge greater relationships with iwi in terms of resource management. One such example was the development of a Joint Management Agreement with Ngāti Tūwharetoa which provides for joint decision making on notified resource consents in relation to multiple-owned Māori land. The introduction of new legislation through the Waikato River Settlement 2010 has also seen the development of two additional Joint Management Agreements where the purpose is to give effect to the Vision and Strategy by ensuring activities do not have an impact on the quality of water.

5.3.3 ISSUE 3 – HERITAGE

Plan change 24 and Variation 25 introduced protection mechanisms for outstanding and amenity landscapes and significant natural areas (SNAs). These Plan changes became operative in 2012. Concerns have been raised by some iwi partners that these provisions have resulted in an unfair bias on multiple-owned Māori land. This is because a large amount of Māori land has not been developed and therefore has a higher proportion of Significant Natural Areas. We know through monitoring that some SNAs have been cleared illegally for development.

The Operative District Plan lists four Heritage Sites. Although these sites still exist and appear to have been protected by the District Plan, there have been significant changes in national criteria around recognising Heritage values.

5.3.4 ISSUE 4 – THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Plan change 24 and Variation 25 introduced protection mechanisms for outstanding and amenity landscapes and Significant Natural Areas (SNAs). These Plan changes became operative in 2012. We know through monitoring that some SNAs have been cleared for development.

The District Plan has not directly addressed key issues regarding the protection and enhancement of water quality. The main nutrient inputs have been dealt with through other mechanisms such as:

- Stormwater management
- Through the Waikato Regional Plan Variation 5 provisions
- Waikato Regional Plan Change 1
- Through the Lake Taupo Protection Trust
- Wastewater management.

5.3.5 ISSUE 5 – THE AVOIDANCE OF HAZARDS

The Taupō District has many natural hazards which the District Plan seeks to manage and ensure subdivision and development is undertaken in a manner that does not adversely impact on the community. These hazards are identified on planning maps. This has ensured the community is

aware of the hazard location and assisted with avoiding inappropriate development. Council's growth management strategy TD2050 identifies a number of urban growth areas, all of which avoid natural hazards.

Plan Change 34 reviewed the existing flood hazard modelling and introduced a risk-based framework to protect people and property from flood hazards. This was made operative in 2019. The plan change considered flooding from six rivers and streams and Lake Taupō. The risk based approach is required by the Waikato Regional Policy Statement.

5.3.6 ISSUE 6 – GROWTH MANAGEMENT

A philosophical change in the direction of the District Plan was made through plan changes 19-21 in 2010. These changes were made to provide more direction on where urban development was appropriate. Growth areas that were ready to go were rezoned, while a plan change was put in place and the requirement for structure planning for future growth areas requiring more detailed work was introduced.

In reality, the district has not seen the level of growth that had been anticipated back in 2006. This is partly due to the Global Financial Crisis that started in 2008 which slowed the economy and caused a step change in the flow of credit to facilitate development. This is particularly relevant in a district where approximately one third of the housing is holiday homes.

Council's understanding of future demographic projections has also improved. In 2006 Council had anticipated residential growth would continue for the foreseeable future. This meant land could be identified for future urban growth and it would then be a matter of time before it was utilised. We now have the information from the Census in 2006 and 2013 and Statistics New Zealand has significantly changed its projections. The district's usually resident population is expected to peak in the late 2030's before going into decline. This has forced a rethink on how much land might be required for urban growth. There has also been a number of other changes which have necessitated a refresh of TD2050 2006:

- A number of growth areas identified in 2006 covered areas of multiple-owned Māori land. At the time it had been assumed that they would be developed in a conventional manner, however multiple-owned Māori land tenure and the market have meant traditional development mechanisms have not worked and forced a reconsideration.
- New responsibilities under the National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity which reinforce a need for integrated planning;
- Identification of the Council's top challenges within the Challenges Report, which was adopted by the Council in 2018 and helps to drive decision making and priorities;
- The 2014 amendments to the Local Government Act 2002 placing an emphasis on asset management planning as part of the Council's prudent stewardship of resources, and a requirement to prepare an infrastructure strategy for at least a 30-year period and incorporate this within its Long Term Plan (LTP);
- The adoption of the new Council Vision to be the most liveable and prosperous district by 2022;
- The District Plan is due for review and will need to have the future development pattern embedded within it.

5.3.7 ISSUE 7 – BUSINESS ACTIVITY

This approach to managing the town centre was introduced in the Taupō Urban Commercial and Industrial Structure Plan (2011) and is supported through TD2050. It has been included in the District Plan and it is expected that it will continue to be supported through the upcoming review process.

To achieve this, Council has a proactive programme of investment in the public spaces to improve the look and feel of the town centre. There is a programme of progressive street upgrades, renewal of street furniture, and regular maintenance and investment in new facilities. Council has also made changes to the District Plan to encourage redevelopment by removing car parking requirements, introducing flexibility in building heights and other elements like making it easier for development to occur in laneways.

To support these proactive measures and achieve a consolidated and vibrant town centre, the District Plan was also amended to make it clear that retail and office activity belonged in the town centre. Restrictions were placed on those activities locating in residential or industrial areas. This helps to create certainty for landowners which in turn helps to create the confidence to drive future public and private investment in the town centre.

6 Engagement

6.1 General Stakeholder and Community Engagement

Taupō District Council has prepared a Background and Engagement report which sets out the stakeholder and community engagement undertaken as part of the wider plan review. This included indirect and direct engagement on the Strategic Directions. The following is a summary of key engagement which is directly relevant to the development of the Strategic Directions Chapter.

6.1.1 REGISTER

In September 2019 Council opened a “register your interest” process in the District Plan review. This was advertised through social media and ongoing conversations with key stakeholders. Members of the public can enter their contact details to be kept in the loop on the plan review/changes. The register also allowed general comment on particular issues and also identification of key topics of interest.

Between 2018 and 2022 Council used this register to email key updates, and also when the draft plan changes for pre-consultation was notified. This allowed members of the community with a particular interest in the District Plan to be kept up to date. As of August 2022, 111 people or organisations were registered on this list.

6.1.2 MEETINGS

As well as scheduling a number of meetings with key stakeholders, an open-door policy was undertaken with numerous meetings held with different groups throughout the development of the plan changes.

6.1.3 DROP-IN SESSIONS

A series of drop-in sessions were held with the rural community to identify the key issues within the rural part of the District. These were held out and about in the rural community at the Tiohanga Community Hall, Omori Community Hall, River Road Hall and the Taupō District Council Chambers throughout March 2019.

6.1.4 ENERGY SECTOR

Energy is obviously a highly significant industry within the Taupō District. At the start of the process when a full District Plan Review was anticipated an energy working group was established. This group involved all the key energy providers in the Taupō district including:

- Genesis Energy
- Contact Energy
- Mercury
- Manawa Energy

Several meetings were held with all or some of these organisations, and a district wide tour of the generation sites was held over 2 days in September 2020. A substantial component of work was done by the energy sector on the skeleton for an Energy and Infrastructure Chapter. When we moved to a more refined scope of plan changes, the Energy and Infrastructure Chapter was not included in the first bundle of plan changes. However ongoing meetings with the energy sector, in particular on the Rural and Strategic Directions Chapters continued to occur.

The ongoing view of the energy sector is that the District Plan would benefit from an Energy chapter. This has not been taken off the table and will be discussed with Council when scoping subsequent plan change bundles.

Pre-consultation phase

Between 13 May 2022 and 13 June 2022 a pre-consultation process was run. Five “packages” were consulted on including the draft Strategic Directions Chapter as well as four other draft chapters. A copy of the draft Strategic Directions Chapter consulted on can be found in Appendix 4.

157 submissions were received, which resulted in over 1200 submission points. In general the feedback was relatively supportive with a number of amendments being made based on feedback.

The following groups were contacted specifically in regards to the pre-consultation process:

- Council executive and Councillors
- Council customer service team
- Key Council staff members
- Iwi partners
- Department of Conservation
- District Plan Register (111 key stakeholders)
- Amplify Taupō
- Town Centre Taupō
- Taupō Chamber of Commerce
- Energy providers
- Landowners affected by height changes in the town centre
- Landowners affected by potential industrial land assessment
- Taupō East Rural Representative Group
- Mangakino Pouakani Representative Group
- Turangi Tongariro Community Board
- Planning, building, development consultants
- Residents Associations and groups
- Lakes and Waterways Action Group
- Miraka Limited
- Permapine
- Federated Farmers
- Waikato Regional Council
- Hawkes Bay Regional Council
- BOP Regional Council
- Ministry for the Environment
- Rangitaiki River Forum
- Horizons MW
- Fonterra
- Taupō Motor Sport Park
- Seays Earthworks
- Rangatira E land owners
- Waka Kotahi

As well as this specific consultation general communications was put out via:

- Council website
- Council facebook page
- Media release
- Council “Connect” page

Council staff used these rounds of engagement to understand issues and perspectives, to draft possible district plan provisions, to test these with key stakeholders, and to modify those district plan provisions in response.

6.2 Iwi Engagement

Clause 3 of Schedule 1 of the RMA sets out the requirements for local authorities to consult with tāngata whenua and iwi authorities.

Council used the following methods to create an Iwi Reference Group.

- Joint Management Agreement

- Iwi environmental management plan
- Partnerships
- Collaboration

The purpose of the Iwi Reference Group is to provide Council with a single forum to socialise the proposed changes to the ODP.

The Iwi Reference Group is made up of all Iwi and Hapū within the Taupo District that Council currently consults with via the resource consent process.

Clause 4A of Schedule 1 of the RMA sets out the requirements for local authorities to consult with iwi authorities before notifying a proposed plan. Clause 4A(b) requires Council to have particular regard to any advice received on a draft proposed policy statement or plan from those iwi authorities and this section sets out advice received from those iwi authorities relevant to Strategic Directions chapter and consideration of that advice.

The iwi authorities within the Taupo District include:

- Te Kotahitanga Ngāti Tūwharetoa (TKNT)
- Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board (TMTB)
- Turangitukua Environmental Committee
- Turangitukua Māori Committee
- Raukawa Charitable Trust
- Te Arawa River Iwi Trust (TARIT)
- Ngāti Tahu-Whaoa Runanga Trust
- CNI Iwi Holdings Ltd
- Ngāti Hineuru
- Ngāti Manawa
- Ngāti Whare
- Rangitikei River Forum (not an iwi authority but a useful avenue for engagement)

Taupō District Council have taken an active role in engaging with the majority of these iwi authorities. Ngāti Hineuru, Ngāti Manawa, CNI Holdings Ltd and Ngāti whare have had less involvement. Material has been circulated to these partners; however limited engagement has occurred. These partners have either a less significant area of interest, other priorities or have chosen not to be involved.

6.2.1 KEY MILESTONES OF ENGAGEMENT WITH IWI

27 June 2019	Initial Hui with all iwi partners. TDC criticised for not formally commencing the District Plan under the JMAs prior to the meeting.
	Following this hui started approximately six months of discussions re commencement of the DP review under the JMAs and RMA.

26 May 2020	Formally commenced the District Plan Review under the RMA and JMAs.
13 August 2020	Assessed applicants for a consultant to assist in the iwi engagement process. The assessment team included applicants from TDC, TKNT, Ngati Tahu/Whaoa and Raukawa (A rep from TARIT made apologies on the day due to family illness).
17 August 2020	James Whetu was selected as the iwi engagement consultant.
August 2020 – August 2021	James Whetu held a series of meetings with iwi partners discussing issues and seeking feedback on draft work.
April 2021	Summary of feedback received provided by James, in particular on Strategic Directions, Rural, Papakāinga, Natural Values.
June 2021	NBEA exposure draft released
6 July 2021	Workshop with Council following NBEA Exposure Draft. Recommendation to change from a comprehensive review to a “pinchpoint” series of plan changes. The first bundle would include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Directions (based on feedback from iwi partners that this was critical) • Rural Chapters • Residential coverage • Additional industrial land • Town Centre heights
May 2021	James Whetu decides not to continue contract due to other commitments. Iwi partners all updated and discussions held how to continue. Most iwi partners wished to carry on dealing directly with Council officers (which was also Council officers’ preference) as felt connection had been lost with iwi partners and were missing some of the context of the feedback.
May 2021	Iwi partners also updated on the change of approach from a comprehensive to a series of plan changes due to the RMA reform.
27 September 2021	Letter to TMTB, Raukawa and TARIT seeking support to revoke 2020 commencement resolution for a comprehensive review and move to a series of plan changes.
29 March 2022	Council revokes 2020 resolution and supports move to a series of plan changes, with the written support from Raukawa, TARIT and TMTB.
March – April 2022	A series of meetings/workshops with the iwi partners to discuss the direction and details of the draft plan changes. Focus was Strategic Directions, papakāinga provisions and potential Māori Purpose zone.
25 April 2022	Iwi partners emailed to signal we would be consulting on the draft plan changes over May/June.

12 May 2022	<p>Iwi partners emailed the information relating to the draft plan changes. Also signalled very happy to meet. Iwi partners included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TKNT – George Asher and Hinemoa Wanikau • TMTB – Peter Shepard • Turangitukua Environmental Committee – Tina Porou • Turangitukua Māori Committee – sent later (3 June) as missed this first time • Raukawa – Illana Batchelor and Andrea Julian • TARIT – Evelyn Forrest, Nuki Nicholson and Jo Ireland • Ngāti Tahu-Ngāti Whaoa – Evelyn Forrest and Michelle Phillips • Hineuru – Te Rangihau Gilbert • Ngāti Manawa - Maramena Vercoe • Ngāti Whare – Bronco Carson • Rangitikei River Forum – via Shari Kameta (BOPRC)
26 May 2022	<p>Followed up with the key iwi partners (TMTB, TKNT, Raukawa, Tahu-Whaoa, TARIT) to see if they would like a session on the draft plan changes. Had already had a session with TKNT (16 May). The following iwi partners responded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TMTB – would like a session. Met with Cher Mohi and Peter Shepard on 31 May. • Tahu-whaoa – replied they were fairly comfortable. Also been speaking to the TARIT team and will liaise regarding their submissions. Meeting not required. • Raukawa – no reply received. • TKNT – Session held with George Asher on 16 May. Fairly comfortable once we had talked through SD and papakāinga provisions. • TARIT – met with Nuki Nicholson and Jo Ireland on 19 May. Ran through all the of the plan changes.
7 July 2022	<p>Meeting with Raukawa (Andrea Julian), who had been unable to meet earlier. Wanted some discussion with Mokai regarding rural lifestyle zoning. Attempting to seek clarification with consultant who submitted on this. Andrea happy with papakāinga provisions but wanting to run past Mokai hapu.</p>
26 July 2022	<p>Emails to TARIT and Raukawa regarding the “content” of the DP changes, in accordance with the JMA clauses. Email of support received from TARIT. At the time of drafting support had not been received from Raukawa, although it had been expressed verbally</p>

6.3 Developing the Strategic Directions Chapter and community and iwi engagement

The Taupō District Council took a co-development approach with iwi in the formation of the proposed Strategic Directions Chapter. This engagement was initiated in January 2021 using the following process:

1. Taupō District Council staff prepare draft documents, and where applicable, provide comment on how the draft document seeks to:
 - address the iwi/mana whenua specific issues
 - achieve the iwi/mana whenua specific desired outcomes
2. James Whetu (Consultant) to provide a technical review of draft documents and may suggest amendments,
3. The reviewed draft document is sent to each iwi partner for their comment and any amendments to clarify/confirm/recognise Te Tiriti o Waitangi in the draft documents (including enabling the outcomes that Treaty settlement redress and legislation is intended to achieve)

6.3.1 ISSUES AND OPTIONS PAPER – STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

An initial draft issues and options paper for the TD Strategic Directions Chapter was developed in Jan 2021 and reviewed by iwi/planning consultant James Whetu. A revised paper was sent to the following Iwi partners on 14/03/21 as part of a package of draft documents:

- Ngāti Tahu/Ngāti Whaoa
- Te Arawa River Iwi Trust
- Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board
- Te Kotahitanga o Ngāti Tūwharetoa
- Ngāti Tūrangitukua Charitable Trust
- Raukawa Charitable Trust

This paper sets out the key strategic matters that the district faces and discusses, based on the issues, where we want to be in the future (the outcomes).

The paper also looks at options for how these outcomes will be achieved.

Although there are many issues the District Plan needs to address, this chapter deals with the strategic matters that will lead to a set of strategic directions that will take priority when there are conflicting objectives.

The issues and strategic directions in this chapter have been determined because they:

- Result in strategic outcomes that will help provide direction in situations of competing objectives
- Are mandatory requirements that Council has to manage under the Resource Management Act and other legislation
- Are relevant across the District, catchments and regions
- Cut across many District Plan chapters
- Are multi-layered and are influenced by many factors
- Are contributed to by many activities and land uses
- Have the potential to impact on many people within the district
- Are not already appropriately addressed by another body (for example the Regional Council).

- Recognise the opportunities by working in partnership with Mana Whenua to achieve holistic and integrated outcomes for the Taupō district, and
- Acknowledge the importance of mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) and tikanga Māori to inform Council's processes and decision making to ensure the District Plan recognises and provides for the relationship of Mana Whenua and their culture and traditions with, and use of, their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga.

The paper identified the following matters that will result in strategic objectives:

- Recognise Te Tiriti o Waitangi and enable the outcomes that Treaty settlement redress and legislation is intended to achieve
- Management of Urban Growth (within the Urban Form and Development Chapter)

These matters were identified by:

- Looking at the current District Plan and identifying problems and opportunities
- Talking to regular users of the Plan and Mana Whenua
- Learnings through strategic planning exercises such as TD2050 (the district's growth strategy)
- From requirements set out in Treaty settlement legislation

Following the distribution of this report to iwi partners, hui were held either via Zoom or in person over a two week period (23/03/21 – 31/03/21) to discuss the package of draft documents. Regarding the *Issues and Options Report for Strategic Directions section/chapter*, the general feedback was:

- Generally positive response to the direction of the section/chapter to recognise Te Tiriti o Waitangi within the PDP and approach to Te Ao Māori, mātauranga Maori and kaitiakitanga.
- General satisfaction with the iwi/mana whenua specific desired outcomes described in the draft document.
- Would like the issues for iwi/mana whenua in the draft document to be re-framed to read as issues, and to remove issues that are duties of TDC.
- There are some typos and gaps (eg missed legislation) that will need to be picked up.
- For inclusion in Urban Form and Development chapter, the recognition and consideration given to Māori land and Treaty settlement land that was returned and is located outside of urban areas but has likely future urban growth potential.
- Iwi partners would like to look at final/tidy version of the draft document before it is made publicly available or used for consultation.

Following that initial engagement, issues for iwi/mana whenua were identified as:

- Limited opportunities for Mana Whenua to have a role in environmental decision making, and governance and partnership in resource management.
- Substandard recognition and provision for the relationship of Māori with their ancestral lands, sites and other taonga.
- Over time, the deterioration of the health and wellbeing of significant water bodies within the Taupō district which has impacted on water quality to a point where swimming, drinking, taking of food, tikanga and exercising of mana whenua have been compromised.
- Inability to require, and to integrate and incorporate, mātauranga Māori and tikanga Māori (includes the practice of kaitiakitanga) in the resource management processes and decision making by Taupō District Council.
- Previous and current District Plan provisions have constrained the use and development of Māori land and lands returned through Treaty of Waitangi settlement.

The desired outcomes for iwi/mana whenua were also identified as follows:

- Enhance the partnership and participation of Mana Whenua in resource management processes and decision-making.
- Enable the appropriate development and use of ancestral lands and taonga so that Mana Whenua can provide for their economic and social wellbeing.
- The restoration, protection and enhancement of mauri (the environmental, cultural and spiritual health and wellbeing) of Lake Taupō, Waikato River and Rangitāiki River catchments.
- The access and use of mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge), and the application of tikanga Māori, to inform Council's decision making.

The above desired outcomes are both inclusive of, and in addition to, legislative responsibilities on Taupō District Council with Iwi authorities and the requirement to recognise and provide for the relationship of Māori with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga, as well as the role and responsibility of hapū/mana whenua as kaitiaki in the Taupō District.

In September 2021, the scope was reviewed on the basis of this feedback and wider discussion and the issues/strategic direction areas were expanded to include the following:

- Tāngata Whenua
- Fresh water quality / Te Mana o Te Wai
- Urban form and development
- Climate change
- Strategic infrastructure
- Natural values and landscapes

These matters were identified as being of high importance to the wider district and required high level direction to be applied throughout the Plan.

A draft chapter was developed which included objectives and policies for each of the strategic directions. The approach for each of these directions is summarised as follows:

- **Tāngata Whenua:** Key concepts of tikanga, mana whakahaere, kaitiakitanga, manaakitanga, whakapapa, mautaranga māori and te whanake are anchored in the Plan and integrated throughout resource management planning and decision making in the Taupō District. The implications of this approach should cascade through the wider Plan and subsequent resource consent and plan change decision making. The identified concepts encompass wider thinking around integrated land management, sustainable development, use of Māori land, the relationship of Māori to their land and wider rohe, etc.
- **Freshwater quality / Te Mana o Te Wai:** The proposed direction is couched in the positive to reflect the anticipated role of the Plan as it relates to water quality. This objective is to recognise and incentivise those activities that will have a positive impact on freshwater quality in the district. This positive approach is taken with consideration of the role of the District Plan in freshwater management relative to that of regional planning documents. It also enables the articulation of the importance of the connection between Māori and water and echoes the important whole/integrated catchment management approach - ki uta ki tai.
- **Urban form and development:** The proposed direction anchors the landuse planning which is established in TD2050 2018 to maximise the efficient use of land with infrastructure, the support of development that will be socially beneficial by protecting town centres and ensuring that subdivision, use and development will not detract from the wider amenity, character and effective functioning of the environment in which it is located.
- **Climate change:** The direction covers two different aspects of climate change, being the effects of the development on climate change and the effects of climate change on land use

and development. The intent of this direction is to promote positive climate change outcomes from new developments so that such development will be supported by the Plan. The direction also signals a requirement for new development to consider the effects of climate change on their development, i.e. natural hazards.

- **Strategic infrastructure:** The direction considers the important role of significant infrastructure to the district and the wider country. The objectives have a focus on enabling the development of such infrastructure and on protecting that which currently exists. There is specific reference to sustainable electricity generation and transport infrastructure which are important features of the Taupō District.
- **Natural values and landscapes:** The direction advocates for an overall protection of important natural value and landscape areas from inappropriate development. These areas support positive activities with an intent to bring about positive change to the areas and their values. The draft direction established a recognition of the dominance of indigenous vegetation on Māori land and the importance of Māori landowners being able to continue to utilise their land for traditional uses including kaianga etc.

This scope was confirmed by governance in September 2021.

A draft chapter was provided to iwi partners for comment. Hui were held in person or remotely with each iwi partner to discuss the draft provisions and get feedback in late 2021. The provisions were revised to reflect feedback.

The draft chapter (Appendix 4) was released for comment in the pre consultation phase in May 2022. 161 specific comments were received on the draft Strategic Directions chapter. On review of these submission points the draft chapter was revised to reflect those submission points which raised matters that required change. Ngāti Tahu Ngāti Whaoa submitted on the draft provisions. Several amendments were made to the draft provisions as a result of these submissions. Feedback was provided to the iwi on their submission.

The revised chapter (Appendix 5) is to be notified as Plan Change 38 to the Taupō District Plan.

7 Governance

Taupō District Councillors have been involved in the development of the Plan Changes through regular workshops since 2018. The following list outlines the workshops that have been undertaken. These workshops are publicly advertised and open for the public to attend.

Date	Content
7 August 2018	Overview of review and issues
26 February 2019	Strategic Directions and Rural Chapter
26 March 2019	Current zoning, hazards, open spaces
30 April 2019	National Planning Standards update, update on rural consultation
25 June 2019	Issues and options papers for Strategic Directions, Rural and Open Spaces
6 August 2019	Update on iwi partners form and process from here
12 May 2020	Progress update, iwi obligations, natural values
18 August 2020	Engagement with iwi partners, Rural chapters

29 September 2020	Update on rural progress
6 July 2021	Refining the scope of the District Plan Review
7 September 2021	Scope of first bundle of plan changes
26 April 2022	Run through of 5 plan changes prior to pre-consultation. Setting up working group.

8 Scale and Significance

The proposed provisions consist of high-level objectives and policies that will have a varying effect on the District depending on their subject, scope and application. They do set the direction on those matters of importance to the district and will influence the development of additional policies and methods as the wider Plan is reviewed and as variations and plan changes are considered.

On this basis, the proposed provisions are considered to be significant as they will influence planning and decision making across the Taupō District.

9 Evaluation of the Objectives

9.1 Evaluation of the Proposed Objectives against the Purpose of the Act:

Section 32(1)(a) of the Resource Management Act requires the Council to examine the extent to which the objectives are the most appropriate way to achieve the sustainable management purpose of the Resource Management Act.

Any proposed objective and policy framework must give effect to higher order statutory directions.¹ The objective and policy approach for the Strategic Directions Chapter is therefore directed by, and must give effect to the relevant regional policy statements. A complete assessment of the objectives against higher order documents is included in Appendix 2.

The proposed objectives for each strategic direction have been developed in a manner where they collectively implement the direction in question. In most cases the objectives should not be considered in isolation of each other and need to be applied collectively. Where this is the case, the objectives have been evaluated against the Act and higher order statutory directions collectively. Where there is an objective that is distinct from others and / or addresses distinct elements of a direction, they are evaluated separately.

9.1.1 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1: TĀNGATA WHENUA

Objectives

1. The values, rights and interests of Taupō District mana whenua are recognised and protected.
2. Mana whenua are a partner in District Plan planning and decision making.
3. Resource management planning and decision making reflects tikanga, mana whakahaere, kaitiakitanga, manaakitanga, whakapapa, mautaranga māori and te whanake.
4. Support development on Māori land that meets the needs of those landowners and respects the exercise of kaitiakitanga, self-determination and the relationship of tangata whenua with their land, water, significant sites and waahi tapu.
5. Māori are supported to develop their ancestral lands for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing.
6. The principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi are taken into account through District Plan planning and decision making.

Resources of cultural and spiritual significance to Tangata Whenua can be lost or damaged if development and activities are undertaken without consideration for the value or significance of the site. The Plan recognises and provides for the special relationship of Tangata Whenua, their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water and other taonga.

The recognition and acceptance that there are different understandings of resource issues between Tāngata Whenua and the Council is an important factor of resource management.

The Council, through the District Plan, is required to take into account the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. This is to be done at all levels of planning and decision making under the Plan.

A comparatively high proportion of the district is Māori freehold or multiple-owned land. There is a strong desire for Māori to return to their ancestral land, with a range of aspirations for changed land use, land development and settlement, whilst exercising kaitiakitanga and protecting sites of cultural significance. The District Plan has an important role to play in supporting Mana Whenua in achieving these aspirations.

The Council is also required, in partnership with Mana Whenua, to recognise and provide for the Māori values in resource management and decision making. These include the important

¹ Resource Management Act 1991, section 75(3)(c).

relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga and to have particular regard to kaitiakitanga.

This is to happen not just through recognition and incorporation of these matters into the Plan but also through the wider decision making and Plan implementation process. These values should not be considered as a separate matter to the wider Plan but are expected to be applied throughout all aspects of planning and decision making within the Taupō District.

The District Plan Issues and Monitoring Report (see 5.3.2) identified that the District Plan does not effectively recognise and provide for the relationship of Māori with their culture, traditions, ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga. The following issues were identified to be addressed through the District Plan Review:

- Involve iwi partners through a collaborative process from the start of the review
- Incorporate the Māori world view throughout the Plan
- Review and where possible improve the papakainga provisions
- Ensure improved understanding and knowledge of the papakainga provisions.

The proposed objectives establish this direction in the plan to enable a more comprehensive approach to ensure that Māori and Māori values are reflected in planning and decision making within the Taupō District.

These provisions were developed with Mana Whenua and also reflect key direction from iwi planning documents which Council is required to take into account when reviewing their District Plan.

Evaluation

The focus of these objectives is to better enable recognition and involvement of Mana Whenua and their tikanga into resource management processes to better provide for their social, economic, and cultural wellbeing, as well as provide benefits to the wider district's lands and communities.

Planning and decision making in a manner consistent with the proposed objectives will be beneficial to implementing all matters set out in Section 5 (2) a, b and c.

The objectives will be beneficial to the social wellbeing of iwi, hapū and whanau through better recognition of their values and role as Mana Whenua in the planning process.

Supporting development on Māori land will potentially enable social benefits to be accrued from the improved connection and use of traditional lands. This will include any additional direct benefit to landowners from developing those lands.

Better supporting the development of traditional lands will potentially lead to economic wellbeing benefits to owners as well as the wider community.

The proposed objectives will better enable important cultural values to be reflected in planning and decision making. They also signal a partnership approach whereby Mana Whenua are more directly involved in planning and decision making processes within the district. Better incorporation of important values will also ensure that this important tikanga is part of the planning process.

The proposed objectives will better provide for Section 6e and c matters than currently. The proposed objectives embed these matters into the Plan.

The proposed objectives include direct reference to Section 7a so that it, and other important tikanga and values, are reflected in resource management and decision making within the district.

The proposed objective 6 embeds this directive into the Plan to ensure that the need to take into account the principles of the Treaty is part of planning and decision making within the district.

Objective 2 reflects the principle of partnership and the work of the wider objectives to more actively protect Māori interests and make informed decisions.

Assessment of Alternative Objectives

The ODP contains Section 3g Tāngata Whenua Cultural Values. As an alternative to the addition of the strategic direction on Tāngata Whenua chapter into the Plan, Council has the option of relying on the existing provisions in Section 3g.

Advantages	Disadvantages	Reason why discarded
<p>The existing objective recognises and provides for the cultural and spiritual values of Tāngata Whenua.</p>	<p>Reliance on the existing objective would not be consistent with the direction in the National Planning Standards.</p> <p>The existing provisions do not fully meet the requirements of Part 2 of the Act.</p> <p>The existing provisions do not respond to the issues identified through engagement with Tāngata Whenua or the wider community.</p>	<p>While the existing provisions are to be retained in the Plan under this plan change, solely relying on them will mean that the plan is not meeting its statutory requirements.</p>

9.1.2 STRATEGIC DIRECTION TWO: FRESHWATER QUALITY / TE MANA O TE WAI

Proposed Objective

Subdivision and land use is managed in a way that promotes the positive effects, while avoiding, remedying, or mitigating adverse effects (including cumulative effects) of that development on the mauri, health and wellbeing of water bodies, freshwater ecosystems, and receiving environments within the Taupō District.

The health and wellbeing of the lakes and rivers in the district have been degraded both directly and indirectly over recent decades. This degradation includes declining water quality, loss of indigenous biodiversity, loss of access and declining water availability. This is the result of activities both on land and in the water bodies themselves. Waterways continue to face increasing demands for use, such as takes for irrigation and drinking water, hydro power generation, and assimilation of discharges from towns, agriculture and other industry; as well as pressures arising from land management practices, land use change and intensification. Holistic and integrated management of land and water resources is critical to reversing declining trends.

The Taupō District Plan has a responsibility to manage the adverse effects on the environment that may arise from subdivision and land use in the district. Managing the adverse effects on waterways resulting from subdivision and land use forms part of that responsibility and there are clear benefits from doing this. The state of the district's freshwater resources is of significant interest to the Taupō

District community, and it is important that positive freshwater outcomes are achieved through the application of the Plan.

Incorporation of water quality provisions is a new direction for the District Plan. The Operative District Plan stayed silent on the issue, relying on regional policy statements and plans to manage water quality. Water quality is an important matter within the Taupō District. The quality of the district's lakes and rivers have been identified as being of high importance to the district's communities. As indicated in key legislation and plans, the waters of the district are of significant cultural and community value.

As identified in the District Plan Monitoring Report, water bodies are of special importance within the district. Water bodies within the district are some of the district's greatest natural assets. Many values are associated with these water bodies, including resource use, recreation, natural, cultural and historic values that all need to be appropriately incorporated into their management. Of concern is the potential for activities on the surface of the water to have adverse effects on the amenity values of particular water bodies, causing conflict and limiting the water bodies' capacity to cope with use.

In particular, Lake Taupō, considered by many to be the central natural feature and taonga of the district, is a significant natural feature. Only a long term and integrated approach to resource management in the Lake Taupō catchment will be effective in dealing with the complex and often inter-related resource management issues facing this waterbody. Of importance is water quality, with nutrient inputs from sources such as run-off from pastoral agriculture activities, poorly managed on-site effluent treatment, and stormwater from roads and development, thereby deteriorating the existing quality of water.

The 2016 Challenges Report identified the following 'challenges' relating to water:

- We need to play our part in improving water quality and help our communities adjust to the changes in the way we use land.
- We need to use our water more efficiently.

The reported challenges identified that community expectations around having access to good quality freshwater are growing. This is in part driven by economic concerns like the direct use of water for economic purposes, however there is a broader community desire to look after our environment and ensure it is a good place to live.

The objective does not seek to manage discharges to water as that is a responsibility of regional councils. The objective does seek an enhancement of water quality through landuse and subdivision activities which are managed by the Plan.

The objective has been written in a manner consistent with Section 3.5(4) of the NPS Freshwater Management which states the following:

Every territorial authority must include objectives, policies, and methods in its district plan to promote positive effects, and avoid, remedy, or mitigate adverse effects (including cumulative effects), of urban development on the health and well-being of water bodies, freshwater ecosystems, and receiving environments.

Reference to mauri has been introduced into the objective in response to feedback received from iwi in the June 2022 consultation on the draft provisions.

Evaluation

This objective has a specific focus on sustaining the potential of water to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations as well as safeguarding its life supporting potential. The inclusion of the objective reflects the importance of managing activities that may impact on the water resource to ensure that the social and cultural values of freshwater are provided for.

The state of the district's freshwater is of considerable interest to the Taupō District community. It is used for recreation purposes (swimming, boating, fishing etc) by locals and visitors, and the cleanliness of the district's lakes and rivers is also something which is valued by the community generally.

Tourism is the district's biggest employer and the district's lakes and rivers are a key drawcard for domestic and international visitors. Huka Falls is the most visited natural attraction in the country. Lake and river quality is directly important to the enjoyment of the destination and is directly related to a number of activities such as the district's fishery, events (e.g. Ironman) and businesses that are reliant on using the district's lakes and rivers. The cleanliness of the district's waterways has a direct relationship to the tourism industry and the businesses that make up that industry.

Taupō Waters (which includes its lakes and tributaries) is a taonga tuku iho and of paramount importance to Ngāti Tūwharetoa. The relationship of the Waikato River Iwi with the Waikato River lies at the heart of their spiritual, cultural, historic and physical wellbeing and their identity. This has not only been expressed by Mana Whenua but is set out in national and regional level planning documents.

The proposed objective seeks to ensure that the health and wellbeing of the district's lakes and rivers is enhanced. This will, in turn, have beneficial effects on the health and wellbeing of communities.

The proposed objective is specifically relevant to Section 6 (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e). The lakes and rivers within the Taupō District are of significant value to the local community. Many have been identified as outstanding natural features and landscapes, and their margins often have areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna. These values and qualities are often directly reliant on the quality of the water within these water bodies and ecosystems.

Māori have an integral relationship with the district's waterways.

The land, waterways and water bodies and all things within the environment and the related customary resource rights, are of fundamental importance to the continued existence of the hapū of Ngāti Tūwharetoa. These taonga tuku iho constitute the basis of the economic livelihood and are the sources of the spiritual, cultural and social identity of Ngāti Tūwharetoa².

Seeking to restore and protect these waterways reflects this relationship and the need to ensure that they are maintained in a state which reflects the values placed on these waterways by Māori within the Taupō District.

The proposed objective is specifically relevant to Section 7 (a), (aa), (c), (d), (f) and (h). The objective reflects the need to have particular regard to the values of freshwater ecosystems, and the maintenance and enhancement of the quality of water bodies, freshwater ecosystems, and receiving environments within the Taupō District.

The proposed objective has been developed in collaboration with iwi. The objective has been revised during its development to ensure it reflects the important values placed by Māori on waterways.

Assessment of Alternative Objectives

The ODP contains objective 3e.2.4 which has a water quality focus. The objective has a more restricted focus on avoiding the degradation of lakes, waterways and aquifers from effluent and wastewater resulting from land development. 3e.2.4 is not proposed to be removed through this

² Nga Pou E Toru – Origins, Te Ngaehe Wanikau - Te Kopu o Kanapanapa, Te Kotahitanga o Ngāti Tūwharetoa

first part of the plan review. The assessment below considers the proposed objectives against relying solely on 3e.2.4.

Advantages	Disadvantages	Reason why discarded
<p>3e.2.4 provides clear direction to avoid the degradation of water quality from effluent etc.</p> <p>Associated policies provide useful direction re servicing of new development.</p>	<p>3e.2.4 is not written in a manner which is wholly consistent with the NPS Freshwater.</p> <p>3e.2.4 does not consider the wider impacts on freshwater or the wider values of these waters.</p> <p>3e.2.4 does not recognise those activities that are likely to result in benefits to freshwater.</p>	<p>The existing objective is not consistent with national direction and does not fully consider the impacts and benefits to freshwater that could result from subdivision and landuse.</p>

9.1.3 STRATEGIC DIRECTION THREE: URBAN FORM AND DEVELOPMENT

Proposed Objectives

1. The district develops in a cohesive, compact and structured way that:
 - a. contributes to well-functioning and compact urban forms that provide for connected liveable communities;
 - b. enables greater social and cultural vitality and wellbeing, including through recognising the relationship of tāngata whenua with their culture, traditions, and taonga;
 - c. ensures infrastructure is efficiently and effectively integrated with land use; and
 - d. meets the community's short, medium and long-term housing and business needs.
2. Subdivision, use and development of land will be consistent with TD2050 2018 to maximise the efficient use of zoned and serviced urban land and is co-ordinated with the provision of cost effective infrastructure.
3. Subdivision, use and development of land which will have demonstrable social and cultural benefits to the district's community will be supported.
4. Development is serviced by an appropriate level of infrastructure that effectively meets the needs of that development.
5. The Town Centre Environment is strengthened and reinforced as the primary commercial, retail, recreational, cultural and entertainment centre for Taupō District.
6. Subdivision, use and development will not detract from the planned urban built form and effective functioning of the environment in which it is located.
7. Subdivision is designed to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the environment and occurs in a sequenced and coherent manner that protects or enhances the important natural values of the environment where it is located.

The Taupō District's diverse and growing population has led to increased demand for housing and demand for new commercial and industrial areas. Urban development also generates further demand for infrastructure services, particularly development infrastructure such as three waters and transportation services. The District Plan provides a framework for ensuring that urban development, subdivision and changes in land use occurs in a planned and efficient manner and is adequately serviced by infrastructure (including development and additional infrastructure).

The strategic directions for urban development establish the approach for urban form and development within the Plan as identified through the 2018 district-wide growth management

strategy, Taupō District 2050. This approach reflects an efficient and effective urban form which will develop in a manner that is appropriately serviced by infrastructure and reflects the important values and communities within the district.

As well as green field development, the Plan provides important guidance around the protection of existing urban areas, including Town Centres, to enable them to continue to function effectively in a manner that best serves the wider district.

The monitoring and issues report identified that the District Plan needs to ensure it is updated to reflect the revised TD2050, and that it maintains provisions within the Plan that strengthen the Town Centre Environment's role as the primary business, retail, recreational and entertainment hubs. The 2016 Challenges Report identified that:

- We need to ensure we have the right amount of land available for urban development
- We need to ensure we have sufficient industrial land available
- We need to ensure Turangi has a sustainable and vibrant town centre

The National Planning Standards also require direction on Urban Form and Development to be included in the Strategic Directions chapter.

The proposed provisions provide direction on the key urban form and land development matters of relevance to the district. They provide district-wide direction to address land development challenges and also to support wider strategic planning such as TD2050.

The provisions also reflect key direction from the NPS-UD 2020 including the importance of ensuring that land development is supported by suitable levels of infrastructure and the need to recognise the importance of providing for planned urban built form. The latter does reflect a move away from reliance on existing amenity as a key determinant of what is a suitable urban form and more to providing for effective and functional urban areas that provide for the current and future generations.

Evaluation

The proposed objectives specifically provide for urban form and development which will enable people and communities to provide for their wellbeings. The provisions consider the key components of urban areas and development which will ensure that it will function and provide for liveable areas for current and future communities. This includes taking a strategic and sustainable approach to ensure that there is adequate land supply which considers and directs this development to occur in the most appropriate locations, serviced by an appropriate level of infrastructure.

The objectives cover several key areas of importance to the Taupō District and their communities. This includes creating well-functioning urban areas, ensuring that development is supported by infrastructure and protecting the district's town centres. Further direction will be provided on these matters in the wider Plan, however the proposed objectives establish expectations on the direction of the wider provisions.

Social wellbeing outcomes are to be enabled through the creation of liveable and functioning urban areas that adequately cater for the needs of existing and future communities. The planning done through the development of TD2050 was to identify an urban form across the district that catered for growth in a manner that considers the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of communities.

Protection of town centres and confirming commercial and industrial areas will further ensure that these areas function effectively as economic centres in the district. Managing land use and development in these areas will assist in enabling the economic wellbeing to grow in these areas, and it will also support liveable areas by protecting residential areas etc from incompatible land uses.

The proposed objectives seek development that enables greater social and cultural vitality and wellbeing, including through recognising the relationship of tāngata whenua with their culture, traditions, and taonga. They also support development which is likely to have demonstrable cultural benefits.

The proposed objectives provide for an urban form and development that considers the matters set out in Section 6 of the Act. TD2050 identifies areas for urban development which are conscious of areas of natural and landscape value and hazard areas. The objectives directly provide for the relationship of Māori with their culture, traditions and taonga.

The proposed objectives provide for an efficient land use that considers the finite characteristics of natural and physical resources. This includes through ensuring that infrastructure is efficiently and effectively integrated with land use and will protect the important natural values of the environment where it is located.

The objectives anticipate development that enables greater cultural wellbeing and supports those developments that are likely to have a demonstrable cultural benefit.

Assessment of Alternative Objectives

Appendix 4 contains the draft objectives which were consulted on in the May- June 2022 consultation round. The assessment of alternatives is based on a reliance on the existing provisions in the ODP and not including high level direction through the inclusion of the proposed objectives.

Advantages	Disadvantages	Reason why discarded
The existing provisions do provide direction which covers several of the matters raised in the proposed objectives.	<p>The proposed objectives implement the national planning standards.</p> <p>The objectives recognise the importance of an integrated approach to urban form and development and set expectations at a district wide level.</p> <p>The provisions reflect direction from the NPS-UD and the latest version of the TD2050.</p>	The existing provisions do not reflect national level guidance or provide clear district wide direction on urban form and development.

9.1.4 STRATEGIC DIRECTION FOUR: CLIMATE CHANGE

Proposed Objectives

1. Subdivision, use and development of land in the Taupō District will result in positive climate change outcomes.
2. Subdivision, use and development of land in the Taupō District will be resilient to the current and future effects of climate change on the district's current and future communities, including any disproportionate effects on Māori.

3. The Taupo District is well prepared to adapt to the risks and effects from climate change, such as natural hazards.

Climate change has been identified as an issue which is important to the Taupō District. A warming environment, longer and drier droughts and increased intensity of storm events are anticipated. It is important that the district and its communities are able to adapt to the effects of climate change to be resilient and safe.

For environmental management and planning purposes there are two separate, but important, aspects of climate change:

1. Effects on climate change – which refers to activities that may lead to an increase in greenhouse gases and those which may result in a reduction of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere, or help to facilitate efforts towards decarbonisation.
2. Effects of climate change – which are the effects caused by climate change such as more frequent flooding, droughts or intensive weather events that can endanger communities, assets and infrastructure.

It is important to consider both of these aspects of climate change to effectively enable people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural wellbeing and for their health and safety. Supporting positive climate change outcomes and ensuring that the effects of climate change are recognised and provided for will assist in planning for a district which does not contribute to, and is resilient to, climate change. The Strategic Directions for climate change are consistent with the government's obligations to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050, and accords with the target for 100% renewable electricity generation by 2030.

The 2016 challenges report identified that the Council needs to be a leader in the community with regard to dealing with climate change. The Ministry for the Environment has released its climate change projections for the next 100 years. Projections for the Waikato region are:

- Temperature - compared to 1995, temperatures are likely to be 0.7 °C to 1.1 °C warmer by 2040 and 0.7 °C to 3.1 °C warmer by 2090.
- Rainfall - will vary locally within the region. The largest changes will be for particular seasons rather than annually. Winter rainfall in Ruakura is projected to increase by 4 to 8 per cent by 2090. In Taupō, winter rainfall is projected to increase by 4 to 7 per cent by 2090.
- Wind - the frequency of extremely windy days is likely to decrease by 2 to 3 per cent.
- Storms - future changes in the frequency of storms are likely to be small. However, the ex-tropical cyclones will likely be stronger and cause more damage as a result of heavy rain and strong winds.

The challenges report also identified the need to ensure that Taupō District communities and assets are resilient to climate change, especially to hazard events such as more intense storm events.

Evaluation

The proposed objectives require the consideration of the effects of development on climate change, and also require the effects of climate change on development, land use etc to be considered.

The effects of climate change are important to be considered in land use planning to ensure the adverse effects associated with climate change are able to be avoided, remedied or mitigated as required.

Climate change is causing, and will further cause, many adverse environmental effects including a warming environment, longer and drier droughts and increased intensity of storm events.

Considering the effects of climate change is important now to ensure that land use planning responds to the current risks associated with climate change but is also cognisant of the risks and needs of future generations. Not doing so would mean the Plan is not meeting its requirements under Section 5 (a) and (c) of the Act.

The proposed objectives seek to reduce the causes of climate change within the district as well as the impacts of climate change on the district's communities. In considering the requirements of Section 5 of the Act, there is a requirement for the District Plan to provide direction on how to reduce these impacts. This is for the following reasons:

- Climate change can have a range of impacts on the social wellbeing and health and safety of communities. This includes the increased risk of natural disasters and the associated effects of such events.
- The effects of climate change, such as floods and droughts, can damage property, infrastructure and assets and affect people's livelihoods. This is costing the country millions of dollars each year.
- Because of their close relationship with the environment and its resources, Māori are among the first to be directly affected by climate change. Māori face the loss of important cultural sites and taonga species. These changes would impact the spiritual, physical, intellectual and social values that are integral to the health and wellbeing of Māori identity.

At a high level, the objectives provide for the consideration of these effects and others in planning and decision making within the district.

Section 6 (h) requires the recognition and provision for the management of significant risks from natural hazards. Climate change will increase the risk posed to people and property from natural hazards. Proposed objectives 2 and 3 require a consideration of the natural hazard risks associated with climate change in planning and decision making.

Section 7 (i) requires the Plan to have regard to the effects of climate change.

The proposed objectives respond to these risks and also seek to support those activities which will have positive climate change outcomes.

The proposed objectives specifically reflect the disproportionate effects that climate change has on Māori.

Assessment of Alternative Objectives

Appendix 4 contains the draft objectives which were consulted on in the May - June 2022 consultation round. The key change made to these objectives is the introduction of proposed policy 3 that signals the need for the district to be prepared to adapt to the risks and effects of climate change.

Climate change provisions are not in the current ODP and the introduction of the proposed policies reflects a new direction for the Plan. On this basis, it is considered appropriate for an assessment to be undertaken against the option of not including any climate change direction in the Plan.

Advantages	Disadvantages	Reason why discarded
No identified advantages of having no climate change provisions in the Plan.	The District Plan would not be consistent with Part 2 of the Act. Not considering climate change effects could potentially place people and property in harm's way, now and in the future.	As set out in the disadvantages column.

9.1.5 STRATEGIC DIRECTION FIVE: SIGNIFICANT AND LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Proposed Objectives

1. The wider benefits and strategic importance of nationally and regionally significant infrastructure to the district and wider, including the economic, cultural and social wellbeing of people and communities and their health and safety, are recognised in decision making and land use planning.
2. The local and national benefits of the sustainable development, operation, maintenance and upgrading of electricity transmission and renewable electricity generation resources and activities are recognised and encouraged.
3. Land use in the district will not adversely affect the capacity and the safe and effective functioning of nationally and regionally significant and local infrastructure required to service existing and future communities.
4. Local and national transport infrastructure located in the Taupō District operates in a safe and effective manner.

Infrastructure, as defined in the Resource Management Act, generally encompasses physical services and facilities that enable society to function. Examples include the three waters network, transport, communications, energy generation, transmission and distribution networks, and any other network utilities undertaken by network utility operators.

Infrastructure is critical to the social and economic wellbeing of people and communities, including providing for their health and safety, and it has national, regional and local benefits. However, inappropriately located or designed land use activities can adversely affect the safe and effective functioning of significant and locally important infrastructure.

The Taupō District plays an important role in the location and provision of nationally 'significant infrastructure'. Its central location and natural resources mean that Taupō is home to:

- State Highways (1, 5, 32, 41, 46 and 47).
- The national grid electricity transmission network
- Renewable electricity generation facilities that connect with the national grid, accounting for up to 20% of New Zealand's total electricity demand
- Airports used for regular air transport services by aeroplanes

The Taupō District is also home to Regionally Significant Infrastructure including municipal waste water systems, the telecommunications network and electricity networks.

In addition to nationally and regionally significant infrastructure, local roads and other infrastructure (including development and additional infrastructure) is vital for the ongoing functioning of the district's urban and rural communities.

There are a number of national level policy statements, such as the NPS-UD and the NPS for renewable electricity generation and transmission, which direct plans to recognise the importance of infrastructure and that the provision of infrastructure is integrated into landuse planning processes.

The effective and efficient provision of infrastructure for existing and new landuse was also a key driver for TD2050 to ensure that urban growth proceeds in an effective and coherent manner.

Evaluation

Infrastructure is critical to the social and economic wellbeing of people and communities, including providing for their health and safety, and has national, regional and local benefits. However,

inappropriately located or designed land use activities can adversely affect the safe and effective functioning of significant and locally important infrastructure.

The Taupō District plays an important role in the location and provision of nationally 'significant infrastructure'. Its central location and natural resources mean that Taupō is home to:

- State Highways (1, 5, 32, 41, 46 and 47).
- The national grid electricity transmission network
- Renewable electricity generation facilities that connect with the national grid, accounting for up to 20% of New Zealand's total electricity demand
- Airports used for regular air transport services by aeroplanes

The Taupō District is also home to Regionally Significant Infrastructure including municipal wastewater systems, the telecommunications network and electricity networks.

The proposed objectives have a focus on providing for and also protecting nationally and regionally significant infrastructure. The proposed objectives reflect the wider benefits and role of this infrastructure in sustaining the needs of regional and national communities.

The objectives ensure that the importance of such infrastructure is recognised in the Plan, specifically infrastructure important to the district and / or reflects the current infrastructure and resources that occur within the district.

The Taupō District is centrally located and has water and geothermal resources that have national importance and benefits for renewable energy generation. This central location also means that the district is home to numerous state highways and the national electricity transmission network that service and support national communities. The benefits of the renewable energy generation and electricity transmission facilities in the district are recognised in the proposed objective 2.

The importance of infrastructure such as roading and the three waters in sustaining and servicing local communities is also set out in proposed Objectives 3 and 4. For existing and future communities to effectively function, they need to be able to be serviced by infrastructure which has an appropriate level of capacity. Land use and development which adversely effects such infrastructure can therefore adversely affect the wellbeing, health and safety of the district's communities. Such development can also unnecessarily constrain further urban growth areas by reducing the capacity of infrastructure to service such areas.

In respect to taking into account the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, the objectives will need to be read and applied along with the wider objectives and provisions in the Plan. These include those in Strategic Direction 1 – Tāngata Whenua which are more explicit about such matters.

Assessment of Alternative Objectives

Appendix 4 contains the draft objectives which were consulted on in the May - June 2022 consultation round. There is no strategic directions chapter in the ODP, however there are objectives and policies relating to infrastructure throughout the ODP, including in chapters 3e (Land Development), 3f (Traffic and Transport), 3n (Network Utilities) and 3o (Geothermal Activity).

This assessment considers not introducing the infrastructure provisions into the Strategic Directions chapter and instead relying on the existing provisions to provide direction on infrastructure.

Advantages	Disadvantages	Reason why discarded
The existing provisions provide specific direction relating to	The existing provisions do not reflect the wider strategic	The existing provisions are not proposed to be removed,

<p>infrastructure provision and protection relative to the type of infrastructure or location. This increased specificity provides good direction to plan users and decision makers.</p>	<p>importance of regional and national level infrastructure to both the Taupō District and wider.</p> <p>The existing provisions are not fully consistent with national level guidance.</p>	<p>although they may be reviewed when those chapters of the Plan are reviewed. The proposed objectives provide a suitable level of direction that reflects the importance of infrastructure development and management to the district and wider. Introducing the new provisions and retaining the existing will ensure that there is a comprehensive consideration of infrastructure and other such matters in planning and decision making.</p>
--	---	---

9.1.6 STRATEGIC DIRECTION SIX: NATURAL ENVIRONMENT VALUES

Proposed Objectives

1. Recognise the importance of the district's natural values and landscapes and their significance to the Taupō District's communities and identity.
2. The protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna from the adverse effects of inappropriate development.
3. Activities that will lead to the enhancement of indigenous biodiversity values will be recognised and provided for.
4. Recognition of the extent of indigenous vegetation and habitat under Māori land tenure, and the need to provide for the important relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands and waahi tapu.
5. The protection of outstanding landscape areas from inappropriate land use and development which may adversely affect their landscape attributes.
6. Recognition of the relationship of Tāngata Whenua with the natural values of their ancestral lands, waterbodies, sites, cultural landscapes, and other natural taonga of significance.
7. The natural character of riparian margins is preserved, and enhanced where appropriate, and protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.

The Taupō District is characterised by important landscapes and natural areas. These areas are a strong part of the identity of the district, are valued by the local communities and hold importance nationally. These areas also have a range of important social, cultural and environmental (including intrinsic) values.

The effects of human activities such as built development, vegetation clearance and land development can significantly alter the character of the environment, resulting in the loss of these areas and their values. While parts of the district have been significantly modified by human activity, vast areas of the natural landscape remain.

These areas are on a range of public (reserve, forest and national parks) and private tenure. There is also a high proportion of these areas on Māori land throughout the district which can restrict the ability of Māori landowners to undertake development on their ancestral lands.

The 2016 District Plan monitoring report identified that, within the Taupō District, there are a number of outstanding natural areas, features and landscapes that are of significance. Often natural features are subject to a range of conflicting development pressures. Balance is required between the competing demands of protecting those areas, the community's desire to use and enjoy those areas, and the landowners' right to use those areas.

Evaluation

The Taupō District is characterised by important landscapes and natural areas. These areas are a strong part of the identity of the district, are valued by the local communities and hold importance nationally. These areas also have a range of important social, cultural and environmental (including intrinsic) values.

The proposed objectives consider the importance of these areas and values to the Taupō District and the wider communities of New Zealand. They establish a direction to ensure these areas are protected, and they support activities that will enhance these areas and values.

As well as the intrinsic and ecological values of these important landscapes and natural areas, the areas contribute to the character of the district which is highly regarded by wider communities nationally and internationally. These areas and values play an important role in the district's identity as a tourism destination and contribute to safeguarding the life supporting capacity of water, soils and ecosystems.

It is considered that the degradation of the district's natural values and landscapes could adversely impact on the social and economic wellbeing of the district in the long term.

Objectives 4 and 6 consider the disproportionate amount of natural and landscape areas on Māori land and also the strong connections that Māori have to these areas. These objectives provide direction to enable the sometimes competing values to be considered, enabling cultural wellbeing of Māori landowners and the wellbeing of their wider relationships with these sites and their values.

The proposed objectives recognise and provide for key matters of national importance set out under Section 6 (a), (b), (c), (e), (f) and 7 (a) of the Act. These include the protection of lakes, rivers and their margins, areas of natural value, outstanding natural landscapes etc. As noted above, the objectives also consider the importance of providing for the relationship of Māori with these sites and values and the protection of customary rights.

The application of objectives 4 and 6, along with the wider objectives in Chapter 2, enable the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi to be taken into account in planning and decision making.

Assessment of Alternative Objectives

Appendix 4 contains the draft objectives which were consulted on in the May - June 2022 consultation round. Those objectives were revised based on matters raised in that consultation process.

There is no strategic directions chapter in the ODP, however there are objectives and policies relating to natural and landscape values in chapter 3h (Landscape Values) and 3i (Natural Values).

This assessment considers not introducing the natural environment provisions into the Strategic Directions chapter and instead relying on the existing ODP provisions to provide direction on these values.

Advantages	Disadvantages	Reason why discarded
<p>The current provisions provide clear direction on the activities within areas of natural and landscape value. They are generally targeted to areas such as SNA's, OLA's and ALA's identified in the Plan.</p>	<p>The existing provisions do not consider the overall value of areas of natural and landscape value to the district as a whole.</p> <p>There is less direction required on the relationship between Māori and such areas generally.</p>	<p>The existing provisions are not proposed to be removed, although they may be reviewed when those chapters of the Plan are reviewed. The proposed objectives provide a suitable level of direction that reflects the importance of the district's natural values to its communities and to the</p>

		<p>overall identity of the district. Introducing the new provisions and retaining the existing will ensure that there is a comprehensive consideration of natural value matters in planning and decision making.</p>
--	--	--

In summary it is considered that the proposed objectives are the most appropriate way to achieve the purpose of the RMA. This is because the suite of objectives evaluated above provide a robust framework of objectives for matters of strategic importance for the Taupō District and to the purpose of the RMA stated in section 5. The reasons for this conclusion are provided in the above evaluation tables.

10 Assessment of the Provisions

It has been established that the Objectives are the most appropriate way of achieving the purpose of the Act. This section will consider whether, having regard to their efficiency and effectiveness, the proposed provisions are the most appropriate way to achieve the Objectives.

10.1 Identification of Provision Options

1. Retention of and reliance on Chapter 2 of the Operative District Plan – Significant Resource Management Issues without change or minor change only.
2. Adopted set of provisions (as further evaluated in the tables that follow).

Assessment of Provision Options	
Option	Description and Evaluation of Alternative
<p>Option 1: Reliance on the current approach in the ODP</p>	<p>This option would entail a ‘rolling over’ of Operative District Plan provisions, with little to no change. As it relates to the Strategic Directions chapter, this would mean that high level strategic direction would be provided through the existing Significant Resource Management Issues chapter. This approach was considered to be entirely inappropriate for several key reasons.</p> <p>Firstly, the government had released the National Planning Standards with requirements that District Plan reviews be undertaken to give effect to the standards. These directions contain the inclusion of a Strategic Directions section in the Plan. Given that a District Plan review occurs once every decade, Council could only meet the standards obligations by producing a District Plan that met the standards in this current review. Any other approach would have been contrary to the standards and placed Council at risk of judicial review and government sanction.</p> <p>Thirdly, Council had undertaken a review of the Operative District Plan as reported in several documents produced, being ‘District Plan Monitoring Report and Issues Identification’ and the ‘Taupō District Plan Review – Issues and Options Report: Rural Section’. These reports indicated a moderately strong case for change but without identifying any particularly significant reason for wholesale change. For the above reasons, this option was not favoured.</p> <p>Recommendation - reject</p>
<p>Option 2: Adopted set of provisions</p>	<p>This option entails a more comprehensive approach to the review of the Operative District Plan and formulation of the Proposed District Plan. This is on the basis that there were several issues to be addressed as identified within the above review reports, being the ‘District Plan Monitoring Report and Issues Identification’ and the ‘Taupō District Plan Review – Issues and Options Report: Rural Section’. This option has enabled a wider set of changes to be pursued across a range of topics to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the provisions, including a set of format and structure changes in accordance with the National Planning Standards, and associated changes to provisions in response to the changes introduced by the standards.</p> <p>Development of the Strategic Directions chapter means that the Plan will contain overarching direction on key matters. This will enable a more consistent approach to be taken in planning and decision making on key matters across the district.</p>

The proposed policies also embed national direction throughout the Plan to ensure that planning and decision making reflects national policy, legislation, settlement documents etc.

Recommendation – take forward for further evaluation below.

10.2 Preferred Provision Option:

The evaluation tables below consider whether, having regard to their efficiency and effectiveness, the proposed provisions are the most appropriate way to achieve the objectives identified in the previous section. In this case, the provisions in question are the policies only. This reflects the nature of the strategic directions chapter to provide high level guidance and direction to the wider Plan. Similarly, the subsequent effects assessment will also be at a high level, reflecting that there is less certainty about the actual costs and benefits as they will be reliant on the specific application of these provisions. The evaluation tables are arranged based on the various objectives and corresponding policies for achieving those objectives within the Strategic Directions chapter. As the Plan review process continues, it is anticipated that there will be additional provisions developed which will further implement the proposed objectives.

10.2.1 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1 TĀNGATA WHENUA

<i>Strategic Direction 1 – Tāngata Whenua Objectives 2.1.2</i>	
Provisions that are the most appropriate way to achieve the above objectives: Policies 2.1.3.1, 2.1.3.2, 2.1.3.3, 2.1.3.4, 2.1.3.5, 2.1.3.6, 2.1.3.7, 2.1.3.8, 2.1.3.9 and 2.1.3.10	
Benefits and Costs of Effects (s32(2)(a))	
Benefits	Costs
Environmental	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides for a better inclusion of iwi values and tikanga into planning and decision making. This includes better recognising the role of iwi as kaitiaki and supporting them in this role. Provides direct recognition of the importance of iwi environmental plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified
Economic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports the development of Māori land to assist Tāngata Whenua in better fulfilling their economic aspirations. Supports Māori to develop their ancestral lands for their social wellbeing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified
Social	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides greater opportunity for Māori to be involved in planning and decision making in the district. Enables more Māori to fulfil social aspirations. Supports Māori to develop their ancestral lands for their social wellbeing. Provides for a more inclusive approach to planning and decision making and stronger recognition of Māori values and culture. This will in turn benefit Māori communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified

<p>who will have a more active role in the determination of the future of their rohe.</p>	
<p>Cultural</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better recognition of the Māori culture and values in planning and decision making. • Recognition and provision for the relationship of Māori with their land, water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga. • Recognises the importance of the incorporation of Mātauranga māori principles into land development and operation. • Stronger recognition of the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None identified
<p>Economic Growth and Employment Opportunities (s32(2)(a)(i)(ii))</p>	
<p>The Taupō District is characterised by large areas of undeveloped Māori land. There is a range of legal, economic and tenure-based constraints on the development of Māori land, especially land that is in multiple ownership. As noted above, a number of the proposed policies specifically support the development of Māori land. Supporting the development of Māori land in the Taupō District is likely to support economic growth and employment opportunities within the district.</p>	
<p>The efficiency and effectiveness of provisions (s 32(1)(b)(ii))</p>	
<p>Efficiency</p> <p>The proposed provisions were developed in collaboration with iwi within the Taupō District. They were developed to ensure that they implement the Objectives in a manner that reflects the values and priorities of mana whenua.</p>	
<p>Effectiveness</p> <p>The effectiveness of each set of provisions is assessed separately below:</p> <p><u>2.1.3.1</u></p> <p>The policy requires that the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites etc are recognised and provided for. This policy refers directly to objectives 1, 4 and 5 and, as is the nature of cultural matters, indirectly relates to the wider objectives under this Strategic Direction. Recognising and understanding these relationships will be important in planning and decision making to then ensure that they are reflected in planning processes. A lack of recognition is likely to mean that important cultural values and tikanga are not applied or considered where they should be, to the detriment of those values.</p> <p><u>Policies 2.1.3.2, 5 and 6</u></p> <p>The Taupō District is characterised by large areas of undeveloped Māori land. There is a range of legal, economic and tenure-based constraints on the development of Māori land, especially land that is in multiple ownership. The proposed policy provides for the development of Māori land, recognises the ancestral connections to these lands and ensures that Tāngata Whenua are able to develop their land in an appropriate manner to meet Objectives 4 and 5. The policies are led by those objectives and provide more direction for Māori as well as decision makers on the benefits of the development of Māori land for Tāngata Whenua. It is expected that there will be additional policy direction and methods developed within the wider Plan as it is reviewed.</p> <p><u>Policy 2.1.3.3</u></p> <p>This policy recognises the importance of mātauranga Māori, kaitiakitanga and tikanga Māori in landuse planning and decision making. The policy provides support for the incorporation of these values and approaches into planning as a more mainstream part of the planning process. The policy implements Objectives 2, 3 and 6 to support greater expression and practice of Māori culture in planning in the district.</p> <p><u>Policy 2.1.3.4</u></p>	

The policy recognises and supports opportunities for Tāngata Whenua to exercise their customary responsibilities as mana whenua and kaitiaki for their benefit and for sustainable management. The policy implements Objectives 1, 3 and 6.

Policy 2.1.3.7

The policy identifies that there are opportunities for increased Māori involvement in planning processes, including decision making and monitoring etc, both in relation to sites of significance to Māori and generally. This policy implements Objectives 1, 2, 3 and 6 to enable Māori to be a partner in decision making and ensure that Māori values and culture are appropriately reflected in planning and decision making.

Policy 2.1.3.8

Iwi Environmental Management Plans are documents prepared by iwi or hapū to express their thoughts, visions, positions and aspirations for the environment in their rohe. Such plans are often utilised in resource management processes such as district and regional plan development, resource consent applications and decision making. More importantly, these plans help Māori in their role as tangata tiaki or kaitiaki, as they articulate iwi positions on matters that are important to them. Use of these plans is not confined to Māori as they are relevant to the wider community when considering development of land etc. This policy implements Objectives 1, 2, 3 and 6 to better recognise the importance of such documents and support their use in all aspects of planning and decision making.

Policy 2.1.3.9

The policy supports the incorporation of Maturanga māori principles into land use planning and design. It also recognises where this has been done which may lead to development that is different to more conventional development. This policy implements Objective 3.

Risk of acting or not acting if there is uncertain or insufficient information (s32(2)(c))

There is no risk in acting as information is sufficient and not uncertain. The risk of not acting would be an absence of plan provisions relating to Tāngata Whenua and a lack of guidance in the Plan. This would mean that the Plan would not be meeting its requirements under Part 2 of the Act.

Appropriateness

The above provisions are the most appropriate way to achieve the objectives as they provide additional policy level direction to assist in their implementation. They are high level and do not have associated methods, however it is anticipated that additional direction and methods will be developed as the wider plan review process occurs.

Accordingly, the provisions are considered to be appropriate to give effect to the sustainable management purpose of the RMA.

Reasons for deciding on the provisions (s32(1)(b)(iii))

Overall, the provisions work together as effective tools and for the above reasons are considered the most appropriate way to achieve the objectives.

10.2.2 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2 FRESHWATER QUALITY / TE MANA O TE WAI

Strategic Direction 2 - Freshwater Quality / Te Mana O Te Wai Objective 2.2.2.1	
Provisions that are the most appropriate way to achieve the above objective: Policies 2.2.3.1, 2.2.3.2, 2.2.3.3, 2.2.3.4, 2.2.3.5 and 2.2.3.6	
Benefits and Costs of Effects (s32(2)(a))	
Benefits	Costs
Environmental	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides greater consideration of the impact of subdivision and land use on freshwater quality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The application of the polices is limited by the role of the District Plan in managing subdivision and land use. Only new

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotes positive land use practices that can lead to beneficial water quality outcomes. • An integrated approach will improve understanding of the linkages between land use and water quality. • The policies will work with the wider Plan to lead to positive water quality outcomes. 	<p>applications can be considered but not existing applications which have the right to continue.</p>
Economic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are a number of businesses and industries (such as tourism, fishing etc) that rely on good freshwater quality. • Land use and development that has a lower impact on water quality is less likely to be subject to ongoing costs associated with any impacts it has on water quality. • Developments that have a low impact on the environment can achieve a higher premium. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These policies may restrict development or the nature of development in some locations where it could have adverse effects on water bodies. • Subdivision and landuse activities may need to incorporate additional elements to avoid, remedy or mitigate effects on water quality. • Additional requirements in consent applications may be necessary to consider these policies.
Social	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better freshwater quality will have social, including wellbeing and recreational, benefits for the community. • The policies will promote and incentivise good practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any social costs are primarily as per the above economic effects, being some level of restriction on the form of development and the scale of that development.
Cultural	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policies recognise and provide for key iwi led documents and processes. • Enhancing freshwater is consistent with Māori values. • The policies recognise the relationship between Māori and freshwater. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No particular cultural costs are anticipated.
Economic Growth and Employment Opportunities (s32(2)(a)(i)(ii))	
<p>The lakes and waterways throughout the Taupō District are important contributors to a range of industry including power generation, fishing and tourism. Degradation of these waterways will negatively impact those industries and impact on employment and economic growth within the district.</p>	
The efficiency and effectiveness of provisions (s 32(1)(b)(ii))	
<p>Efficiency</p> <p>The provisions are developed to implement the objective and ensure the Plan is meeting its statutory obligations, but also the interests of the community, in managing the district's freshwater resources. The policies establish a direction that is reflective of the scope of responsibilities held by the Council on such matters. The proposed policies also reflect the outcome of community consultation and their feedback on the provisions.</p>	
<p>Effectiveness</p> <p>The effectiveness of the policy is assessed below:</p> <p><u>2.2.3.1</u></p> <p>The policy recognises the importance of the water bodies to the district's communities. This reflects their inclusion into the strategic direction chapter as being a matter of importance to the district. This policy provides the opportunity for the value of these areas to the community to be included in planning and decision making.</p> <p><u>2.2.3.2</u></p>	

The policy seeks that an integrated approach is considered in planning and decision making between land use and water quality. This is important given the role of the plan to manage land use and subdivision activities. Often the connection between such activities and water quality is not considered.

2.2.3.3

This policy will ensure that key documents pertaining to the management of freshwater are considered in planning and decision making. The content and direction within these documents are necessary considerations to any activity which could affect fresh water.

2.2.3.4

This policy seeks to support those developments which will result in positive water quality outcomes. This policy is implementing that part of the objective which is seeking to support and promote good practice and enable these positive effects to be considered in decision making.

2.2.3.5

This policy provides direction to manage subdivision and land use in a manner that will meet the objective.

2.2.3.6

This policy sees that the relationship between Māori and waterways is respected, enhanced and supported. It is considered that such an approach is likely to lead to more positive water quality outcomes in line with tikanga Māori etc.

Risk of acting or not acting if there is uncertain or insufficient information (s32(2)(c))

There is no risk in acting as information is sufficient and not uncertain. The risk of not acting would be an absence of plan provisions relating to a matter of importance to the Taupō District and one which the Plan is required to consider.

Appropriateness

The above provisions are the most appropriate way to implement the relevant objective. They establish an approach that will ensure that positive freshwater quality outcomes are considered in planning and decision making. Accordingly, the provisions are considered to be appropriate to give effect to the sustainable management purpose of the RMA.

Reasons for deciding on the provisions (s32(1)(b)(iii))

Overall, the provisions work together as effective tools and for the above reasons are considered the most appropriate way to achieve the objective.

10.2.3 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 3 URBAN FORM AND DEVELOPMENT

Strategic Direction 3 - Urban form and development Objective 2.2.2.3

Provisions that are the most appropriate way to achieve the above objective:

Policies 2.3.3.1, 2.3.3.2, 2.3.3.3, 2.3.3.4, 2.3.3.5, 2.3.3.7, 2.3.3.8, 2.3.3.9 and 2.2.3.10

Benefits and Costs of Effects (s32(2)(a))

Benefits	Costs
Environmental	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policies seek to provide for coordinated and planned urban development to minimise adhoc development which is more likely to lead to environmental issues. Development that inappropriately affects areas of important natural values will not be supported. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policies do anticipate urban development. Such development will have environmental effects associated with it.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policies will need to be read and applied with wider policies that consider Tāngata Whenua values, freshwater quality and natural values. 	
Economic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The provisions establish a framework that enables land development etc in appropriate locations. This will reduce development / compliance costs in these locations. A planned approach to urban development will make more effective use of infrastructure. Locating development outside of areas subject to natural hazards will reduce the economic costs associated with hazards. Policy supports established town centre areas to ensure they operate as effectively as possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The approach establishes a framework where there will be additional compliance costs for development proposed outside of those areas identified.
Social	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policies support a planned approach to development to ensure that there are places to live and work for existing and future communities. A planned approach will reduce the change of conflicts between different land use types and provide certainty on where development should be expected in the future. Development that unnecessarily exposes communities to natural hazards will not be supported. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any social costs are primarily as per the above economic effects, that being some level of restriction on the form of development and the scale of that development.
Cultural	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policies provide for the cultural outcomes of the Taupō District. Provide policy support for the development of Papakāinga on Māori lands and to facilitate Māori occupation of Māori land. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No particular cultural costs are anticipated.
Economic Growth and Employment Opportunities (s32(2)(a)(i)(ii))	
<p>The policy framework supports development in a coherent and planned manner. The policies also support the establishment and operation of town centres and commercial areas in a way that supports business and employment centres. The policy approach also supports ways to reduce those activities which could adversely affect the effectiveness of the functioning of those areas.</p>	
The efficiency and effectiveness of provisions (s 32(1)(b)(ii))	
<p>Efficiency The provisions are developed to implement the objectives and a wider strategic framework for urban development and land use in the district. The policies actively implement national level policy and provide for efficient provision of infrastructure. The proposed policies also reflect the outcome of community consultation and their feedback on the policy.</p>	
<p>Effectiveness The effectiveness of the policy is assessed below: <u>2.3.3.1</u></p>	

The policy directs the Council to zone appropriate areas for urban development and to do that in a way that is coordinated with the provision of infrastructure. This policy supports objectives 1, 2 and 3 to ensure that urban development occurs in an effective and coherent manner in the district. If this does not happen there is a high risk that development will be adhoc which will lead to significant inefficiencies and also a range of adverse social and economic effects.

2.2.3.2

The policy directs planning and development to positively contribute to well-functioning urban environments. This policy has a focus on ensuring that these environments are able to function effectively for the purpose for which they are zoned. This will include ensuring that the right form of development is able to occur in these areas as well as ensuring they are supported by an appropriate amount of infrastructure. This policy implements Objective 1.

2.2.3.3

The policy reiterates Objective 2 and the importance that TD2050 plays in establishing a plan for urban development in the district into the long term. TD2050 is also used for infrastructure planning. Enabling urban development in a manner consistent with that document will ensure effective resource and infrastructure management.

2.3.3.4

Fragmented and ad hoc development will be detrimental to the provision of infrastructure that enables and supports urban development. Fragmented development is likely to lead to inefficient infrastructure provision and impact on the cost effectiveness of existing infrastructure. This policy implements Objectives 1 and 2.

2.3.3.5

This policy highlights the importance of development being effectively serviced by infrastructure, and acknowledges the capacity of that infrastructure. This policy focuses on the importance of having urban areas that are within the capacity of associated infrastructure (including development and additional infrastructure). This approach will contribute to the effective functioning of the urban areas in the district. Consideration of development and additional infrastructure enables the wider social and physical infrastructure (i.e. schools, reserves etc) to be considered as part of any assessment under this policy. This policy implements Objectives 1 and 2 but has a different focus from policy 2.3.3.4.

2.3.3.6

This policy recognises that some urban development can have beneficial and social outcomes that will be important to support the functioning of urban environments and the communities that live and work there. This policy implements Objective 3 with an imperative to specifically provide for this development.

2.3.3.7

This policy provides for the development of Papakāinga on Māori land and the occupation of their ancestral lands in line with Objective 3. The policy provides clear direction about those activities that are considered to be appropriate on such lands.

2.3.3.8 and 9

These policies are aimed at protecting the viability of the existing urban areas and reflect the planned urban form of areas. These policies have been developed to implement Objective 5 to ensure that the appropriate type of development occurs in the appropriate location. In respect to town centres, the policy is reflecting the importance of focusing retail and commercial land uses in appropriate locations and disincentivising such development out of these areas. The term 'planned urban form' has been used as opposed to 'amenity' to reflect the direction in the NPS-UD and to enable the development of urban environments that are well functioning. Policy 9 works to further support these town centre areas to restrict retail and commercial activity outside of these environments. Leakage of such activities can have a detrimental effect on town centre environments. Reference to mixed use has been added to signal that residential uses in town centre areas are appropriate.

2.3.3.10

This policy sets out key effects of inappropriate subdivision and development that are not supported by the Plan. These are effects that can occur as a result of development within any part of the district and not solely limited to urban areas. The effects identified are those that are known to adversely impact on the functioning of the areas where they occur. This policy implements all of the Objectives.

2.3.3.11

Natural hazards present a risk to people and property. Any form of development that is planned to occur in areas that are or could be subject to natural hazards needs to consider the level of risk posed by these areas and respond to them accordingly.

2.3.3.12

Development that leads to inappropriate effects on areas of natural, landscape and heritage value. Any such development needs to consider any adverse effects it will have on these areas and address them accordingly. Such development will not be supported in order to reflect the importance of these areas under Part II of the Act.

2.3.3.13

Development should consider the wider environment in which it occurs, including enabling new development to effectively connect to these wider areas. This will support the functioning of these areas and facilitate the development of connected communities and neighbourhoods. It will reduce the risk of siloed development occurring. This policy implements Objectives 1 and 3.

Risk of acting or not acting if there is uncertain or insufficient information (s32(2)(c))

There is no risk in acting as information is sufficient and not uncertain. The risk of not acting would be an absence of plan provisions relating to a matter of importance to the Taupō District and one which the Plan is required to consider.

Appropriateness

The above provisions are the most appropriate way to implement the relevant objective. They establish an approach that will ensure positive urban development outcomes are considered in planning and decision making. Accordingly, the provisions are considered to be appropriate in giving effect to the sustainable management purpose of the RMA.

Reasons for deciding on the provisions (s32(1)(b)(iii))

Overall, the provisions work together as effective tools and for the above reasons are considered the most appropriate way to achieve the objective.

10.2.4 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 4 CLIMATE CHANGE

Strategic Direction 4 – Climate Change	
Provisions that are the most appropriate way to achieve the above objective: Policies 2.4.3.1, 2.4.3.2, 2.4.3.3 and 2.4.3.4	
Benefits and Costs of Effects (s32(2)(a))	
Benefits	Costs
Environmental	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policies seek to create positive climate change outcomes, reduce greenhouse gas emissions etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policies are limited in their scope as they only consider new activities and the Council's role in this process as a district council, i.e. do not regulate discharges etc.
Economic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The effects of climate change, such as floods and droughts, can damage property, infrastructure and assets and affect people's livelihoods. These effects have an associated economic impact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The approach establishes a framework where there will be additional compliance costs etc for subdivision and land use. This is not consistent with the policies. Resilient development may require additional development costs, especially when considering natural hazard impacts.
Social	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate change can have a range of impacts on the social wellbeing and health and safety of communities. This includes the increased risk of natural disasters and the associated effects of such events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any social costs are primarily as per the above economic effects. There will be some level of restriction on the form of development and the scale of that development.
Cultural	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research has shown that Māori are disproportionately affected by climate change. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No particular cultural costs are anticipated.
Economic Growth and Employment Opportunities (s32(2)(a)(i)(ii))	
There are no direct economic growth or employment opportunities associated with these policies.	
The efficiency and effectiveness of provisions (s 32(1)(b)(ii))	
Efficiency The policy framework considers those activities that can unduly accelerate the effects of climate change, those that will have a beneficial impact, and how the effects of climate change will affect subdivision and land development. The proposed policies collectively cover the key elements of the relationships that subdivision and land development have with climate change.	
Effectiveness The effectiveness of the policies is assessed below: <u>2.4.4.1</u> The policy supports those activities that will result in positive climate change outcomes, with specific reference to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and decarbonisation. The intent of this policy is to encourage developments that will actively work towards addressing climate change and integrating such thinking into subdivision and development design. This policy implements Objective 1.	

2.4.4.2

This policy is the counterpoint of Policy 1 and has an intent of discouraging those activities which unduly accelerate the effects of climate change. While this message is implicit within Policy 1, it is important for the Plan to explicitly provide direction on this issue, given the effects of climate change. This policy implements Objective 1.

2.4.4.3

This policy provides direction that all urban and built development must be designed in a manner that considers the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Integration of such thinking into the planning and design of new developments will assist in implementing Objective 2.

2.4.4.4

Policies 1 and 2 consider development that could impact climate change. Policy 3 considers the impacts of climate change on development and requires proposed subdivision and land development to demonstrate that it will be resilient to the effects of climate change. This is important to ensure the health and wellbeing of any future occupants as well as ensuring minimal impact on physical assets. The use of the term 'resilient' is to prompt a consideration of the long-term effects of climate change. This policy implements Objective 2.

Risk of acting or not acting if there is uncertain or insufficient information (s32(2)(c))

There is no risk in acting as information is sufficient and not uncertain. The risk of not acting would be an absence of plan provisions relating to a matter of importance to the Taupō District and one which the Plan is required to consider.

Appropriateness

The above provisions are the most appropriate way to implement the relevant objective. They establish an approach that collectively works towards creating positive climate change results and protecting communities and development from the effects of climate change. Accordingly, the provisions are considered to be appropriate in giving effect to the sustainable management purpose of the RMA.

Reasons for deciding on the provisions (s32(1)(b)(iii))

Overall, the provisions work together as effective tools and for the above reasons are considered the most appropriate way to achieve the objective.

10.2.5 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 5 SIGNIFICANT AND LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE

<i>Strategic Direction 5 – Significant and Local Infrastructure</i>	
Provisions that are the most appropriate way to achieve the above objective: Policies 2.5.3.1, 2.5.3.2, 2.5.3.3, 2.5.3.4, 2.5.3.3 and 2.5.3.6	
Benefits and Costs of Effects (s32(2)(a))	
Benefits	Costs
Environmental	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policies support renewable electricity generation developments. The policies recognise the benefits of renewable energy in relation to climate change. The policies recognise the important environmental effects associated with infrastructure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policies do support physical development which is consistent with the policies. Such development is likely to have associated environmental effects to some degree.
Economic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are economic benefits for the country and also locally with supporting renewable energy generation. The policies recognise the economic benefits of infrastructure. Efficient land use planning that is coordinated with infrastructure development is a more economically efficient approach than other adhoc approaches. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There could be additional development costs required to ensure that there is a suitable level of infrastructure provided to support development. Some development may not be able to proceed if not supported by an adequate level of infrastructure.
Social	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective provision of infrastructure associated with land use and development will ensure existing and future communities have the facilities required for effectively functioning communities. They provide for the operation and upgrading of national and regionally important infrastructure necessary to support wider communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any social costs are primarily as per the above economic effects. There will be some level of restriction on the form of development and the scale of that development.
Cultural	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure is important for supporting Māori communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No particular cultural costs are anticipated. Development of infrastructure will need to be considered alongside the wider policies within this section.
Economic Growth and Employment Opportunities (s32(2)(a)(i)(ii))	
Provision of effective infrastructure is important to support effective communities, industry and employment centres. The policies support the development and operation of renewable energy generation which is one of the biggest employers in the Taupō district.	

The efficiency and effectiveness of provisions (s 32(1)(b)(ii))**Efficiency**

The proposed provisions implement the objectives as well as national level direction. They also reflect the results of long-term strategic planning through TD2050. The community consultation process has provided the opportunity for community review and input. This process has resulted in the provisions being revised to reflect that input.

Effectiveness

The effectiveness of the policies is assessed below:

2.5.3.1

The policy enables the development, operation and upgrade of renewable energy generation infrastructure. This is consistent with direction in national level policy and supports infrastructure that has positive environmental and social effects. This policy implements Objective 2.

2.5.3.2

This policy recognises the benefits associated with renewable energy generation activities, resources and transmission activities and provides support for new such infrastructure. These benefits are to be recognised during planning and decision making to ensure their importance locally and nationally is given due regard. This policy implements Objective 2.

2.5.3.3

This policy recognises that national and regionally important infrastructure has functional requirements that may limit their location and design choices. In some cases, this may mean such infrastructure is located in less than desirable locations to achieve the required operational efficiency and effectiveness. This policy also recognises the wider benefits of such infrastructure and implements Objectives 2 and 3.

2.5.3.4

This policy provides for the protection of nationally and regionally significant and local infrastructure from development which could impact on its safe and effective functioning. Such impacts are likely to have wider adverse effects that will impact on the effective functioning of the areas serviced by the infrastructure.

2.5.3.5

Infrastructure needs to be designed in a manner that considers future use, including future growth requirements. Infrastructure needs to be designed and developed with the capacity to effectively cater for the future development. This policy implements Objective 4.

2.5.3.6

This policy explicitly recognises the benefits associated with the provisions of effective infrastructure.

Risk of acting or not acting if there is uncertain or insufficient information (s32(2)(c))

There is no risk in acting as information is sufficient and not uncertain. The risk of not acting would be detrimental to the functioning of national and regional infrastructure and also that infrastructure which services local communities.

Appropriateness

The above provisions are the most appropriate way to implement the relevant objective. They are consistent with national level direction and recognise the importance of providing for infrastructure within the district. The policies recognise the benefits of infrastructure but also renewable power generation facilities and resources that are important locally and have national level environmental and social benefits. Accordingly, the provisions are considered to be appropriate in giving effect to the sustainable management purpose of the RMA.

Reasons for deciding on the provisions (s32(1)(b)(iii))

Overall, the provisions work together as effective tools and for the above reasons are considered the most appropriate way to achieve the objective.

10.2.6 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 6 NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT VALUES

Strategic Direction 6– National Environment Values

Provisions that are the most appropriate way to achieve the above objective:
Policies 2.6.3.1, 2.6.3.2, 2.6.3.3, 2.6.3.4, 2.6.3.5, 2.6.3.6, 2.6.3.7 and 2.6.3.8

Benefits and Costs of Effects (s32(2)(a))

Benefits	Costs
Environmental	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policies provide for the protection of areas of natural and landscape values. The policies seek the enhancement of indigenous biodiversity value. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified
Economic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policies support tāngata whenua to exercise customary responsibilities which could include development within these areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The protection focus of these policies could mean that some development within areas of indigenous vegetation and important landscapes may not proceed, or there may be additional compliance costs associated with them.
Social	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policies provide for the protection of areas that contribute to the wellbeing of communities. The policies recognise the role that landowners have in providing for the protection of these areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any social costs are primarily as per the above economic effects. There will be some level of restriction on the form of development and the scale of that development.
Cultural	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policies provide for opportunities for Tāngata Whenua to exercise their customary rights and responsibilities in the restoration and enhancement of these values. The policies support Tāngata Whenua to exercise their customary rights and responsibilities as mana whenua and kaitiaki. The policies recognise the role of landowners, including Māori landowners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large areas of land that is of high natural and landscape value are situated on Māori land. Wider policies and methods could impact on the ability of Māori to develop their land.

Economic Growth and Employment Opportunities (s32(2)(a)(i)(ii))

None identified.

The efficiency and effectiveness of provisions (s 32(1)(b)(ii))**Efficiency**

The proposed policies implement the objectives and are consistent with Part 2 of the Act. Additional policies and methods will be developed as part of the wider plan review process.

Effectiveness

The effectiveness of the policies is assessed below:

2.6.3.1

The policy provides for the protection of areas identified in Section 6 of the Act. The policy seeks to protect these areas from activities that will have more than minor effects on the values that make these areas important and does not establish a policy framework that anticipates no development in these areas. Protecting the values of the areas will implement Objective 2 and Section 6 of the Act.

2.6.3.2

This policy supports beneficial activities. It provides an explicit opportunity to consider those areas that will have long term benefits on indigenous biodiversity values. Supporting positive activities will better provide for the long-term protection of these important areas. This policy implements Objectives 1 and 3.

2.6.3.3

Large areas of natural and landscape values are located on Māori land. In addition, mana whenua have a responsibility as kaitiaki to look after these values on their lands. Recognition of this is important to enable Māori to exercise their customary rights and responsibilities on their lands. This policy implements Objective 1, 4 and 6.

2.6.3.4

The policy provides for the protection of areas identified in Section 6 of the Act. The policy seeks to protect outstanding landscape areas from activities that will have more than minor effects on the values that make these areas important and does not establish a policy framework that anticipates no development in these areas. Protecting the values of the areas will implement Objective 5 and Section 6 of the Act.

2.6.3.5

This policy encourages the protection, restoration and enhancement of areas of natural and landscape values. The policy recognises the role and responsibilities that mana whenua have as kaitiaki in the restoration and guardianship of these areas. Involving mana whenua in such activities and initiatives will have a beneficial impact on both the areas and on Māori as kaitiaki.

2.6.3.6

Landowners often spend time and resources looking after and enhancing areas of natural and landscape value. Often it is the actions of these landowners that result in the actual enhancement of these areas. In developing more detailed policy and methods for the protection of these areas, it is important to consider and support the role of the landowner. This policy implements Objectives 1 and 3.

Risk of acting or not acting if there is uncertain or insufficient information (s32(2)(c))

There is no risk in acting as information is sufficient and not uncertain. There is a good understanding of the areas of natural and landscape values in the district as well as their value to both local communities and nationally.

Appropriateness

The above provisions are the most appropriate way to implement the relevant objective. They are consistent with national level direction and recognise the importance of providing for areas of natural and landscape value. The policies recognise the benefits of these areas **and** the need to protect them from inappropriate development. They also recognise the benefits in supporting landowners and iwi to provide physical protection and enhance these areas. Such outcomes cannot be fulfilled relying solely on regulatory measures.

Reasons for deciding on the provisions (s32(1)(b)(iii))

Overall, the provisions work together as effective tools and for the above reasons are considered the most appropriate way to achieve the objective.

As concluded in the above evaluation tables, the policies, methods and rule provisions within the proposed Strategic Directions Chapter of the ODP as contained within Appendix 5 are considered to be the most appropriate way to achieve the above objectives, for the reasons given above.

These evaluations have included consideration of other reasonably practicable options for achieving the objectives, assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of the provisions in achieving the objectives, identifies and assesses the benefits and costs of the environmental, economic, social, and cultural effects that are anticipated from the implementation of the provisions, including the opportunity for economic growth and employment. The evaluations also include consideration of the risk of acting or not acting if there is uncertain or insufficient information about the subject matter of the provisions. Further that the level of detail of evaluation corresponds to the scale and significance of the environmental, economic, social, and cultural effects that are anticipated from the implementation of the provisions.

11 CONCLUSION

After undertaking an evaluation as required by section 32 of the RMA, the proposed objectives within the ODP Strategic Directions Chapter are the most appropriate way to achieve the purpose of the RMA as stated in Section 5 of the legislation for addressing strategic matters in the District, pursuant to section 32(1)(a).

In respect of the policies, methods and rule provisions, the evaluation has concluded that the provisions within the Strategic Directions chapter are the most appropriate way to achieve the objectives, pursuant to section 32(1)(b). The assessment has taken into consideration the various matters stated in section 32(2) of the RMA.

Appendix 1. Significance of the Effects

Pursuant to section 32(1)(c), an evaluation report must contain a level of detail that corresponds to the scale and significance of the environmental, economic, social, and cultural effects that are anticipated from the implementation of the proposal (section 32(1)(c)). This means that the scale and significance of the effects of the proposal is the key factor influencing the level of detail required for a section 32 evaluation.

Considerations and criteria for determining scale and significance	Ranking High/Medium/Low	
1. Reasons for the change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An RMA requirement to review district plans every ten years. The ODP was declared operative in 2007, although there have been more recent plan changes. • The national planning standards promulgated by the government necessitate changes to the ODP. The current review is the opportunity to update the District Plan to a format and structure compliant with the standards. • Whilst analysis of the ODP has concluded it is generally operating effectively. There are updates and elements that require review, including in response to national direction from the government (national policy statements and national environmental standards). • The matters identified in the proposed directions are those that are considered to be important to the district as a whole. This direction will provide additional guidance to support the key values that make the Taupō District what it is. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium
2. Degree of shift from the status quo (current approach)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The national planning standards dictate that the structure and format of the District Plan must be reformed. These standards set out a requirement for a strategic directions chapter. This chapter is proposed to replace the existing Significant Resource Management Issues chapter in the ODP. • This is a relatively significant change as it introduces higher level direction into the Plan on matters of importance to the Taupō District. • The proposed provision also introduces new matters into the Plan including freshwater quality and climate change. The introduction of these matters represents a significant shift in thinking for the proposed plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High
3.Environmental effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed provisions include several Part 2 matters which will provide additional direction on environmental matters in the Plan. These include matters relating to kaitiakitanga, freshwater quality, climate change and natural values. • The introduction of climate change and freshwater quality into the Plan represents a significant shift in thinking for the proposed plan. While previously these matters should have been considered through the application of Part 2 for discretionary and non- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High

	<p>complying activities, there is now more explicit direction for such matters in planning and decision making.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed provisions include direction on natural values, however this direction is similar to that which is already in the ODP in the existing natural values and landscape chapter. 	
4. Economic effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are economic effects as the proposed provisions will provide direction that is relevant to all land use activities throughout the district. This direction will have an influence on a large proportion of the economy of the district. The provisions do not include rules and in some cases the existing ODP is already implementing the direction in these provisions so there may not be a significant effect on the ground. • District Plan provisions can strongly influence the economic viability of land use activities and will influence investment and the scale and intensity of land use in the district. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium
5. Cultural effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed strategic direction 1 introduces new objectives and policy to ensure that key values and tikanga are included in planning and decision making within the district. The current ODP includes a Tāngata Whenua Cultural Values chapter which includes one objective and three policies. This chapter sits lower in the Plan than the proposed strategic direction chapter and is often overlooked in planning and decision making. The proposed introduction of the new directions includes more expansive provisions on Tāngata Whenua values, their role in planning and decision making, more explicit reference to Te Tiriti and the development of Māori land. This direction sits at the top of the Plan, meaning that it will need to be applied in a much wider range of circumstances. • The proposed tāngata whenua provisions include additional direction relating to the development of Māori land and the role of Tāngata Whenua as decision makers. This represents a significant change from the current ODP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High
6. Social effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are social effects as the proposed provisions will provide direction that is relevant to all land use activities throughout the district. This direction will have an influence on most communities within the district. The provisions do not include rules and in some cases the existing ODP is already implementing the direction in these provisions so there may not be a significant effect on the ground. • The proposed provisions do attempt to reflect those matters that have been identified as being of importance to the communities of the Taupō District. • The social effects are considered to be of medium significance considering the above, and given that there are no rules proposed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium

7. Who and how many will be affected?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed directions are to be applied across the whole district and will potentially influence land use in all environments. The provisions include objectives and policies but no rules. In some cases, the provisions reflect direction which is currently in the ODP. • The scale and significance of the changes is considered 'medium' for these reasons. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium
8. Degree of impact on, or interest from Iwi/Māori	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Tāngata Whenua provisions provide additional direction that relates to the involvement of Māori in planning and decision making, better inclusion of tikanga and other values in planning and decision making, and it supports the development of Māori land. • These changes represent a significant shift from the ODP by providing increased support and consideration of the interests of Iwi/Māori. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High

Appendix 2. Assessment of Provisions Against Higher Order Documents

The below assessment for the PDP Strategic Directions Chapter is against the higher order documents that are relevant to the district and topic. These higher order policy statements and plans include the national and regional planning documents as well as several other key planning statutory documents.

As described in the main body of the report above, NPS's in effect are:

- National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014
- National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Generation 2011
- New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010
- National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission 2011
- National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020

The New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement has no relevance to the Taupō District.

11.1 National Policy Statements

The following tables set out how the proposed objectives and policies are consistent with the relevant provisions in the NPS. Note that only those NPS provisions that are considered relevant to the strategic directions are assessed.

NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT 2020

Assessment of extent to which proposed provisions give effect to the National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020		
Objective	Policy	Plan change provisions
<p>Objective 1: New Zealand has well-functioning urban environments that enable all people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural wellbeing, and for their health and safety, now and into the future.</p> <p>Objective 2: Planning decisions improve housing affordability by supporting</p>	<p>Policy 1: Planning decisions contribute to well-functioning urban environments, which are urban environments that, as a minimum:</p> <p>a. have or enable a variety of homes that:</p> <p>(i) meet the needs, in terms of type, price, and location, of different households; and</p>	<p>The Taupō District is a Tier 3 local authority. Urban landuse and planning is guided at a district wide level by the TD2050 Growth Management Strategy (TD2050). TD2050 was revised in 2018. This revision not only reflected the latest growth projections but also the direction in the NPS-UD. TD2050 is referenced in the proposed Objectives and Policy in section 2.3 of the proposed plan change.</p> <p>The proposed Strategic Directions reinforce the direction identified in TD2050 through directly referencing the</p>

<p>competitive land and development markets.</p> <p>Objective 3: Regional policy statements and district plans enable more people to live in, and more businesses and community services to be located in, areas of an urban environment in which one or more of the following apply:</p> <p>a. the area is in or near a centre zone or other area with many employment opportunities</p> <p>b. the area is well-served by existing or planned public transport</p> <p>c. there is high demand for housing or for business land in the area, relative to other areas within the urban environment.</p> <p>Objective 4: New Zealand’s urban environments, including their amenity values, develop and change over time in response to the diverse and changing needs of people, communities, and future generations.</p> <p>Objective 5: Planning decisions relating to urban environments, and FDSs, take into</p>	<p>(ii) enable Māori to express their cultural traditions and norms; and</p> <p>b. have or enable a variety of sites that are suitable for different business sectors in terms of location and site size; and</p> <p>c. have good accessibility for all people between housing, jobs, community services, natural spaces, and open spaces, including by way of public or active transport; and</p> <p>d. support, and limit as much as possible adverse impacts on, the competitive operation of land and development markets; and</p> <p>e. support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions; and</p> <p>f. are resilient to the likely current and future effects of climate change.</p> <p>Policy 2: Tier 1, 2, and 3 local authorities, at all times, provide at least sufficient development capacity to meet expected demand for housing and for business land over the short term, medium term, and long term.</p> <p>Policy 5: Regional policy statements and district plans applying to tier 2 and 3 urban environments enable heights and density of urban form commensurate with the greater of:</p>	<p>document. They also utilise specific approaches that are set out in the NPS, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zoned areas allow for growth and housing choice to support affordability • Supports residential development in areas near employment opportunities • Requires consideration of infrastructure in urban planning and development • Anchors the need to take into account the principles of the Treaty • Climate change direction to support climate change emissions and resilience • Specific reference to planned urban environments as opposed to current amenity to enable change where required • Focus on creating and enabling functional urban environments <p>The proposed strategic directions give effect to the NPS-UD.</p>
--	---	---

account the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi).

Objective 6: Local authority decisions on urban development that affect urban environments are:

- a. integrated with infrastructure planning and funding decisions;
- b. and strategic over the medium term and long term; and
- c. responsive, particularly in relation to proposals that would supply significant development capacity.

Objective 7: Local authorities have robust and frequently updated information about their urban environments and use it to inform planning decisions.

Objective 8: New Zealand's urban environments:

- a. support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions; and
- b. are resilient to the current and future effects of climate change.

a. the level of accessibility by existing or planned active or public transport to a range of commercial activities and community services; or

b. relative demand for housing and business use in that location.

Policy 6: When making planning decisions that affect urban environments, decision-makers have particular regard to the following matters:

a. the planned urban built form anticipated by those RMA planning documents that have given effect to this National Policy Statement

b. that the planned urban built form in those RMA planning documents may involve significant changes to an area, and

(i) may detract from amenity values appreciated by some people but improve amenity values appreciated by other people, communities, and future generations, including by providing increased and varied housing densities and types; and

(ii) are not, of themselves, an adverse effect

c. the benefits of urban development that are consistent with well-functioning urban environments (as described in Policy 1)

d. any relevant contribution that will be made to meeting the requirements of this National Policy

Statement to provide or realise development capacity

e. the likely current and future effects of climate change.

Policy 7: Tier 1 and 2 local authorities set housing bottom lines for the short-medium term and the long term in their regional policy statements and district plans.

Policy 8: Local authority decisions affecting urban environments are responsive to plan changes that would add significantly to development capacity and contribute to well-functioning urban environments, even if the development capacity is:

- a. unanticipated by RMA planning documents; or
- b. out-of-sequence with planned land release.

Policy 9: Local authorities, in taking account of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi) in relation to urban environments, must:

- a. involve hapū and iwi in the preparation of RMA planning documents and any FDSs by undertaking effective consultation that is early, meaningful and, as far as practicable, in accordance with tikanga Māori; and

	<p>b. when preparing RMA planning documents and FDSs, take into account the values and aspirations of hapū and iwi for urban development; and</p> <p>c. provide opportunities in appropriate circumstances for Māori involvement in decision-making on resource consents, designations, heritage orders, and water conservation orders, including in relation to sites of significance to Māori and issues of cultural significance; and</p> <p>d. operate in a way that is consistent with iwi participation legislation.</p> <p>Policy 10: Tier 1, 2, and 3 local authorities:</p> <p>a. that share jurisdiction over urban environments work together when implementing this National Policy Statement; and</p> <p>b. engage with providers of development infrastructure and additional infrastructure to achieve integrated land use and infrastructure planning; and</p> <p>c. engage with the development sector to identify significant opportunities for urban development.</p>	
--	---	--

11.1.1 NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR FRESHWATER MANAGEMENT 2020

Assessment of extent to which proposed provisions give effect to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020		
Objective	Policy	Plan change provisions

<p>(1) The objective of this National Policy Statement is to ensure that natural and physical resources are managed in a way that prioritises:</p> <p>a. first, the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems</p> <p>b. second, the health needs of people (such as drinking water)</p> <p>c. third, the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being, now and in the future.</p>	<p>Policy 1. Freshwater is managed in a way that gives effects to Te Mana o te Wai.</p> <p>Policy 2: Tangata whenua are actively involved in freshwater management (including decision-making processes), and Māori freshwater values are identified and provided for.</p> <p>Policy 3: Freshwater is managed in an integrated way that considers the effects of the use and development of land on a whole-of-catchment basis, including the effects on receiving environments.</p>	<p>The proposed objectives and polices in the plan change implement key relevant aspects of the NPS Fresh Water Management 2020.</p> <p>Mindful of the scope of the District Councils role in such matters, a specific objective and set of policies have been included in the strategic direction chapter. Clear direction is however provided in 3.5.4 of the NPS stating that:</p> <p><i>Every territorial authority must include objectives, policies, and methods in its district plan to promote positive effects, and avoid, remedy, or mitigate adverse effects (including cumulative effects), of urban development on the health and well-being of water bodies, freshwater ecosystems, and receiving environments.</i></p> <p>This direction is reflected in section 2.2 of the proposed NPS. The proposed strategic directions give effect to the NPS-Freshwater 2020.</p>
---	---	--

NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT ON ELECTRICTY TRANSMISSION 2008

Assessment of extent to which proposed provisions give effect to the National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission 2008		
Objective	Policy	Plan change provisions
<p>To recognise the national significance of the electricity transmission network by facilitating the operation, maintenance and upgrade of the existing transmission network and the establishment of new transmission resources to meet the needs of present and future generations, while:</p>	<p>POLICY 1</p> <p>In achieving the purpose of the Act, decision-makers must recognise and provide for the national, regional and local benefits of sustainable, secure and efficient electricity transmission. The benefits relevant to any particular project or development of the electricity transmission network may include:</p>	<p>The proposed plan changes include provisions directly relating to recognising and providing for the national significance of the electricity transmission network. These are set out in section 2.5 Significant and Local infrastructure. These provisions recognise and provide for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for the national benefits of the electricity network. • the use and development of new electricity generation, including renewable generation.

- managing the adverse environmental effects of the network; and
- managing the adverse effects of other activities on the network.

- i) maintained or improved security of supply of electricity; or
- ii) efficient transfer of energy through a reduction of transmission losses; or
- iii) the facilitation of the use and development of new electricity generation, including renewable generation which assists in the management of the effects of climate change; or
- iv) enhanced supply of electricity through the removal of points of congestion.

The above list of benefits is not intended to be exhaustive and a particular policy, plan, project or development may have or recognise other benefits.

POLICY 2

In achieving the purpose of the Act, decision-makers must recognise and provide for the effective operation, maintenance, upgrading and development of the electricity transmission network.

POLICY 3

When considering measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse environmental effects of transmission activities, decision-makers must consider the constraints imposed on achieving those measures by the technical and operational requirements of the network.

Policy 5

- the functional, operational and upgrading needs of the network.

Provisions also seek that subdivision and land use will not adversely affect the effective and safe functioning of the network, including by reverse sensitivity effects.

These provisions include specific reference to the electricity transmission network and implicitly within provisions which have a wider frame of reference to infrastructure generally.

	<p>When considering the environmental effects of transmission activities associated with transmission assets, decision makers must enable reasonable operational, maintenance and minor upgrade requirements of established electricity transmission assets.</p> <p>POLICY 10</p> <p>In achieving the purpose of the Act, decision-makers must to the extent reasonably possible manage activities to avoid reverse sensitivity effects on the electricity transmission network and to ensure that operation, maintenance, upgrading, and development of the electricity transmission network is not compromised.</p>	
--	---	--

NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY GENERATION 2011

Assessment of extent to which proposed provisions give effect to the Renewable Electricity Generation 2011		
Objective	Policy	Plan change provisions
<p>Objective</p> <p>To recognise the national significance of renewable electricity generation activities by providing for the development, operation, maintenance and upgrading of new and existing renewable electricity generation activities, such that the proportion of New Zealand's electricity generated from</p>	<p>Policy A - Recognising the benefits of renewable electricity generation activities</p> <p>Decision-makers shall recognise and provide for the national significance of renewable electricity generation activities, including the national, regional and local benefits relevant to renewable electricity generation activities. These benefits include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>The proposed plan change includes strategic directions relating to 'Climate Change' and 'Significant and Local Infrastructure'. The proposed objectives and policies associated with these directions include implicit and explicit direction to support renewable electricity generation activities. They also recognise the importance of such activities within the Taupō District which is currently home to significant hydro and geothermal power generation infrastructure.</p>

renewable energy sources increases to a level that meets or exceeds the New Zealand Government's national target for renewable electricity generation.

- a) maintaining or increasing electricity generation capacity while avoiding, reducing or displacing greenhouse gas emissions;
- b) maintaining or increasing security of electricity supply at local, regional and national levels by diversifying the type and/or location of electricity generation;
- c) using renewable natural resources rather than finite resources;
- d) the reversibility of the adverse effects on the environment of some renewable electricity generation technologies;
- e) avoiding reliance on imported fuels for the purposes of generating electricity.

B. Acknowledging the practical implications of achieving New Zealand's target for electricity generation from renewable resources

POLICY B

Decision-makers shall have particular regard to the following matters:

- a) maintenance of the generation output of existing renewable electricity generation activities can require protection of the assets, operational capacity and continued availability of the renewable energy resource; and

C. Acknowledging the practical constraints associated with the development, operation,

The wider plan will provide more detailed direction, including rules on some of the matters in the NPS. The strategic directions include the following direction:

- Support and encourage land use activities that result in positive climate change outcomes.
- Recognise and encourage the benefits of the sustainable development, operation, maintenance and upgrading of renewable electricity generation resources and activities.
- Recognise and provide for the national, regional and local benefits of renewable energy generation activities.
- Recognition of the functional needs associated with the development of nationally and regionally significant infrastructure.
- Subdivision and land use activities will not adversely affect (including via reverse sensitivity effects) the effective and safe functioning of infrastructure.
- Recognise the many benefits of infrastructure.

On review the proposed objectives and policies support the development, upgrading and operation of renewable electricity generation activities. They also recognise the national importance of these activities.

maintenance and upgrading of new and existing renewable electricity generation activities

POLICY C1

Decision-makers shall have particular regard to the following matters:

- a) the need to locate the renewable electricity generation activity where the renewable energy resource is available;
- b) logistical or technical practicalities associated with developing, upgrading, operating or maintaining the renewable electricity generation activity;
- c) the location of existing structures and infrastructure including, but not limited to, roads, navigation and telecommunication structures and facilities, the distribution network and the national grid in relation to the renewable electricity generation activity, and the need to connect renewable electricity generation activity to the national grid
- d) designing measures which allow operational requirements to complement and provide for mitigation opportunities; and
- e) adaptive management measures.

POLICY C2

When considering any residual environmental effects of renewable electricity generation activities that cannot be avoided, remedied or mitigated, decision-makers shall have regard to offsetting measures or environmental compensation including measures or

compensation which benefit the local environment and community affected.

D. Managing reverse sensitivity effects on renewable electricity generation activities

POLICY D

Decision-makers shall, to the extent reasonably possible, manage activities to avoid reverse sensitivity effects on consented and on existing renewable electricity generation activities.

E. Incorporating provisions for renewable electricity generation activities into regional policy statements and regional and district plans

E1 Solar, biomass, tidal, wave and ocean current resources

POLICY E1

Regional policy statements and regional and district plans shall include objectives, policies and methods (including rules within plans) to provide for the development, operation, maintenance, and upgrading of new and existing renewable electricity generation activities using solar, biomass, tidal, wave and ocean current energy resources to the extent applicable to the region or district.

E2 Hydro-electricity resources

POLICY E2

Regional policy statements and regional and district plans shall include objectives, policies, and methods (including rules within plans) to provide for the development, operation, maintenance, and upgrading of new and existing hydro-electricity generation activities to the extent applicable to the region or district.

E3 Wind resources

POLICY E3

Regional policy statements and regional and district plans shall include objectives, policies, and methods (including rules within plans) to provide for the development, operation, maintenance and upgrading of new and existing wind energy generation activities to the extent applicable to the region or district.

E4 Geothermal Resources

POLICY E4

Regional policy statements and regional and district plans shall include objectives, policies, and methods (including rules within plans) to provide for the development, operation, maintenance, and upgrading of new and existing electricity generation activities using geothermal resources to the extent applicable to the region or district

F. Incorporating provisions for small and community-scale renewable electricity generation activities into regional policy statements and regional and district plans

POLICY F

As part of giving effect to Policies E1 to E4, regional policy statements and regional and district plans shall include objectives, policies, and methods (including rules within plans) to provide for the development, operation, maintenance and upgrading of small and community-scale distributed renewable electricity generation from any renewable energy source to the extent applicable to the region or district.

11.2 Regional Policy Statement's

WAIKATO REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT

Objective	RPS Policy	RPS Implementation methods	Plan change provisions
<p>3.1 Integrated management</p> <p>Natural and physical resources are managed in a way that recognises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the inter-relationships within and values of water body catchments, riparian areas and wetlands, the coastal environment, the Hauraki Gulf and the Waikato River; b) natural processes that inherently occur without human management or interference; c) the complex interactions between air, water, land and all living things; d) the needs of current and future generations; e) the relationships between environmental, social, economic and cultural wellbeing; f) the need to work with agencies, landowners, resource users and communities; and 	<p>Policy 4.1 Integrated approach</p>	<p>Methods 4.1.1, 4.1.2, 4.1.9 and 4.1.11.</p>	<p>Objective 2.1.2, Policy 2.1.3</p> <p>Provisions throughout the plan recognise the relationship of mana whenua, and provide for the māori values in resource management and decision making. These include the important relationship of māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga and to have particular regard to kaitiakitanga.</p> <p>Objective 2.2.2, Policy 2.2.3</p> <p>The health and wellbeing of the lakes and rivers in the district have been degraded both directly and indirectly over recent decades and a full suite of provisions ensures that the adverse effects resulting from subdivision and land use are managed.</p> <p>Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3</p> <p>Provisions provide a framework for ensuring that urban development, subdivision and changes in land use occur in a planned and efficient manner and is adequately serviced by infrastructure (including development and additional infrastructure)</p> <p>Objective 2.4.2, Policy 2.4.3</p>

Objective	RPS Policy	RPS Implementation methods	Plan change provisions
<p>g) the interrelationship of natural resources with the built environment.</p>			<p>The effects of climate change are recognised and provided for and provisions assist in planning for the district which does not contribute to, and is resilient to, climate change.</p> <p>Objective 2.5.2, Policy 2.5.3</p> <p>Provisions within the plan ensure that inappropriately located or designed land use activities do not adversely affect the safe and effective functioning of significant and locally important infrastructure and enables society to function and contribute to the social and economic wellbeing of people and communities,</p> <p>Objective 2.6.2, Policy 2.6.3</p> <p>Identified areas and rules in the plan protect areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna and outstanding landscape areas from the adverse effects of inappropriate development.</p>
<p>3.2 Resource use and development</p> <p>Recognise and provide for the role of sustainable resource use and development and its benefits in enabling people and communities to provide for their economic, social and cultural wellbeing, including by maintaining and where appropriate enhancing:</p> <p>a) access to natural and physical resources to provide for regionally</p>	<p>Policy 4.4 Regionally significant industry and primary production</p> <p>Policy 6.1 Planned and co-ordinated subdivision, use and development</p> <p>Policy 6.6 Significant infrastructure and energy resources</p>	<p>Methods 4.4.1, 4.4.2, 6.1.6.1.2, 6.1.5, 6.1.6, 6.6.1, 6.6.5, 6.8.2, 6.8.3, 8.5.1 and 14.2.1.</p>	<p>Objective 2.3.2 Policy 2.3.3</p> <p>Objective 2.5.2, Policy 2.5.3</p> <p>Fragmented development results in inefficiencies in the provision of infrastructure and landuse and rules require urban subdivision and land development to connect with existing available infrastructure.</p> <p>The importance of the value and the long term benefits along with the continuing operation of regionally significant industry,</p>

Objective	RPS Policy	RPS Implementation methods	Plan change provisions
<p>significant industry and primary production activities that support such industry;</p> <p>b) the life supporting capacity of soils, water and ecosystems to support primary production activities;</p> <p>c) the availability of energy resources for electricity generation and for electricity generation activities to locate where the energy resource exists;</p> <p>d) access to the significant mineral resources of the region; and</p> <p>e) the availability of water for municipal and domestic supply to people and communities.</p>	<p>Policy 6.8 Access to minerals</p> <p>Policy 8.5 Waikato River catchment</p> <p>Policy 14.2 High class soils</p>		<p>primary production activities and mineral resources contribute in the economic, social and cultural wellbeing of the district are provided for within the rules.</p> <p>Policies recognise and provisions provide for the national, regional and local benefits of renewable energy generation activities and resources, and transmission activities, in relation to climate change, security of supply, and social, and economic wellbeing of people and communities and for their health and safety. The development, operation, use, maintenance and upgrade of renewable electricity generation and transmission infrastructure is encouraged within the provisions.</p> <p>High class soils are a finite resource the plan encourages use and development to locate away from this soil source. Council strategies will help guide this development.</p>
<p>3.3 Decision making</p> <p>Resource management decision making is holistic and consistent and:</p> <p>a) is aligned across legislation and national and regional strategies;</p> <p>b) takes an integrated approach to managing resources that cross regional and</p>	<p>Policy 4.2 Collaborative approach</p> <p>Policy 4.3 Tāngata whenua</p>	<p>Methods 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.3, 4.2.6 and 4.3.2.</p>	<p>Objective 2.2.2, Policy 2.2.3</p> <p>Objective 2.5.2, Policy 2.5.3</p> <p>Nationally and regionally significant infrastructure needs to be protected to ensure the district and the wider area are able to make use of these resources. Policies and rules ensure that the wider benefits are considered during planning for these developments.</p> <p>Objective 2.1.2, policy 2.1.3</p>

Objective	RPS Policy	RPS Implementation methods	Plan change provisions
<p>functional boundaries;</p> <p>c) adopts an appropriate planning timeframe;</p> <p>d) adopts a precautionary approach, including the use of adaptive management, where appropriate, towards any proposed activity whose effects may be significant or irreversible but are as yet uncertain, unknown or little understood;</p> <p>e) is transparent;</p> <p>f) has regard to the potential for cumulative effects from activities;</p> <p>g) is based on the best available information, including mātauranga Māori;</p> <p>h) allows for flexible solutions for local variations;</p> <p>i) recognises that time may be needed for change to occur;</p> <p>j) includes working with tāngata whenua;</p> <p>k) includes working with key stakeholders;</p> <p>l) considers a mix of methods to achieve objectives; and</p> <p>m) results in solutions which include processes to minimise conflicts.</p>			<p>Provisions recognise mātauranga Māori, kaitiakitanga and tikanga Māori in landuse planning and decision making. There is provisions for opportunities for Māori involvement in decision-making and monitoring of the District Plan, resource consents, designations and heritage orders including in relation to sites of significance to Māori and issues of cultural significance.</p> <p>Recognition that lwi environmental management plans provide important guidance and direction on the sustainable use and development of the environment and natural resources.</p>

Objective	RPS Policy	RPS Implementation methods	Plan change provisions
<p>3.4 Health and wellbeing of the Waikato River</p> <p>The health and wellbeing of the Waikato River is restored and protected and Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato (the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River) is achieved.</p>	<p>Policy 8.3 All fresh water bodies</p> <p>Policy 8.5 Waikato River catchment</p>	<p>Methods 8.3.8, 8.3.10 and 8.5.1.</p>	<p>Objective 2.2.2, Policy 2.2.3</p> <p>Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato (the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River) is the overarching document in regards to restoring the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River and provisions ensure that subdivision, use and development are managed in a way that helps to restore, protect and enhances the health and wellbeing of the districts waterways and ultimately the Waikato River.</p>
<p>3.5 Energy</p> <p>Energy use is managed, and electricity generation and transmission is operated, maintained, developed and upgraded, in a way that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) increases efficiency; b) recognises any increasing demand for energy; c) seeks opportunities to minimise demand for energy; d) recognises and provides for the national significance of electricity transmission and renewable electricity generation activities; e) recognises and provides for the national, regional and local benefits of 	<p>Policy 4.4 Regionally significant industry and primary production</p> <p>Policy 6.6 Significant infrastructure and energy resources</p>	<p>Methods 4.4.1, 4.4.2, 6.6.1, 6.6.2 and 6.6.5.</p>	<p>Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3</p> <p>Objective 2.5.2, Policy 2.5.3</p> <p>Energy management is a consideration in planning for development and structure plans have been developed that promote a compact and well designed urban form which contributes to energy efficiency.</p> <p>It is important that significant nationally and regionally important infrastructure are taken into account for the increasing demands for energy and when undertaking any development. Provisions ensure development protects these significant facilities and that new development is not disadvantageous to their function.</p> <p>Renewable energy is an important part of energy supply and rules provide for the infrastructure for the increasing need to produce energy from these sources in an</p>

Objective	RPS Policy	RPS Implementation methods	Plan change provisions
<p>electricity transmission and renewable electricity generation;</p> <p>f) reduces reliance on fossil fuels over time;</p> <p>g) addresses adverse effects on natural and physical resources;</p> <p>h) recognises the technical and operational constraints of the electricity transmission network and electricity generation activities; and</p> <p>i) recognises the contribution of existing and future electricity transmission and electricity generation activities to regional and national energy needs and security of supply.</p>			<p>effort to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and provide a secure supply.</p>
<p>3.6 Adapting to climate change</p> <p>Land use is managed to avoid the potential adverse effects of climate change induced weather variability and sea level rise on:</p> <p>a) amenity;</p> <p>b) the built environment, including infrastructure;</p>	<p>4.1 Integrated approach</p> <p>6.2 Planning for development in the coastal environment</p> <p>13.2 Manage activities to reduce the risks from natural hazards</p>	<p>Methods 4.1.13, 6.2.3, 13.2.1, 13.2. 2 and 13.2.7.</p>	<p>Objective 2.4.2 Policy 2.4.3</p> <p>The provisions make the community aware of the need to consider the design of buildings, provision of facilities, infrastructure and location of housing that will help reduce green house emissions and make communities more resilient to the effects of climate change.</p>

Objective	RPS Policy	RPS Implementation methods	Plan change provisions
c) indigenous biodiversity; d) natural character; e) public health and safety; and f) public access.			
3.8 Ecosystem services The range of ecosystem services associated with natural resources are recognised and maintained or enhanced to enable their ongoing contribution to regional wellbeing.	Policy 8.3 All fresh water bodies	Methods 8.3.8 and 8.3.10.	Objective 2.2.2, Policy 2.2.3 Freshwater ecosystems are fragile environments and provisions in the plan ensure that subdivision and land use is managed to avoid the adverse effects on these systems and in a way that restores, protects and enhances the mana, mauri, health and wellbeing of the District's lakes, rivers and all other waterways. Where appropriate, protection and enhancement of riparian and wetland habitat, instream habitat diversity and indigenous biodiversity will be promoted. When assembling structure plans, development guidelines and rules in the plan aim to mitigate the effects of development by methods which will have a positive effect on the environment.
3.9 Relationship of tāngata whenua with the environment	Policy 4.3 Tāngata whenua Tāngata whenua are provided appropriate opportunities to express, maintain and enhance	Methods 4.3.2, 4.3.3 and 4.3.4.	Objective 2.1.2, Policy 2.1.3 Objective 2.6.2, Policy 2.6.3 The provisions ensure that a partnership between Council and mana whenua,

Objective	RPS Policy	RPS Implementation methods	Plan change provisions
<p>The relationship of tāngata whenua with the environment is recognised and provided for, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a) the use and enjoyment of natural and physical resources in accordance with tikanga Māori, including mātauranga Māori; and 2. b) the role of tāngata whenua as kaitiaki. 	<p>the relationship with their rohe through resource management and other local authority processes.</p>		<p>recognise and provide for the māori values in resource management and decision making. These include the important relationship of māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga and to have particular regard to kaitiakitanga.</p> <p>The return by Maori to their ancestral land, is encouraged and provisions consider their aspirations for changed land use, land development and settlement, whilst exercising kaitiakitanga and protecting sites of cultural significance.</p> <p>Tangata whenua have a role as kaitiaki over the district and providing opportunities for them to exercise their customary role when subdivision, use and development is being undertaken is an important part co-ordinated development. Rules in the plan ensure that tangata whenua have a role at the decision making stage.</p>
<p>3.10 Sustainable and efficient use of resources</p> <p>Use and development of natural and physical resources, excluding minerals, occurs in a way and at a rate that is sustainable, and where the use and development of all natural and physical resources is efficient and minimises the generation of waste.</p>	<p>Policy 4.4 Regionally significant industry and primary production</p> <p>Policy 6.1 Planned and co-ordinated subdivision, use and development</p>	<p>Methods 4.4.1, 6.1.1, 6.1.2 and 6.1.6.</p>	<p>Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3</p> <p>Ad hoc development is not a good use of physical resources, particularly the reduction of high quality soils. Policies and rules have been developed to ensure that subdivision, use and development occurs in an integrated manner and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • avoids fragmented development • consistent with other strategies • connects to existing infrastructure

Objective	RPS Policy	RPS Implementation methods	Plan change provisions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • avoids or mitigates natural hazards • give rise to reverse sensitivity • provides for papakainga on Maori land • consolidates retail and commercial activities, and • creates and protects the planned urban form. <p>Objective 2.5.2, Policy 2.5.3</p> <p>Nationally and regionally significant infrastructure plays a substantial part in development. Rules in the plan ensure that these significant structures contribute to but are not compromised by, subdivision, use and development.</p>
<p>3.12 Built environment Development of the built environment (including transport and other infrastructure) and associated land use occurs in an integrated, sustainable and planned manner which enables positive environmental, social, cultural and economic outcomes, including by:</p> <p>a) promoting positive indigenous biodiversity outcomes;</p> <p>b) preserving and protecting natural character, and protecting outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development;</p> <p>c) integrating land use and infrastructure planning, including by ensuring that</p>	<p>Policy 6.1 Planned and co-ordinated subdivision, use and development</p> <p>6.3 Co-ordinating growth and infrastructure</p> <p>Policy 6.4 Marae and papakāinga</p> <p>Policy 6.6 Significant infrastructure and energy resources</p> <p>Policy 6.8 Access to minerals</p>	<p>Methods 6.1.1, 6.1.2, 6.1.4, 6.1.5, 6.1.6, 6.1.7, 6.3.1, 6.3.2, 6.3.3, 6.3.4, 6.4.1, 6.4.2, 6.6.1, 6.6.5, 6.8.1 6.8.2, 6.8.3 and 6.8.4.</p>	<p>Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3</p> <p>Objective 2.5.2, Policy 2.5.3</p> <p>The plan has a range of provisions that control development and ensures that this occurs in a co-ordinated and integrated manner.</p> <p>The plan uses zoning as a method of keeping activities with the same effects in the same area and with access to appropriate infrastructure. For example industrial activities would not be located in areas where natural character needs to be preserved.</p> <p>Activities can occur out of zone but these need to be carefully regulated to avoid the potential for reverse sensitivity arising. New sensitive activities locating near existing and planned land uses such as</p>

Objective	RPS Policy	RPS Implementation methods	Plan change provisions
<p>development of the built environment does not compromise the safe, efficient and effective operation of infrastructure corridors;</p> <p>d) integrating land use and water planning, including to ensure that sufficient water is available to support future planned growth;</p> <p>e) recognising and protecting the value and long-term benefits of regionally significant infrastructure;</p> <p>f) protecting access to identified significant mineral resources;</p> <p>g) minimising land use conflicts, including minimising potential for reverse sensitivity;</p> <p>h) anticipating and responding to changing land use pressures outside the Waikato region which may impact on the built environment within the region;</p> <p>i) providing for the development, operation, maintenance and upgrading of new and existing electricity transmission and renewable electricity generation activities including small and community scale generation;</p> <p>j) promoting a viable and vibrant central business district in Hamilton city, with a</p>			<p>heavy industry or areas of mineral extraction will be discouraged by rules in the plan which aim to ensure the existing use is able to continue operating.</p> <p>Provisions recognise the functional need associated with significant nationally and regionally important infrastructure. The provisions recognise that infrastructure is important to the economic, cultural and social benefits of the district and enable the development, use, maintenance and upgrade of these significant facilities.</p> <p>The plan recognises the relationship of Maori with their ancestral lands by encouraging marae and papakainga in establishing around the district.</p>

Objective	RPS Policy	RPS Implementation methods	Plan change provisions
<p>supporting network of sub-regional and town centres; and</p> <p>k) providing for a range of commercial development to support the social and economic wellbeing of the region.</p>			
<p>3.14 Mauri and values of fresh water bodies Maintain or enhance the mauri and identified values of fresh water bodies including</p> <p>by:</p> <p>a) maintaining or enhancing the overall quality of freshwater within the region;</p> <p>b) safeguarding ecosystem processes and indigenous species habitats;</p> <p>c) safeguarding the outstanding values of identified outstanding freshwater bodies and the significant values of wetlands;</p> <p>d) safeguarding and improving the life supporting capacity of freshwater bodies where they have been degraded as a result of human activities, with demonstrable progress made by 2030;</p>	<p>Policy 4.3 Tāngata whenua</p> <p>Policy 8.3 All fresh water bodies</p> <p>Policy 8.5 Waikato River catchment</p>	<p>Methods 4.3.2, 4.3.3, 4.3.4, 8.3.8, 8.3.10 and 8.5.1.</p>	<p>Objective 2.2.2, Policy 2.2.3</p> <p>Provisions recognise and provide for the vision, objectives, and outcomes in Te Ara Whanui o Rangitāiki (Pathways of the Rangitāiki) and Te Kaupapa Kaitiaki documents and give effect to Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato - the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River.</p> <p>Rules will manage subdivision, use and development in an endeavour to restore, protect and enhance the mauri, health and wellbeing of the District's lakes, rivers and waterways.</p> <p>Provisions respect and support the relationship of tangata whenua as kaitiaki with waterbodies.</p>

Objective	RPS Policy	RPS Implementation methods	Plan change provisions
<p>f) enabling people to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing and for their health and safety;</p> <p>g) recognising that there will be variable management responses required for different catchments of the region; and</p>			
<p>3.16 Riparian areas and wetlands</p> <p>Riparian areas (including coastal dunes) and wetlands are managed to:</p> <p>a) maintain and enhance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) public access; and ii) amenity values. <p>b) maintain or enhance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. water quality; ii. indigenous biodiversity; iii. natural hazard risk reduction; iv. cultural values; v. riparian habitat quality and extent; vi. and wetland quality and extent. 	<p>Policy 8.3 All fresh water bodies</p>	<p>Methods 8.3.8 and 8.3.10.</p>	<p>Objective 2.2.2, Policy 2.2.3</p> <p>Objective 2.6.2, Policy 2.6.3</p> <p>Riparian margins have an important part in protecting the river by creating buffer zones alongside them where little or no development can occur. Wetlands improve water quality as the planted surfaces act as filters. Provisions in the plan such as planting up riparian margins is an effective method to reduce surface water run off or pollutants from entering waterbodies thereby protecting downstream environments and helping achieve the rejuvenation of the Waikato River.</p> <p>The plan promotes best practice stormwater management such as low impact design to enhance water quality.</p>
<p>3.18 Historic and cultural heritage</p> <p>Sites, structures, landscapes, areas or places of historic and cultural heritage are</p>	<p>Policy 10.1 Managing historic and cultural heritage</p>	<p>Methods 10.1.1, 10.1.2, 10.1.3, 10.2.1, 10.2.2, 10.2.3, 10.3.1 and Table 10-2.</p>	<p>Objective 2.1.2, Policy 2.1.3</p> <p>Provisions recognise and provide for the relationship of Maori and their culture and</p>

Objective	RPS Policy	RPS Implementation methods	Plan change provisions
<p>protected, maintained or enhanced in order to retain the identity and integrity of the Waikato region's and New Zealand's history and culture.</p>	<p>Policy 10.2 Relationship of Māori to taonga</p> <p>Policy 10.3 Effects of development on historic and cultural heritage</p>		<p>traditions with the ancestral lands, water, sites, wahi tapu and other taonga.</p> <p>Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3</p> <p>Heritage is a finite resource and provides the community with a sense of time and identify. These links are lost when the heritage item disappears or is mismanaged. The rules in the plan ensure that built heritage and notable trees are protected from activities that will compromise heritage values. Rules aim to have heritage maintained and where possible incorporated into development with demolition being the least favoured option.</p>
<p>3.19 Ecological integrity and indigenous biodiversity</p> <p>The full range of ecosystem types, their extent and the indigenous biodiversity that those ecosystems can support exist in a healthy and functional state.</p>	<p>Policy 4.2 Collaborative approach</p> <p>Policy 11.1 Maintain or enhance indigenous biodiversity</p> <p>Policy 11.3 Collaborative management</p>	<p>Methods 4.2.11, 11.1.1, 11.1.2, 11.1.3, 11.1.4, 11.1.8, 11.1.10 and 11.3.1.</p>	<p>Objective 2.6.2, Policy 2.6.3</p> <p>The plan rules promotes positive indigenous biodiversity outcomes with the aim of supporting and facilitating those activities which will lead to the long term protection and or enhancement of indigenous biodiversity values.</p> <p>This would result in maintaining a full range of ecosystems including such things as the restoration of habitats, supporting the health and wellbeing of the Waikato river and supporting tangata whenua relationships with indigenous biodiversity and their holistic view of ecosystems and the environment.</p>

Objective	RPS Policy	RPS Implementation methods	Plan change provisions
<p>3.20 Outstanding natural features and landscapes</p> <p>The values of outstanding natural features and landscapes are identified and protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.</p>	<p>Policy 12.1 Outstanding natural features and landscapes</p>	<p>Methods 12.1.1, 12.1.2 and 12.1.3.</p>	<p>Objective 2.6.2, Policy 2.6.3</p> <p>Tangata whenua have a role as kaitiaki of the natural values on their lands and the wider district and the plan provisions for use and development ensure that tangata whenua are involved in decision making and are able to manage the environment on the Maori world view.</p> <p>Other processes outside the plan identify the values and characteristics that make up the outstanding natural features and landscapes and the rules in the plan will ensure that these important features are protected from adverse effects arising from inappropriate subdivision, use and development. Apart from plan provisions other means, such as funding, may be investigated as a means of encouraging the protection, enhancement and restoration of natural and landscape value areas.</p>
<p>3.21 Amenity</p> <p>The qualities and characteristics of areas and features, valued for their contribution to amenity, are maintained or enhanced.</p>	<p>Policy 12.3 Maintain and enhance areas of amenity value</p>	<p>Method 12.3.1.</p>	<p>Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3</p> <p>Amenity is the qualities and characteristics for which an area is valued ie in a residential area it may be wide street networks or houses setbacks from the road.</p> <p>Places such as those below also have amenity values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scenic, scientific, recreational or historic areas • areas of spiritual or cultural significance

Objective	RPS Policy	RPS Implementation methods	Plan change provisions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> landscapes or natural features. <p>This amenity is at risk if new development is in an inappropriate location and contrary to these values. Rules ensure that the amenity of any particular area is maintained by development standards that must be achieved. Should development wish to be outside these standards a resource consent and full assessment would be required.</p>
<p>3.22 Natural Character</p> <p>The natural character of the coastal environment, wetlands, and lakes and rivers and their margins are protected from the adverse effects of inappropriate subdivision, use and development.</p>	<p>Policy 12.2 Preserve natural character</p>	<p>Methods 12.2.1 and 12.2.2.</p>	<p>Objective 2.6.2, Policy 2.6.3</p> <p>Preserving natural character is an important function under the RMA and in order to achieve this, development will be directed into areas where the natural character is already compromised. Other process outside the plan have identified these important areas and the rules within the plan ensure that activities recognise and maintain the attributes of identified areas and minimise adverse effects on them. Provisions will encourage the protection, enhancement and restoration of natural character areas including supporting opportunities for tangata whenua to exercise their customary responsibilities as kaitiaki in restoring and protecting and enhance these areas.</p>
<p>3.23 Public access</p>	<p>Policy 12.4 Maintain and enhance public access</p> <p>Policy 12.5 Appropriate restrictions on public access</p>	<p>Methods 12.4.1, 12.4.2 and 12.5.1.</p>	<p>Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3</p> <p>Access to lakes and rivers is an important part of the public enjoyment of a place. Where access is already provided it is important that development does not</p>

Objective	RPS Policy	RPS Implementation methods	Plan change provisions
Public access to and along the coastal marine area, lakes and rivers is maintained and enhanced.			interfere with this access and rules such as setbacks from waterbodies will ensure the public continue to enjoy this feature. Development can enhance the public enjoyment of an area by improving the range of access opportunities ie allowing access to less mobile members of the community. Maintaining and enhancing access requires Council identifying where new access is required and ensuring that existing and future access is not lost as a direct result of development.

BAY OF PLENTY REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT

Objective	RPS Policy	RPS Implementation methods	Plan change provisions
2.3 Energy and infrastructure			
Objective 5 Provide for energy efficiency and conservation and promote the use and development of renewable energy sources	<p>Policy EI 1B: Promoting the use and development of renewable energy sources</p> <p>Policy EI 2B: Promoting energy efficiency and conservation</p>	<p>Method 3.</p> <p>Method 3</p>	<p>Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3 Objective 2.4.2, Policy 2.4.3</p> <p>Renewable energy research and new technologies are advancing quickly and the plan actively encourages investigating these renewable sources. Investigation could range from small-scale power generation systems which are used on-site or nearby to larger scale renewable electricity generation facilities.</p> <p>The plan actively promotes energy efficiency methods. Design, orientation and layout can have a significant impact</p>

			<p>on the energy efficiency and energy conservation of buildings and development and are actively encouraged when developing urban environments.</p> <p>Urban design principles which incorporate walking and cycling, accessibility to public transport and promoting the use of solar energy are encouraged when designing for development.</p>
<p>Objective 6 Provide for the social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of, and the use and development of nationally and regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy</p>	<p>Policy EI 3B: Protecting nationally and regionally significant infrastructure</p> <p>Policy EI 4B: Recognising the benefits from nationally and regionally significant infrastructure and the use and development of renewable energy</p> <p>Policy EI 5B: Managing adverse effects of regionally significant infrastructure on matters of national importance</p> <p>Policy EI 6B: On-going generation of electricity from existing power generation schemes</p>	<p>Methods 3, 17, 18 and 51.</p> <p>Methods 3, 17,18 and 51</p> <p>Method 3</p> <p>Method 3</p>	<p>Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3 Objective 2.5.2, Policy 2.5.3</p> <p>Maintaining the output from existing electricity generation schemes is essential for ensuring that people, communities and industry are able to provide for their social, economic and cultural well-being and health and safety.</p> <p>Incompatible subdivision, use or development that is under or adjacent to nationally and regionally significant infrastructure can adversely affect the efficient operation of infrastructure or restrict its ability to be maintained or upgraded. Rules in the plan ensure that when development occurs the supply, location and maintenance of this important infrastructure is taken into account.</p> <p>The plan recognises and provides for nationally and regionally significant infrastructure, including: roads, water supply and sewage, energy networks, telecommunication networks all of which ensure that community social, economic and cultural needs are met and enables</p>

			the ongoing operation and maintenance of these systems.
Objective 7 Provide for the appropriate management of: (a) any adverse environmental effects (including effects on existing lawfully established land uses) created by the development and use of infrastructure and associated resources; (b) any reverse sensitivity effects on established, consented or designated infrastructure.	Policy EI 7B: Managing the effects of infrastructure development and use	Methods 3 and 17.	Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3 While infrastructure enables communities to provide for their social economic and cultural wellbeing, it can also generate adverse effects, including on existing lawfully established land uses. When considering development or upgrading of infrastructure, the plan rules ensure that any potential adverse effects resulting in reverse sensitivity from the new infrastructure on existing activities are appropriately avoided, remedied or mitigated.
2.5 Integrated resource management			
Objective 10 Cumulative effects of existing and new activities are appropriately managed	Policy IR 1B: Applying a precautionary approach to managing natural and physical resources Policy IR 3B: Adopting an integrated approach Policy IR 5B: Assessing cumulative effects Policy IR 6B: Promoting consistent and integrated management across jurisdictional boundaries	Methods 3 and 10 Methods 3, 9, 11 and 41 Methods 3 and 10 Methods 3, 9, 41 and 51.	Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3 Objective 2.5.2, Policy 2.5.3 Effective and efficient resource management requires taking an integrated approach and working with other parties. Integrated resource management requires an holistic view that looks beyond organisational, spatial or administrative boundaries. For integrated management to be effective and efficient it requires a coherent and consistent approach with agencies involved in resource

			<p>management working together in a collaborative manner.</p> <p>This is achieved in the plan by the involvement of regional council when considering resource consents or development that could have effects wider than the Taupo district and the inclusion of Iwi in decision making as well as network utility operators. The cumulative effects of development that could affect wider than the district can then be considered using an integrated approach to the issue.</p>
<p>Objective 11 An integrated approach to resource management issues is adopted by resource users and decision makers</p>	<p>Policy IR 1B: Applying a precautionary approach to managing natural and physical resources</p> <p>Policy IR 2B: Having regard to the likely effects of climate change</p> <p>Policy IR 3B: Adopting an integrated approach</p> <p>Policy IR 5B: Assessing cumulative effects</p>	<p>Methods 3 and 10</p> <p>Method 3</p> <p>Methods 3, 9, 11 and 47.</p> <p>Method 3</p>	<p>Objective 2.1.2, Policy 2.1.3 Objective 2.2.2, Policy 2.2.3 Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3 Objective 2.4.2, Policy 2.4.3 Objective 2.5.2, Policy 2.5.3 Objective 2.6.2, Policy 2.6.3</p> <p>Effective and efficient resource management requires taking an integrated approach and working with other parties. For integrated management to be effective and efficient it requires a coherent and consistent approach with agencies involved in resource management working together in a collaborative manner. The division of resource management functions between regional and city and district councils requires close coordination to ensure an efficient allocation of resource management functions and duties. Duplication and omissions are inefficient and could also result in adverse effects on the environment.</p>

			The plan addressed these issues by ensuring and promoting for Regional Council, Iwi Authorities, network utility providers and government agencies to be involved in decision making when considering development that could have potential effects on the wider environment.
Objective 12 The timely exchange, consideration of and response to relevant information by all parties with an interest in the resolution of a resource management issue	<p>Policy IR 4B: Using consultation in the identification and resolution of resource management issue</p> <p>Policy IW 3B: Recognising the Treaty in the exercise of functions and powers under the Act</p> <p>Policy IW 6B: Encouraging tangata whenua to identify measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse cultural effects</p>	<p>Method 3, 41 and 42</p> <p>Methods 3, 11 and 48</p> <p>Methods 3, 11,12 and 48.</p>	<p>Objective 2.1.2, Policy 2.1.3 Objective 2.2.2, Policy 2.2.3 Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3 Objective 2.4.2, Policy 2.4.3 Objective 2.5.2, Policy 2.5.3 Objective 2.6.2, Policy 2.6.3</p> <p>The plan provisions require consultation when undertaking development and it is important that all information is readily available for affected parties so that informed decisions can be made.</p> <p>It is important that tangata whenua are involved in decision making, and methods in the plan adopt this approach, as the use and enjoyment of resources is integral to kaitiakitanga and the relationship tangata whenua have with their resources. In order to achieve this tangata whenua are encouraged to identify measures that can protect against adverse cultural effects.</p>
2.6 Iwi resource management			
Objective 13 Kaitiakitanga is recognised and the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi (Te	Policy IW 3B: Recognising the Treaty in the exercise of functions and powers under the Act	Methods 3,11,46 and 48	<p>Objective 2.2.2, Policy 2.2.3 Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3</p> <p>The Māori environmental resource management system is based on the</p>

<p>Tiriti o Waitangi) are systematically taken into account in the practice of resource management</p>	<p>Policy IW 1B: Enabling development of multiple-owned Māori land</p> <p>Policy IW 7D: Cultivating partnerships between iwi and statutory management agencies</p> <p>Policy IR 4B: Using consultation in the identification and resolution of resource management issues</p>	<p>Methods 3 and 57</p> <p>Methods 9, 11, 47 and 48</p> <p>Methods 3, 41, 42 ad 46</p>	<p>traditional beliefs of Māori, starting from the creation. The maori system requires the healthy existence of mauri within individual natural, physical and metaphysical resources. The correct maintenance of this mauri guarantees the ongoing life of that resource. As traditionally practised, it ensures that resources are sustainably managed for future generations.</p> <p>Provisions in the plan strongly identify with and encourage the use and enjoyment of resources which is integral to kaitiakitanga and the relationship tāngata whenua have with their resources.</p> <p>Council have taken into account the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi when developing the plan and have worked closely with iwi and will continue to do so to achieve good resource management practices.</p>
<p>Objective 14 Partnerships between Bay of Plenty Regional Council, district and city councils and iwi authorities</p>	<p>Policy IR 3B: Adopting an integrated approach</p> <p>Policy IR 4B: Using consultation in the identification and resolution of resource management issues</p> <p>Policy IR 6B: Promoting consistent and integrated management across jurisdictional boundaries</p> <p>Policy IW 7D: Cultivating partnerships between iwi and statutory management agencies</p>	<p>Methods 3,11 and 47</p> <p>Methods 3, 41, 42 and 46</p> <p>Methods 3, 41 and 42</p> <p>Methods 9, 11, 47 and 48</p>	<p>Objective 2.1.2, Policy 2.1.3 Objective 2.2.2, Policy 2.2.3 Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3 Objective 2.4.2, Policy 2.4.3 Objective 2.5.2. Policy 2.5.3 Objective 2.6.2, Policy 2.6.3</p> <p>To avoid inadequate recognition of kaitiakitanga and the Māori environmental resource management system and Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles, protocols and provisions are in place within the plan to ensure that these principles are recognised, considered and provided for in</p>

			<p>resource management decision-making processes.</p> <p>A collaborative approach in creating partnerships between statutory agencies is ongoing and may occur outside the provisions of the plan.</p>
<p>Objective 15 Water, land, coastal and geothermal resource management decisions have regard to iwi and hapū resource management planning documents</p>	<p>Policy IW 4B: Taking into account iwi and hapū resource management plans.</p> <p>Policy IW 6B: Encouraging tangata whenua to identify measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse cultural effects</p> <p>Policy IW 8D: Encouraging the development of iwi and hapū resource management plans</p>	<p>Methods 3, 12, 41 and 46</p> <p>Methods 3, 8, 11, 12, 41, 42, 46 and 48</p> <p>Method 66</p>	<p>Objective 2.1.2, Policy 2.1.3</p> <p>A considerable number of iwi and hapū resource management plans have been formally lodged with and recognised by the Bay of Plenty Regional Council. Iwi and hapū have clear expectations that, where relevant, these resource management planning documents will be considered in resource management decision-making processes.</p> <p>Council will encourage the formulation of iwi and hapu management plans more specific to the district but which will also embrace those that have been developed for the wider environment.</p>
<p>Objective 16 Multiple-owned Māori land is developed and used in a manner that enables Māori to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing and their health and safety, while maintaining and safeguarding its mauri Policy IW 3B: Recognising the Treaty in the exercise</p>	<p>Policy IW 1B: Enabling development of multiple-owned Māori land</p> <p>Policy IW 2B: Recognising matters of significance to Māori</p> <p>Policy IW 5B: Adverse effects on matters of significance to Māori</p> <p>Policy IW 6B: Encouraging tangata whenua to identify measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse cultural effects</p>	<p>Method 3 and 57</p> <p>Method 3, 8, 11, 12 and 48</p> <p>Method 3, 8,12 and 48</p> <p>Methods 3, 8, 11, 12, 41, 42, 46 and 48</p>	<p>Objective 2.1.2, Policy 2.1.3 Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.33</p> <p>Māori land is not valued solely for monetary considerations and legislative provisions, lack of infrastructure and prior planning and resource allocation means multiple-owned Māori land is often more difficult to develop than general land.</p> <p>Council has a role in facilitating the appropriate development of Maori owned land and policies and rules in the plan promote the sustainable management of</p>

<p>of functions and powers under the Act</p>	<p>Policy UG 22B: Providing for papakāinga</p>	<p>Method 3</p>	<p>land as a natural and physical resource while also preserving, protecting, recognising and strengthening the cultural and spiritual aspects of the land. This will enable Maori to retain and live on or develop their ancestral lands for their social, economic and cultural well-being</p>
<p>Objective 17 The mauri of water, land, air and geothermal resources is safeguarded and where it is degraded, where appropriate, it is enhanced over time</p>	<p>Policy IW 5B: Adverse effects on matters of significance to Māori</p> <p>Policy IW 6B: Encouraging tangata whenua to identify measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse cultural effects</p> <p>Policy IW 2B: Recognising matters of significance to Māori</p>	<p>Methods 3, 8,12, 41, 42, 43, 46 and 48</p> <p>Methods 3, 8,12, 41, 42, 43, 46 and 48</p> <p>Methods 3, 8,12, 41, 42, 43, 46 and 48</p>	<p>Objective 2.2.2, Policy 2.2.3 Objective 2.2.2, Policy 2.2.3</p> <p>The mauri of water and land resources has been degraded over time and needs to be protected and restored. Mauri can be harmed by insensitive resource use such as stormwater and sewage, discharges of pollutants and excessive water use. .</p> <p>For Māori, rivers are the life blood of land and that the wellbeing of natural resources is reflected in the wellbeing of people. The mauri of the land and air and the plants and animals they support can be harmed by practices such as clearance of vegetation, soil disturbance and waste disposal.</p> <p>In an effort to improve the mauri of water and land resources provisions in the plan promote integration between agencies and collective action to ensure that development does not continue to degrade these resources while all the time recognising, acknowledging and upholding the significance of the resources to Maori</p>
<p>2.7 Matters of national importance</p>			

<p>Objective 18 The protection of historic heritage and outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.</p>	<p>Policy IW 2B: Recognising matters of significance to Māori</p>	<p>Methods 3,8,12,42,48 and 57</p>	<p>Objective 2.1.2, Policy 2.1.3 Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3</p>
	<p>Policy IW 5B: Adverse effects on matters of significance to Māor</p>	<p>Methods 3,8,11,12,41,42,46 and 48</p>	<p>Places or areas warranting recognition and/or provision as matters of national importance are still being degraded and lost through inappropriate subdivision, use and development. The identification and protection of historic heritage and outstanding natural features and landscapes is important in retaining the identity of Taupō and its sense of history.</p>
	<p>Policy MN 1B: Recognise and provide for matters of national importance</p>	<p>Methods 1,3,8.11,1241,42,46,48,64 and 65</p>	<p>Waahi tapu, sites of traditional cultural activities and other ancestral sites and taonga with which Māori have a special relationship continue to be damaged or destroyed while historic heritage (sites, buildings or areas) come under threat from a range of human activities and natural processes.</p>
	<p>Policy MN 1B: Recognise and provide for matters of national importance</p>	<p>Methods 3,11,12 and 48</p>	<p>The district encompasses a diverse range of landscapes and landforms such as lakes, rivers, mountain ranges and the volcanic plateau.</p>
	<p>Policy MN 7B: Using criteria to assist in assessing inappropriate development</p>	<p>Method 3</p>	<p>Archaeological sites, both identified and unidentified, are a specific type of historic heritage which is protected by the Historic Places Act 1993 outside the range of this plan. Historic heritage can sometimes be difficult to determine or identify and as a consequence may be unknowingly destroyed or modified.</p>
	<p>Policy MN 8B: Managing effects of subdivision, use and development</p>	<p>Method 11</p>	<p>Policies, rules and schedules in the plan provide for protection of historic heritage and natural features and landscapes from</p>

			<p>inappropriate development. These provisions ensure that development is to be undertaken in a manner that will not degrade the item or feature and therefore lose the values that it is valued for.</p> <p>It is essential that tangata whenua are included in these processes as they appreciate what is special about their place and become involved by increasing the wider community understanding of its historic heritage and natural features and landscapes.</p>
<p>Objective 19 The preservation of the natural character of the region's coastal environment (including coastal marine areas) wetlands, lakes and rivers and their margins</p>	<p>Policy MN 1B: Recognise and provide</p> <p>Policy MN 3B: Using criteria to assess values and relationships in regard to section 6 of the Act</p> <p>Policy MN 7B: Using criteria to assist in assessing inappropriate development</p> <p>Policy MN 8B: Managing effects of subdivision, use and development</p>	<p>Methods 1,3,8,11,12,48,64 and 65</p> <p>Methods 3,11,12 and 48</p> <p>Method 3</p> <p>Method 11</p>	<p>Objective 2.6.2, Policy 2.6.3</p> <p>Natural character includes ecological and physical values and may also include spiritual and aesthetic values. Natural character suggests a range of qualities and features which are created by nature as distinct from human-made constructions. The interpretation of natural character is subjective and can be different from one person to another.</p> <p>Inappropriate subdivision, use and development in areas of natural character can have a huge impact on the feature. In order to control degradation of these environments, provisions in the plan ensure that the natural character of an area has been identified and recognised and that when considering any development in these areas, the effects can be avoided or mitigated.</p>
<p>Objective 20 The protection of significant indigenous</p>	<p>Policy MN 1B: Recognise and provide for matters of national importance</p>	<p>Methods 1,3,8,11,12,48,64 and 65</p>	<p>Objective 2.6.2, Policy 2.6.3</p>

<p>habitats and ecosystems, having particular regard to their maintenance, restoration and intrinsic values.</p>	<p>Policy MN 2B: Giving particular consideration to protecting significant indigenous habitats and ecosystems</p> <p>Policy MN 3B: Using criteria to assess values and relationships in regard to section 6 of the Act</p> <p>Policy MN 4B: Encouraging ecological restoration</p> <p>Policy IR 8C: Allocating responsibilities for land-use controls for indigenous biodiversity</p> <p>Policy MN 7B: Using criteria to assist in assessing inappropriate development</p> <p>Policy MN 8B: Managing effects of subdivision, use and development</p>	<p>Methods 3,26,27,39,49,55,64 and 65</p> <p>Methods 3,11,12 and 48</p> <p>Methods 3,39,49,55,63 and 64</p> <p>Methods 1 and 3</p> <p>Method 3</p> <p>Method 11</p>	<p>The district has a distinct collection of species, habitats and ecosystems and these are often dependent upon each other. If one element is weakened the consequences may be felt throughout the rest of the system. Therefore, by maintaining healthy and fully-functioning ecosystems the life supporting capacity of the natural environment is sustained.</p> <p>In order to maintain healthy ecosystems a combined effort is required. This could be by encouraging ecological restoration, often a process undertaken outside the scope of the plan. In areas of significant indigenous habitats and ecosystems, provisions in the plan carefully control use and development to ensure that adverse effects on these fragile systems are minimised. It may be possible that while development may impact on these environments that part of any mitigation may be undertaking some type of restoration or enhancement programme. These types of projects can be decided on with the cooperation of all agencies</p>
<p>Objective 21 Recognition of and provision for the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga</p>	<p>Policy IW 1B: Enabling development of multiple-owned Māori land</p> <p>Policy IW 2B: Recognising matters of significance to Māori</p> <p>Policy IW 5B: Adverse effects on matters of significance to Māori</p> <p>Policy MN 1B: Recognise and provide for matters of national importance</p>	<p>Methods 3 and 57</p> <p>Methods 3,8,26,27,39,41,42,49,55,64 and 65</p> <p>Methods 3,11,12 and 48</p> <p>Methods 1,3,8,11,12,41,42,46,48,64 and 65,</p>	<p>Objective 2.1.2, Policy 2.1.3</p> <p>Tangata whenua connections with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga means that future generations of tangata whenua, as part of their identity, will have enduring, intergenerational connections with their taonga.</p> <p>Māori land is not valued solely for monetary considerations and legislative provisions, lack of infrastructure and prior</p>

	<p>Policy MN 3B: Using criteria to assess values and relationships in regard to section 6 of the Act</p> <p>Policy MN 7B: Using criteria to assist in assessing inappropriate development</p> <p>Policy MN 8B: Managing effects of subdivision, use and development</p> <p>Policy UG 22B: Providing for papakāinga</p>	<p>Methods 3,11,12 and 48</p> <p>Method 3</p> <p>Method 11</p> <p>Method 3</p>	<p>planning and resource allocation means multiple-owned Māori land is often more difficult to develop than general land.</p> <p>Waahi tapu (sacred sites) are of special significance to Māori. They give Māori reference points for direction and growth and ensure a stable cultural development. Removal or destruction of waahi tapu causes great concern and threatens the integrity of tribal identity and growth. These sites continue to be destroyed and rules ensure that development manages effects on any of these sites.</p> <p>The development of maori owned land is actively encouraged in the plan and council will help facilitate iwi to undertake developments that enable their people to retain and live on or develop their ancestral lands for their social, economic and cultural well-being.</p>
<p>Objective 22 The coastal marine area, lakes and rivers are generally accessible to the public</p>	<p>Policy IW 2B: Recognising matters of significance to Māori</p> <p>Policy MN 1B: Recognise and provide for matters of national importance</p> <p>Policy MN 3B: Using criteria to assess values and relationships in regard to section 6 of the Act</p> <p>Policy MN 5B: Encouraging public access to and along the coast, lakes and rivers</p> <p>Policy MN 6B: Restricting public access to and along the coast, lakes and rivers</p>	<p>Methods 3,12,41,42,46 and 48</p> <p>Methods 1,3,8,11,12,46,48,64 and 66</p> <p>Methods 3,11,12,48 and 70</p> <p>Methods 3,11,64,65 and 66</p> <p>Methods 3,11,64,65 and 66</p>	<p>Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3 Objective 2.6.2, Policy 2.6.2</p> <p>The enhancement of public access to the lakes, rivers and their margins is a key resource management issue.</p> <p>Growth, development and increased population pressures can lead to a loss of access to the lakes and rivers, and undermine tangata whenua access to their ancestral lands, historic and cultural sites, and water for traditional cultural practices.</p> <p>Provisions in the plan can ensure that esplanade reserves or strips are taken as part of subdivisions where appropriate</p>

	<p>Policy MN 7B: Using criteria to assist in assessing inappropriate development</p> <p>Policy MN 8B: Managing effects of subdivision, use and development</p>	<p>Methods 1,3 and 11</p> <p>Methods 1,3 and 11</p>	<p>thereby protecting this access for future generations.</p> <p>Where land is publicly owned, public access can be enhanced by providing walking tracks and recreational areas.</p> <p>An interagency approach to identifying key access points is still to be developed.</p>
2.8 Urban and rural growth management			
Objective 23 A compact, well designed and sustainable urban form that effectively and efficiently accommodates the region's urban growth	<p>Policy UG 8B: Implementing high quality urban design and live-work-play principles</p> <p>Policy UG 9B: Co-ordinating new urban development with infrastructure</p> <p>Policy UG 10B: Rezoning and development of urban land – investment and infrastructure considerations</p> <p>Policy UG 11B: Managing the effects of subdivision, use and development on infrastructure</p> <p>Policy UG 12B: Providing quality open spaces</p> <p>Policy UG 17B Urban growth management outside of the western Bay of Plenty subregion</p>	<p>Methods 3,17,18 and 58</p> <p>Methods 3,18,19,50 and 51</p> <p>Methods 3 and 18</p> <p>Methods 3,18 and 19</p> <p>Methods 1,2 and 18</p> <p>Methods 1,2 and 18</p>	<p>Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3 Objective 2.5.2, Policy 2.5.3</p> <p>More intensive urban development is necessary to accommodate growth. However sporadic and uncoordinated growth can adversely affect the amenity of an area, impact on productive land and mineral resources and compromise the operation of infrastructure.</p> <p>Provisions and rules in the plan ensure that urban growth is considered in a holistic manner so that it does not jeopardise or adversely impact on the residential character and amenity values of existing urban areas, or create any unforeseen social, economic and cultural effects, increase road congestion or impact on the efficient operation of network services.</p> <p>The aim of the provisions in the plan is to manage growth in a planned, sustainable manner while minimising the impact on existing communities and retaining the</p>

			characteristics and values such as quality open spaces.
Objective 24 An efficient, sustainable, safe and affordable transport network, integrated with the region's land use patterns	Policy UG 1A: Protecting the national and regional strategic transport network	Method 1	Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3 Objective 2.5.2, Policy 2.5.3
	Policy UG 2A: Identifying a consistent road hierarchy	Method 1 and 13	A lack of integration between land use and infrastructure may result in inefficient land-use patterns and may also compromise the operation of existing and proposed transport infrastructure.
	Policy UG 3A: Promoting travel demand management across the region	Methods 1,17,18 and 19	The protection and continuing development of the district's transport networks and corridors is essential for sustainable growth and to provide connectivity between communities.
	Policy UG 13B: Promoting the integration of land use and transportation	Methods 3 and 18	The plan recognises the actual or potential effects urban growth can have on people and communities, and the important role that efficient infrastructure plays in supporting settlement growth and prosperity and has provisions in place to ensure that growth and development are considered in a co-ordinated manner.
Objective 26 The productive potential of the region's rural land resource is sustained and the growth and efficient operation of rural production activities are provided for	Policy UG 17B: Urban growth management outside of the western Bay of Plenty subregion	Methods 1,3 and 18	Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3
	Policy UG 18B: Managing rural development and protecting versatile land	Methods 1,3,18,52 and 67	The efficient operation and growth of rural production activities in rural areas is at risk from the establishment of sensitive or incompatible non-productive uses through the creation of reverse sensitivity effects. These adverse effects have the potential to unreasonably constrain or inhibit the use and development of, as well as access to, regionally significant natural and physical resources
	Policy UG 23B: Providing for the operation and growth of rural production activities	Methods 3 and 20	
		Methods 3 and 67	

	<p>Policy UG 20B: Managing reverse sensitivity effects on rural production activities and infrastructure in rural areas</p> <p>Policy UG 24B: Managing reverse sensitivity effects on rural production activities in urban area</p> <p>Policy UG 21B: Provision for utilisation of mineral resources</p>	<p>Methods 3 and 20</p> <p>Methods 1,3,52 and 67</p>	<p>The continued operation of rural activities is essential and the plan manages some of this through zoning areas for rural land uses. Any activity wishing to establish in that zone which is not consistent with the framework a rural activity would require a full assessment through the resource consent process.</p> <p>Other provisions in the plan discourage activities which are not rural based, especially sensitive activities, from establishing in these areas thereby allowing the continuation of rural production.</p>
<p>2.9 Water quality and land use</p>			
<p>Objective 27 The quality and mauri of water in the region is maintained or, where necessary to meet the identified values associated with its required use and protection, enhanced</p>	<p>Policy WL 1B: Enabling land use change</p>	<p>Method 3</p> <p>Decline in water quality from land use</p> <p>Soil health is being reduced by unsustainable land management activities Land management practices and uses that are incompatible with the capability of a soil to sustain them are reducing that soil's health and life-supporting capacity.</p> <p>Adopting a catchment-based management approach to sensitive catchments in the region.</p>	<p>Objective 2.2.2, Policy 2.2.3</p> <p>Some land use and land management practices lead to erosion and soil loss resulting in water quality degradation and accelerated accumulation of sediment the receiving environment.</p> <p>The quality of surface and groundwater results directly from the way land is used in that water's catchment.</p> <p>The plan encourages an integrated approach throughout the wider region that will recognise the inter-relationship between land use activities and the cumulative adverse effects that subsequently occur in waterways.</p>

<p>Objective 29 Land use activities are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 within the capability of the land to support the activity; 2 integrated with the wider environmental values of their surroundings; and 3 within the capacity of receiving waters to assimilate any discharge 	<p>Policy WL 7B: Minimising the effects of land and soil disturbance</p>	<p>Methods 3 and 36</p>	<p>Objective 2.2.2, Policy 2.2.3</p> <p>Land use activities and land management affect the state of waterways.</p> <p>Unsustainable land use can have adverse effects on both land and water. The clearance of vegetation and soil disturbance can harm the life force of the land and the plants and animals it supports. Similarly, contaminants such as those from livestock, fertiliser run-off and sewage effluent discharges can life force of the water.</p> <p>Provisions in the plan in conjunction with provisions in the regional plan aim to encourage land use practices as to how best the activity can lower impacts on waterways. The plan encourages activities such as riparian planting, sediment and erosion control and alternative farming practices or land uses.</p>
<p>2.11 Natural hazards</p>			
<p>Objective 31 Avoidance or mitigation of natural hazards by managing risk for people's safety and the protection of property and lifeline utilities</p>	<p>Policy NH 1B: Taking a risk management approach</p> <p>Policy NH 2B: Classifying risk</p> <p>Policy NH 3B: Natural hazard risk outcomes</p> <p>Policy NH 4B: Managing natural hazard risk on land subject to urban development</p>	<p>Method 3</p> <p>Method 3</p> <p>Methods 3,18,73 and 74</p> <p>Methods 3,18 and 23A</p> <p>Method 3</p>	<p>Objective 2.3.2, Policy 2.3.3</p> <p>The provisions give effect to this objective by requiring the design and location of activities to avoid or mitigate natural hazards to an acceptable level of risk to life, property and the environment.</p>

	Policy NH 6B: Exemptions from the natural hazard risk management approach	Methods 1A and 23A	
	Policy NH 7A: Identifying areas susceptible to natural hazards	Methods 1A and 23A	
	Policy NH 8A: Assessment of natural hazard risk at the time of plan development	Method 3	
	Policy NH 11B: Providing for climate change	Methods 1A,18 and 23B	
	Policy NH 12A: Managing natural hazard risk through regional, city and district plans	Methods 23A and 23B,	
	Policy NH 14C: Allocation of responsibility for land use control for natural hazards		

Appendix 3. Other Higher Order Documents

11.3 Te Ture Whaimana - The Vision and Strategy

Te Ture Whaimana emerged from an agreement reached between the Crown and Waikato-Tainui in March 2008 for the settlement of the historical claims of Waikato-Tainui in relation to the Waikato River. The agreement focused on ways in which the health and wellbeing of the river could be restored and set up the Guardians Establishment Committee to begin work on a vision and strategy for the river. The Guardians Establishment Committee was launched in 2008 and the Vision and Strategy was adopted in mid-2008.

The vision is to restore and protect the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River, and there are 13 objectives which describe how the vision should be achieved.

- The restoration and protection of the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River.
- The restoration and protection of the relationship of Waikato-Tainui with the Waikato River, including their economic, social, cultural, and spiritual relationships.
- The restoration and protection of the relationship of Waikato River iwi according to their tikanga and kawa, with the Waikato River, including their economic, social, cultural and spiritual relationships.
- The restoration and protection of the relationship of the Waikato region's communities with the Waikato River including their economic, social, cultural and spiritual relationships.
- The integrated, holistic and coordinated approach to management of the natural, physical, cultural and historic resources of the Waikato River.
- The adoption of a precautionary approach towards decisions that may result in significant adverse effects on the Waikato River, and in particular those effects that threaten serious or irreversible damage to the Waikato River.
- The recognition and avoidance of adverse cumulative effects, and potential cumulative effects, of activities undertaken both on the Waikato River and within its catchments on the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River.
- The recognition that the Waikato River is degraded and should not be required to absorb further degradation as a result of human activities.
- The protection and enhancement of significant sites, fisheries, flora and fauna.
- The recognition that the strategic importance of the Waikato River to New Zealand's social, cultural, environmental and economic wellbeing requires the restoration and protection of the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River.
- The restoration of water quality within the Waikato River so that it is safe for people to swim in and take food from over its entire length.
- The promotion of improved access to the Waikato River to better enable sporting, recreational, and cultural opportunities.
- The application to the above of both maatauranga Maaori and latest available scientific methods.

How are the proposed strategic directions of the Operative District Plan giving effect to the Vision and Strategy?

A significant focus of the Vision and Strategy is the improvement of water quality in the catchment. There are limited aspects that Taupo District Council has the jurisdiction to address such matters. The proposed strategic directions do include a number of provisions which give effect to the objectives, of the vision, within the scope that the District Plan has.

Strategic Direction 1 – Tāngata Whenua, contains direction in Objective 3 for resource management planning and decision making to reflect tikanga, Matauranga Māori and the practice of kaitiakitanga. Supporting policy requires that the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands and waters etc are recognised and provided for. Opportunities for tāngata whenua to exercise their customary responsibilities as kaitiaki are also supported as are the incorporation of Matauranga Māori principles into the design and operation of land use activities.

Strategic Direction 2 has an underlying intent of promoting positive effects on freshwater bodies. That Objective recognises the need to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the mauri, health and wellbeing of water bodies. This Objective is supported by a set of policy which include direction to:

- Recognise the importance of waterbodies to tāngata whenua and the wider community.
- Give effect to Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato - the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River.
- Respect, enhance and support the relationship of tāngata whenua and waterbodies.
- Respect, enhance and support the relationship of tāngata whenua as kaitiaki of waterbodies.
- Manage subdivision, use and development of land in a manner that restores, protects and enhances the mana, mauri, health and wellbeing of the District's lakes, rivers and all other waterways.

11.4 Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki - Pathways of the Rangitaiki River

Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki - Pathways of the Rangitaiki River is required under the Ngāti Whare Claims Settlement Act 2012 and Ngāti Manawa Claims Settlement Act 2012. Planning documents under the Resource Management Act 1991 which relate to the Rangitāiki catchment are required to give effect to the document.

Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki - Pathways of the Rangitaiki River's vision is 'A healthy Rangitāiki River, valued by the community, protected for future generations. Tihei Mauri Ora.

There are 8 objectives which help to describe how the vision will be achieved:

1. Tuna within the Rangitāiki catchment are protected, through measures including enhancement and restoration of their habitat and migration paths.
2. The habitats that support indigenous species and linkages between ecosystems within the Rangitāiki River catchment are created, protected and enhanced.
3. Water quality is restored in the Rangitāiki catchment.
4. Prosperity in the Rangitāiki catchment is enable within the sustainable limits and receiving environment.
5. The relationship between communities and the Rangitāiki catchment is recognised and encouraged.
6. The practice of kaitiakitanga in decision-making for managing the resources of the Rangitāiki catchment is recognised and provided for.
7. Naturalness of the river and the landscape of the Rangitāiki catchment is respected.
8. Access to the Rangitāiki River and its tributaries is maintained and enhanced.

A significant focus of Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki - Pathways of the Rangitaiki River is the improvement of water quality in the catchment. There are limited aspects that Taupo District Council has the jurisdiction to address such matters however the proposed strategic directions do include a number of provisions which give effect to the objectives.

Strategic Direction 1 – Tāngata Whenua, contains direction in Objective 3 for resource management planning and decision making to reflect the practice of kaitiakitanga. Supporting policy requires that the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands and waters etc are recognised and provided for. Opportunities for tāngata whenua to exercise their customary responsibilities as kaitiaki are also supported.

Strategic Direction 2 has an underlying intent of promoting positive effects on freshwater bodies. That Objective is supported by a set of policy which include direction to:

- Recognise the importance of waterbodies to tāngata whenua and the wider community.
- Recognise and provide for the vision, objectives and outcomes of Te Ara Whanui o Rangitāiki.
- Respect, enhance and support the relationship of tāngata whenua and waterbodies.
- Respect, enhance and support the relationship of tāngata whenua as kaitiaki of waterbodies.

Appendix 4. Draft Provisions Consulted on in May – June 2022

2.1 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1 TANGATA WHENUA

The Council, through the District Plan, is required to take into account the Principles of the te Tiriti o Waitangi. This is to be done at all levels of planning and decision making under the Plan.

A comparatively high proportion of the district is Māori freehold or multiple-owned land. There is a strong desire for Māori to return to their ancestral land, with a range of aspirations for changed land use, land development and settlement, whilst exercising kaitiakitanga and protecting sites of cultural significance. The district plan has an important role to play in supporting mana whenua in achieving these aspirations.

The Council is also required to, in partnership with mana whenua, recognise and provide for the māori values in resource management and decision making. These include the important relationship of māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga and to have particular regard to kaitiakitanga.

This is to happen not just through recognition and incorporation of these matters into the plan but also the wider decision making and plan implementation process. These values should not be considered as a separate matter to the wider plan but are expected to be applied throughout all aspects of planning and decision making within the Taupō District.

2.1.2 Objective

1. The values, rights and interests of Taupō District mana whenua are recognised and protected.
2. Mana whenua are a partner in District Plan planning and decision making.
3. Resource management planning and decision making reflects tikanga, mana whakahaere, kaitiakitanga, manaakitanga, whakapapa, mautaranga māori and te whanake.
4. Support development on Māori land that meet the needs of those landowners and respects the exercise of kaitiakitanga, self-determination and the relationship of tangata whenua with their land, water, significant sites and Wāhi tapu.
5. Māori are supported to develop their ancestral lands for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing.
6. The principles of te tiriti o Waitangi are taken into account through District Plan planning and decision making.

2.1.3 Policy

1. Recognise and provide for the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu (sacred sites), and other taonga (treasures).
2. Provide for development on Māori land that enables tāngata whenua:
 - a. to act in a way that is consistent with their culture and traditions
 - b. to fulfil cultural, economic and social aspirations of those owners
 - c. enhance their ability to exercise kaitiakitanga
 - d. strengthens their relationships with land, water, significant sites and Wāhi tapu.
3. Recognise the importance of mātauranga Māori, kaitiakitanga and tikanga Māori in landuse planning and decision making.
4. Recognise and support opportunities for tāngata whenua to exercise their customary responsibilities as mana whenua and kaitiaki.
5. Recognise the wider constraints on the utilisation and development of māori land as different from land in freehold title.

6. Enable development of Māori Land within the provisions of the plan for the purposes of fulfilling the economic and social aspirations of those owners.
7. To ensure that the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi are taken into account in all aspects of resource management within the District.
8. Provide opportunities for Māori involvement in decision-making and monitoring of the District Plan, resource consents, designations and heritage orders including in relation to sites of significance to Māori and issues of cultural significance.
9. Recognise, in decision making, the importance of iwi environmental management plans in providing important guidance and direction on the positive use and development of the environment and natural resources.
10. Recognise and support the incorporation of mātauranga Māori principles into the design, development and/or operation of land use activities.

2.2 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2 FRESHWATER QUALITY / TE MANA O TE WAI

The health and wellbeing of the lakes and rivers in the district have been degraded both directly and indirectly over recent decades. This degradation includes declining water quality, loss of indigenous biodiversity, loss of access and declining water availability and is the result of activities both on land and in the water bodies themselves. Waterways continue to face increasing demands for use, such as takes for irrigation and drinking water, hydro power generation, and assimilation of discharges from towns, agriculture and other industry; as well as pressures arising from land management practices, land use change and intensification. Holistic and integrated management of land and water resources is critical to reversing declining trends.

The Taupō District Plan has a responsibility to manage the adverse effects on the environment that may arise from subdivision and landuse in the District. Managing the adverse effects on waterways resulting from subdivision and land use forms part of that responsibility and there are clear benefits from doing this. The state of the Districts freshwater resources is of significant interest to the Taupō District community, and it is important that positive freshwater outcomes are achieved through the application of the Plan.

2.2.2 Objective

1. Water quality will be enhanced to improve the mauri, health and well-being of water bodies, freshwater ecosystems, and receiving environments within the Taupō District.

2.2.3 Policy

1. Recognise the importance of lakes and rivers to tāngata whenua and the wider community.
2. Decisions, policy and planning reflect an integrated land management or ki uta ki tai approach to resource management/landuse planning.
3. Recognise and provide for the vision, objectives, and outcomes in Te Ara Whanui o Rangitāiki (Pathways of the Rangitāiki) and Te Kaupapa Kaitiaki documents and to give effect to Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato - the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River.
4. Recognise the benefits of subdivision, landuse and development activities which will directly contribute to the enhancement of fresh water quality.
5. Manage subdivision, use and development of land in a manner that restores, protects and enhances the mana, mauri, health and wellbeing of the District's lakes, rivers and all other waterways.
6. The relationship of tāngata whenua as kaitiaki with waterbodies is respected, enhanced and supported.

2.3 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 3 URBAN FORM AND DEVELOPMENT

The Taupō Districts diverse and growing population has led to increased demand for housing and demand for new commercial and industrial areas. Urban development also generates further demand for infrastructure services, particularly three waters and transportation services. The District Plan provides a framework for ensuring that urban development, subdivision and changes in land use occurs in a planned and efficient manner and is adequately serviced by infrastructure

The strategic directions for urban development establish the approach for urban development within the Plan as identified through the 2018 District wide growth management strategy, Taupō District 2050. This approach reflects the an efficient and effective urban form which will develop in a manner that is appropriately serviced by infrastructure reflects the important values and communities within the District.

As well as green field development, the plan provides important guidance about the protection of existing urban areas, including Town Centres, to enable them to continue to function effectively in a manner that best serves the wider District.

2.3.2 Objectives

1. Subdivision, use and development of land will be consistent with TD2050 2018 to maximise the efficient use of zoned and serviced urban land and is co-ordinated with the provision of cost effective infrastructure.
2. Subdivision, use and development of land which will have demonstrable social benefits to the District's community will be recognised/supported.
3. Development is serviced by an appropriate level of infrastructure that effectively meets the demands of that development.
4. The importance of the Town Centre Environment as the primary commercial, retail, recreational, cultural and entertainment centres for Taupō District are recognised in landuse planning and decision making.
5. Subdivision, use and development will not detract from the wider character and effective functioning of the environment which it is located.
6. Subdivision is designed to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the environment and occurs in a sequenced and coherent manner that protects or enhances the important natural values of the environment where it is located.

2.3.3 Policy

1. Identify and zone appropriate areas of land for urban purposes to guide the future provision of infrastructure within the Taupō District.
2. Subdivision, use and development of land will be consistent with TD2050 to maximise the efficient use of zoned and serviced urban land and is co-ordinated with the provision of effective infrastructure.
3. Avoid fragmented development that results in inefficiencies in the provision of infrastructure and landuse.
4. Require urban subdivision and land development to connect with the existing infrastructure and transportation network, according to the capacity limitations of that network where available and the potential requirements for upgrading its capacity.
5. Support subdivision, use and development of land that will lead to beneficial social and cultural outcomes for the District's community.
6. Provide for the development of Papakāinga on māori land to facilitate māori occupation on their ancestral lands.

7. Maintain strong boundaries to the town centre to consolidate and intensify retail, commercial and office activities within the city centre and protect the amenity of residential neighbourhoods.
8. Restrict the location and development of retail and commercial activities within non-commercial areas of the district to ensure that the town centre continue to be the districts pre-eminent retail and commercial centres.
9. Manage subdivision use and development of land to ensure that it will not:
 - a. have an adverse effect on the functioning of the environment where it is located,
 - b. unduly conflict with existing activities on adjoining properties,
 - c. compromise development consistent with the intent of the environment where it is located
 - d. give rise to reverse sensitivity effects from existing uses
10. Require the design and location of activities to avoid or mitigate natural hazards to an acceptable level of risk to life, property and the environment.
11. Support subdivision and development which does not inappropriately affect areas of important natural and landscape values.

2.4 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 4 CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change has been identified as an issue which is important within the Taupō District. For environmental management and planning purposes there are two separate, but important aspects of climate change:

3. Effects on climate change – which refers to activities that may lead to the an increase in greenhouse gasses and those which may result in a reduction of greenhouse gasses from the atmosphere or help to facilitate efforts towards decarbonisation.
4. Effects of climate change – which are the effects caused by climate change such as more frequent flooding or intensive weather events which can endanger communities, assets and infrastructure.

It is important to consider both of these aspects of climate change to effectively enable people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being and for their health and safety. Supporting positive climate change outcomes and ensuring that the effects of climate change are recognised and provided for will assist in planning for a district which does not contribute to, and is resilient to, climate change. The Strategic Directions for climate change are consistent with the Government’s obligations to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050, and accords with the target for 100% renewable electricity generation by 2030.

2.4.2 OBJECTIVE

1. Subdivision, use and development of land in the Taupō District will result in positive climate change outcomes.
2. Subdivision, use and development of land in the Taupō District will recognise and provide for the current and future effects of climate change on the District’s current and future communities, including any disproportionate effects on māori.

2.4.3 Policy

1. Land use activities which create positive climate change outcomes will be supported and encouraged.
2. Land use activities which will unduly accelerate the effects of climate change will be discouraged.
3. Subdivision use and development of land must demonstrate resilience to the effects of climate change over time.
4. Urban and built development must be designed in a manner which considers the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with that development and resulting land use.

2.5 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 5 SIGNIFICANT AND LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Infrastructure, as defined in the Resource Management Act generally encompasses physical services and facilities which enable society to function, such as the three waters network, transport, communications, energy generation and distribution networks, and any other network utilities undertaken by network utility operators.

Infrastructure is critical to the social and economic wellbeing of people and communities, including providing for their health and safety, and has national, regional and local benefits. However, inappropriately located or designed land use activities can adversely affect the safe and effective functioning of significant and locally important infrastructure.

The Taupō District plays an important role in the location and provision of nationally significant infrastructure. Its central location and natural resources means that Taupō is home to:

- State highways (1, 5, 32, 41 and 47).
- the national grid electricity transmission network
- renewable electricity generation facilities that connect with the national grid, accounting for up to 20% of New Zealand's total electricity demand
- Airports used for regular air transport services by aeroplanes

In addition to nationally important infrastructure, local roads and other infrastructure is vital for the ongoing functioning of urban and rural communities.

2.5.2 OBJECTIVES

1. The wider benefits and strategic importance of significant infrastructure to the District and nationally, are recognised in decision making and land use planning.
2. The sustainable development, operation, maintenance and upgrading of renewable electricity generation resources and activities are recognised and encouraged.
3. Land use in the District will not reduce the safe and effective functioning of significant and local infrastructure.
4. Local and national transport infrastructure located in the Taupō District operates in a safe and effective manner.

2.5.3 Policy

1. Enable the development, operation, use, maintenance and upgrade of renewable electricity generation and transmission developments.
2. Recognise and provide for the national, regional and local benefits of renewable energy generation activities and resources in relation to climate change, security of supply, and social, and economic wellbeing of people and communities and for their health and safety.
3. Recognise the functional and operational needs associated with the use and development of significant infrastructure.
4. Subdivision, landuse and development will not adversely affect the effective and safe functioning of infrastructure.
5. Planning and development of infrastructure will consider the needs and the wellbeing of current and future communities.

2.6 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 6 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT VALUES

The Taupō district is characterised by important landscapes and natural areas. These areas are a strong part of the identity to the district and are valued by the local communities and also hold importance nationally. As well as being an important part of the districts identity these areas also have a range of important social, cultural and environmental (including intrinsic) values.

The effects of human activities such as built development, vegetation clearance and land development etc. can significantly alter the character of the environment resulting in the loss of these areas and their values. While parts of the District have been significantly modified by human activity, vast areas of the natural landscape remain.

These areas are on a range of public (reserve, forest and national parks) and private tenure. There is also a high proportion of these areas on māori land throughout the District which can impact the ability of māori landowners in undertaking development on their ancestral lands.

2.6.2 OBJECTIVES

1. Recognise the importance of the districts natural values and landscapes and their significance to the Taupō Districts communities and identity.
2. The protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna from the adverse effects of inappropriate development.
3. Activities which will lead to the enhancement of indigenous biodiversity values will be recognised and provided for.
4. Recognition of the extent of indigenous vegetation and habitat under Māori land tenure, and the need to provide for the important relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands and waahi tapu.
5. The protection of outstanding landscape areas from inappropriate land use and development which may adversely affect their landscape attributes.
6. Recognition of the relationship of tāngata whenua with the natural values of their ancestral lands, waterbodies, sites, cultural landscapes, and other natural taonga of significance.
7. The natural character of riparian margins are preserved, and enhanced where appropriate, and protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.

2.6.3 POLICY

1. Protect areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna from landuse and development activities that will have more than minor effects on the ecological values and processes important to those areas.
2. Support and facilitate those activities which will lead to the long term protection and or enhancement of indigenous biodiversity values.
3. Recognise and provide for tāngata whenua in their role as kaitiaki of the natural values on their lands and the wider district.
4. Development must not have any more than minor adverse effects on the attributes of identified outstanding landscape areas.
5. Encourage the protection, enhancement and restoration of indigenous biodiversity, including by supporting opportunities for tāngata whenua to exercise their customary responsibilities as mana whenua and kaitiaki in restoring, protecting and enhancing areas of indigenous biodiversity.
6. Ensure that activities within outstanding natural features and landscapes recognise and maintain their important values and characteristics.
7. Support opportunities for tāngata whenua to exercise their customary responsibilities as mana whenua and kaitiaki in respect of the features or landscapes.

8. Recognise the contribution made by landowners to the protection and enhancement of areas of natural values and landscapes.

Appendix 5. Proposed Chapter 2 Strategic Directions for Notification

2.1 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1 TANGATA WHENUA

The Council, through the District Plan, is required to take into account the Principles of the te Tiriti o Waitangi. This is to be done at all levels of planning and decision making under the Plan.

A comparatively high proportion of the district is Māori freehold or multiple-owned land. There is a strong desire for Māori to return to their ancestral land, with a range of aspirations for changed land use, land development and settlement, whilst exercising kaitiakitanga and protecting sites of cultural significance. The district plan has an important role to play in supporting mana whenua in achieving these aspirations.

The Council is also required to, in partnership with mana whenua, recognise and provide for the māori values in resource management and decision making. These include the important relationship of māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga and to have particular regard to kaitiakitanga.

This is to happen not just through recognition and incorporation of these matters into the plan but also the wider decision making and plan implementation process. These values should not be considered as a separate matter to the wider plan but are expected to be applied throughout all aspects of planning and decision making within the Taupō District.

2.1.2 OBJECTIVE

7. The values, rights and interests of Taupō District mana whenua are recognised and protected.
8. Mana whenua are a partner in District Plan planning and decision making.
9. Resource management planning and decision making reflects tikanga, mana whakahaere, kaitiakitanga, manaakitanga, whakapapa, mautaranga māori and te whanake.
10. Support development on Māori land that meet the needs of those landowners and respects the exercise of kaitiakitanga, self-determination and the relationship of tāngata whenua with their land, water, significant sites and Wāhi tapu.
11. Māori are supported to develop their ancestral lands for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing.
12. The principles of te tiriti o Waitangi are taken into account through District Plan planning and decision making.

2.1.3 POLICY

11. Recognise and provide for the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu (sacred sites), and other taonga (treasures).
12. Provide for development on Māori land that enables tāngata whenua:
 - a. to act in a way that is consistent with their culture and traditions
 - b. to fulfil cultural, economic and social aspirations of those owners
 - c. enhance their ability to exercise kaitiakitanga
 - d. strengthens their relationships with land, water, significant sites and Wāhi tapu.
13. Recognise the importance of mātauranga Māori, kaitiakitanga and tikanga Māori in landuse planning and decision making.
14. Recognise and support opportunities for tāngata whenua to exercise their customary responsibilities as mana whenua and kaitiaki.

15. Recognise the wider constraints on the utilisation and development of māori land as different from land in freehold title.
16. Enable development of Māori Land within the provisions of the plan for the purposes of fulfilling the economic and social aspirations of those owners.
17. Provide opportunities for Māori involvement in decision-making and monitoring of the District Plan, resource consents, designations and heritage orders including in relation to sites of significance to Māori and issues of cultural significance.
18. Recognise, in decision making, the importance of iwi environmental management plans in providing important guidance and direction on the sustainable use and development of the environment and natural resources.
19. Recognise and support the incorporation of mātauranga Māori principles into the design, development and/or operation of land use activities.

2.2 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2 FRESHWATER QUALITY / TE MANA O TE WAI

The health and wellbeing of the lakes and rivers in the district have been degraded both directly and indirectly over recent decades. This degradation includes declining water quality, loss of indigenous biodiversity, loss of access and declining water availability and is the result of activities both on land and in the water bodies themselves. Waterways continue to face increasing demands for use, such as takes for irrigation and drinking water, hydro power generation, and assimilation of discharges from towns, agriculture and other industry; as well as pressures arising from land management practices, land use change and intensification. Holistic and integrated management of land and water resources is critical to reversing declining trends.

The Taupō District Plan has a responsibility to manage the adverse effects on the environment that may arise from subdivision and land use in the District. Managing the adverse effects on waterways resulting from subdivision and land use forms part of that responsibility and there are clear benefits from doing this. The state of the District's freshwater resources is of significant interest to the Taupō District community, and it is important that positive freshwater outcomes are achieved through the application of the Plan.

2.2.2 OBJECTIVE

7. Subdivision and land use is managed in a way that promotes the positive effects, while avoiding, remedying, or mitigating adverse effects (including cumulative effects) of that development, on the mauri, health and well-being of water bodies, freshwater ecosystems, and receiving environments within the Taupō District.

2.2.3 POLICY

1. Recognise the importance of waterbodies to tāngata whenua and the wider community.
2. Decisions, policy and planning reflect an integrated land management or ki uta ki tai approach to resource management/land use planning.
3. Recognise and provide for the vision, objectives, and outcomes in Te Ara Whanui o Rangitāiki (Pathways of the Rangitāiki) and Te Kaupapa Kaitiaki documents and to give effect to Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato - the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River.
4. Recognise the benefits of subdivision, land use and development activities which will directly contribute to the enhancement of fresh water quality.
5. Manage subdivision, use and development of land in a manner that restores, protects and enhances the mana, mauri, health and wellbeing of the District's lakes, rivers and all other waterways.
6. The relationship of tāngata whenua as kaitiaki with waterbodies is respected, enhanced and supported.

2.3 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 3 URBAN FORM AND DEVELOPMENT

The Taupō Districts diverse and growing population has led to increased demand for housing and demand for new commercial and industrial areas. Urban development also generates further demand for infrastructure services, particularly development infrastructure such as three waters and transportation services. The District Plan provides a framework for ensuring that urban development, subdivision and changes in land use occurs in a planned and efficient manner and is adequately serviced by infrastructure (including development and additional infrastructure).

The strategic directions for urban development establish the approach for urban form and development within the Plan as identified through the 2018 District wide growth management strategy, Taupō District 2050. This approach reflects the an efficient and effective urban form which will develop in a manner that is appropriately serviced by infrastructure reflects the important values and communities within the District.

As well as green field development, the plan provides important guidance about the protection of existing urban areas, including Town Centres, to enable them to continue to function effectively in a manner that best serves the wider District.

2.3.2 OBJECTIVES

7. The district develops in a cohesive, compact and structured way that:
 - a. contributes to well-functioning and compact urban forms that provide for connected liveable communities;
 - b. enables greater social and cultural vitality and wellbeing, including through recognising the relationship of tāngata whenua with their culture, traditions, and taonga;
 - c. ensures infrastructure is efficiently and effectively integrated with land use; and
 - d. meets the community's short, medium and long-term housing and business needs.
8. Subdivision, use and development of land will be consistent with TD2050 2018 to maximise the efficient use of zoned and serviced urban land and is co-ordinated with the provision of cost effective infrastructure.
9. Subdivision, use and development of land which will have demonstrable social and cultural benefits to the District's community will be supported.
10. Development is serviced by an appropriate level of infrastructure that effectively meets the needs of that development.
11. The Town Centre Environment is strengthened and reinforced as the primary commercial, retail, recreational, cultural and entertainment centres for Taupō District.
12. Subdivision, use and development will not detract from the planned urban built form and effective functioning of the environment which it is located.
13. Subdivision is designed to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the environment and occurs in a sequenced and coherent manner that protects or enhances the important natural values of the environment where it is located.

2.3.3 POLICY

12. Identify and zone appropriate areas of land for urban purposes to guide the future provision of infrastructure within the Taupō District.
13. Planning and development in urban environments will positively contribute to well-functioning urban environments.

14. Subdivision, use and development of land will be consistent with TD2050 to maximise the efficient use of zoned and serviced urban land and is co-ordinated with the provision of effective infrastructure.
15. Avoid fragmented development that results in inefficiencies in the provision of infrastructure and land use.
16. Require urban subdivision and land development to be efficiently and effectively serviced by infrastructure (including development and additional infrastructure), according to the capacity limitations of that infrastructure.
17. Provide for subdivision, use and development of land that will lead to demonstrable beneficial social and cultural outcomes for the District's community.
18. Provide for the development of Papakāinga on māori land to facilitate māori occupation on their ancestral lands.
19. Maintain strong boundaries to the town centre to consolidate and intensify retail, commercial and office activities within the city centre and protect the planned urban built form of residential neighbourhoods.
20. Restrict the location and development of retail and commercial activities within non-commercial areas of the district to ensure that the town centre continue to be the districts pre-eminent retail, commercial and mixed use centres.
21. Manage subdivision use and development of land to ensure that it will not:
 - a. have an adverse effect on the functioning of the environment where it is located,
 - b. unduly conflict with existing activities on adjoining properties,
 - c. compromise development consistent with the intent and planned urban built form of the environment where it is located
 - d. give rise to reverse sensitivity effects from existing uses
22. Require the design and location of activities to avoid or mitigate natural hazards to an acceptable level of risk to life, property and the environment.
23. Do not support subdivision and development which will inappropriately affect heritage sites or areas of important natural and landscape values.
24. Ensure that new urban subdivision and land development is designed in a manner that enables effective and logical multi modal transportation links to the surrounding, including planned, urban areas.

2.4 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 4 CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change has been identified as an issue which is important within the Taupō District. A warming environment, longer and drier droughts and increased intensity of storm events are anticipated. It is important that the District and its communities are able to adapt to the effects of climate change to be resilient and safe.

For environmental management and planning purposes there are two separate, but important aspects of climate change:

5. Effects on climate change – which refers to activities that may lead to an increase in greenhouse gasses and those which may result in a reduction of greenhouse gasses from the atmosphere or help to facilitate efforts towards decarbonisation.
6. Effects of climate change – which are the effects caused by climate change such as more frequent flooding, droughts or intensive weather events which can endanger communities, assets and infrastructure.

It is important to consider both of these aspects of climate change to effectively enable people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being and for their health and

safety. Supporting positive climate change outcomes and ensuring that the effects of climate change are recognised and provided for will assist in planning for a district which does not contribute to, and is resilient to, climate change. The Strategic Directions for climate change are consistent with the Government's obligations to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050, and accords with the target for 100% renewable electricity generation by 2030.

2.4.2 OBJECTIVE

3. Subdivision, use and development of land in the Taupō District will result in positive climate change outcomes.
4. Subdivision, use and development of land in the Taupō District will be resilient to the current and future effects of climate change on the District's current and future communities, including any disproportionate effects on māori.
5. The Taupo District is well prepared to adapt to the risks and effects from climate change, such as natural hazards.

2.4.3 POLICY

5. Land use activities which will result in positive climate change outcomes, including through reducing greenhouse gas emissions and decarbonisation, will be supported and encouraged.
6. Land use activities which will unduly accelerate the effects of climate change will be discouraged.
7. Urban and built development must be designed in a manner which considers the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with that development and resulting land use.
8. Subdivision use and development of land must demonstrate resilience to the effects of climate change over time.

2.5 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 5 SIGNIFICANT AND LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Infrastructure, as defined in the Resource Management Act generally encompasses physical services and facilities which enable society to function, such as the three waters network, transport, communications, energy generation, transmission and distribution networks, and any other network utilities undertaken by network utility operators.

Infrastructure is critical to the social and economic wellbeing of people and communities, including providing for their health and safety, and has national, regional and local benefits. However, inappropriately located or designed land use activities can adversely affect the safe and effective functioning of significant and locally important infrastructure.

The Taupō District plays an important role in the location and provision of nationally 'significant infrastructure'. Its central location and natural resources means that Taupō is home to:

- State highways (1, 5, 32, 41 and 47).
- the national grid electricity transmission network
- renewable electricity generation facilities that connect with the national grid, accounting for up to 20% of New Zealand's total electricity demand
- Airports used for regular air transport services by aeroplanes

The Taupō District is also home to Regionally Significant Infrastructure including municipal waste water systems, the telecommunications and electricity networks.

In addition to nationally and regionally significant infrastructure, local roads and other infrastructure (including development and additional infrastructure) is vital for the ongoing functioning of the Districts urban and rural communities.

2.5.2 OBJECTIVES

5. The wider benefits and strategic importance of nationally and regionally significant infrastructure to the District and wider, including the economic, cultural and social wellbeing of people and communities and for their health and safety, are recognised in decision making and land use planning.
6. The local and national benefits of the sustainable development, operation, maintenance and upgrading of electricity transmission and renewable electricity generation resources and activities are recognised and encouraged.
7. Land use in the District will not adversely affect the capacity and the safe and effective functioning of nationally and regionally significant and local infrastructure required to service existing and future communities.
8. Local and national transport infrastructure located in the Taupō District operates in a safe and effective manner.

2.5.3 POLICY

6. Recognise and provide for the national, regional and local benefits of renewable energy generation activities and resources, and transmission activities, in relation to climate change, security of supply, and social, and economic wellbeing of people and communities and for their health and safety.
7. Recognise the functional and operational needs associated with the use and development of nationally and regionally significant infrastructure.
8. Subdivision, landuse and development will not adversely affect (including reverse sensitivity effects) the effective and safe functioning of infrastructure.
9. Planning and development of infrastructure will consider the needs and the wellbeing of current and future communities.
10. Recognise that infrastructure can have important environmental, economic, cultural and social effects.

2.6 STRATEGIC DIRECTION 6 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT VALUES

The Taupō district is characterised by important landscapes and natural areas. These areas are a strong part of the identity to the district and are valued by the local communities and also hold importance nationally. As well as being an important part of the districts identity these areas also have a range of important social, cultural and environmental (including intrinsic) values.

The effects of human activities such as built development, vegetation clearance and land development etc. can significantly alter the character of the environment resulting in the loss of these areas and their values. While parts of the District have been significantly modified by human activity, vast areas of the natural landscape remain.

These areas are on a range of public (reserve, forest and national parks) and private tenure. There is also a high proportion of these areas on māori land throughout the District which can impact the ability of māori landowners in undertaking development on their ancestral lands.

2.6.2 OBJECTIVES

8. Recognise the importance of the districts natural values and landscapes and their significance to the Taupō Districts communities and identity.
9. The protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna from the adverse effects of inappropriate development.
10. Activities which will lead to the enhancement of indigenous biodiversity values will be recognised and provided for.

11. Recognition of the extent of indigenous vegetation and habitat under Māori land tenure, and the need to provide for the important relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands and waahi tapu.
12. The protection of outstanding landscape areas from inappropriate land use and development which may adversely affect their landscape attributes.
13. Recognition of the relationship of tāngata whenua with the natural values of their ancestral lands, waterbodies, sites, cultural landscapes, and other natural taonga of significance.
14. The natural character of riparian margins are preserved, and enhanced where appropriate, and protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.

2.6.3 Policy

9. Protect areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna from land use and development activities that will have more than minor effects on the ecological values and processes important to those areas.
10. Support and facilitate those activities which will lead to the long term protection and or enhancement of indigenous biodiversity values.
11. Recognise and provide for tāngata whenua in their role as kaitiaki of the natural values on their lands and the wider district.
12. Activities must recognise and maintain the attributes of identified outstanding natural features and landscapes and not have any more than minor adverse effects on them.
13. Encourage the protection, enhancement and restoration of natural and landscape value areas, including by supporting opportunities for tāngata whenua to exercise their customary responsibilities as mana whenua and kaitiaki in restoring, protecting and enhancing these areas.
14. Recognise the contribution made by landowners to the protection and enhancement of areas of natural values and landscapes.