

Maree Robertson  
20 Witako Street  
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LOWER HUTT

2 May 2025

Hutt City Council  
30 Laings Road  
Lower Hutt

By email: [district.plan@huttcity.govt.nz](mailto:district.plan@huttcity.govt.nz)

### **Submission on the Proposed Lower Hutt District Plan**

1. This is a submission by Maree Robertson on the Proposed Lower Hutt District Plan 2025.
2. My email address for service is [maree@tekau.maori.nz](mailto:maree@tekau.maori.nz)
3. I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.
4. The specific provisions of the proposal that my submission relates to, my submission on those provisions, and the decisions I seek are shown in the below table. I also seek all further, alternative, necessary, or consequential relief as may be necessary to fully achieve the relief sought in this submission.
5. I do not wish to be heard in support of this submission.
6. If others make a similar submission, I will not consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing.

### **Introduction**

7. I work as an addiction clinician supporting individuals and whānau experiencing addiction, using both therapeutic and kaupapa Māori approaches, ensuring services are culturally safe and aligned with the values and aspirations of Mana Whenua – Te Atiawa. I act as a cultural and clinical advocate for Māori Tangata Whaiora, helping them to navigate health and social services, ensuring equity in access and outcomes. Sites of significance are vitally important to Māori Tangata Whaiora in their recovery because they are deeply interwoven with whakapapa, Wairua, and Whenua. These places are not just physical locations—they are living,

ancestral spaces that carry mana, mauri, and tapu. Healing for Māori is holistic and cannot be separated from these sacred connections.

**Comment**

8. I strongly advocate for the inclusion of the Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori (SASM's) chapter in the proposed Lower Hutt District Plan 2025. The current plan fails to recognise all sites and areas that hold significance for Māori, undermining our collective responsibility to protect these vital sites. It is essential that we acknowledge and safeguard these areas to ensure their preservation for future generations.
9. I firmly believe that the proposed District Plan must prioritise the identification and protection of sites and areas of significance to Māori. It is encouraging to see the Hutt City Council taking proactive steps to acknowledge and safeguard these important locations, ensuring that their cultural importance is respected and preserved.

Nāku noa, nā



Maree Robertson

Chapter: SASM – Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori			
Provision	Position	Reasons	Relief Sought
Whole Chapter	Support	<p>The sites and areas outlined in SCHED6 have been carefully chosen under the esteemed guidance and direction of Mana Whenua. Beyond these identified sites, this chapter powerfully emphasises the profound significance of marae, waterways, and the harbour islands in our cultural landscape.</p> <p>The categories listed in SCHED6 provide an appropriate framework for determining the importance of these sites.</p> <p>I agree that the provisions of the chapter should apply to the use, development, and activities within the extent of the identified sites.</p> <p>I wholeheartedly endorse the objectives, policies, rules, and standards presented in the chapter. These measures not only ensure proper recognition and protection for the SASMs but also strike a critical balance by promoting responsible land development. Furthermore, they uphold landowners' rights to develop their properties according to their vision, making them a compelling and equitable solution for all stakeholders involved.</p>	I recommend keeping the chapter as it is currently written.