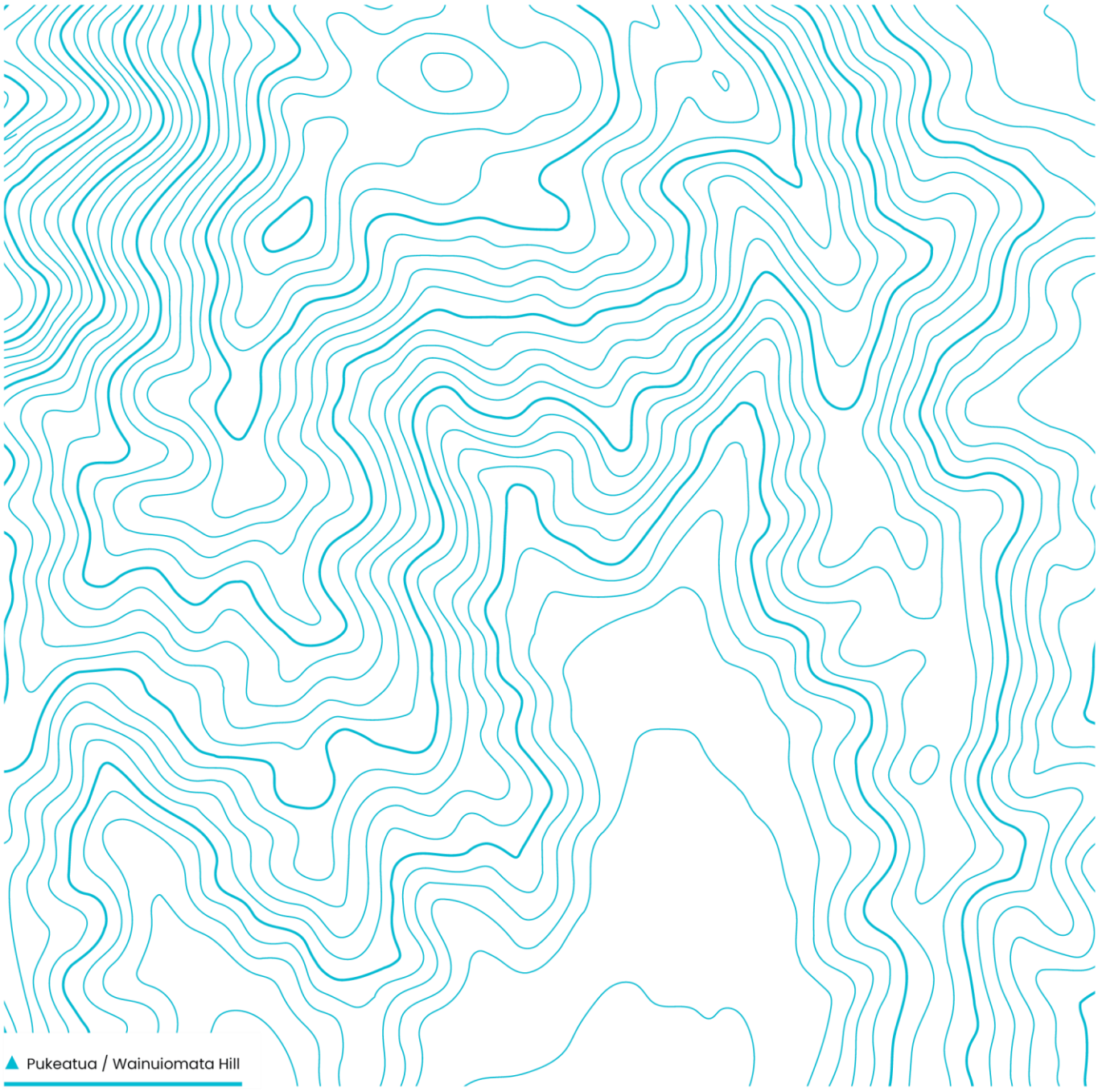
Section 32 Evaluation
THREE WATERS



▲ Pukeatua / Wainuiomata Hill

1 Contents

2 Overview and Purpose

(1) Hutt City Council is reviewing the City of Lower Hutt District Plan. This is a full review of the District Plan, including the approach to three waters management.

(2) This report is a record of the review with regard to three waters management, and includes an evaluation of objectives and provisions for the Three Waters chapter of the proposed District Plan, in accordance with the requirements of s32 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

(3) This report sits as one of a package of reports for the proposed Plan and should be read alongside the General report for matters common to all topics.

Introduction to the proposed Three Waters chapter

(4) The purpose of the Three Waters chapter is to manage the demand on the capacity of the three waters network and to ensure that new development is supported and serviced by appropriate three waters infrastructure.

(5) As development has increased in Hutt City, the demand on these services has also increased. While the original three waters network has been upgraded and renewed in parts, other parts are ageing, in poor condition and deteriorating. As a result, parts of the network now have limited capacity and regularly perform at a sub-optimal level.

(6) Well-functioning three waters infrastructure is crucial to the health and wellbeing of communities and the environment and to enable continued residential and business growth and development.

(7) The management and objectives of three waters infrastructure are changing on a national, regional and local level with a greater emphasis on reducing environmental impacts and on increasing water sensitive design, while also catering for population growth and addressing future climate pressures.

(8) A range of national and regional policies are driving improved freshwater management and the introduction of more stringent planning controls for three waters. As a result, substantial investment will be necessary to comply with the requirements of, amongst others, the Natural Resources Plan, the

National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management and the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater.

(9) The Three Waters chapter sits alongside other methods to manage the demand on the three waters network such as permeability standards for sites in urban areas. The provisions in the Three Waters chapter seek to ensure that new development is serviced by appropriate three waters infrastructure and that a suitable level of service within the three waters network is maintained.

(10) The Three Waters chapter will mainly apply to urban zones. This reflects that development in these zones is serviced by the public three waters network, while in non-urban zones, most properties have their own on-site services and are not connected to Council systems.

(11) The Operative District Plan manages the impacts of development on infrastructure demand through the subdivision chapter. Under this chapter, the District Plan identifies performance criteria that new infrastructure needs to achieve. However, since these provisions were written, there has been the formation of Wellington Water Limited and the development of regionally consistent three water standards that new development needs to meet. As such, the existing District Plan provisions does not recognise current practice in relation to the management of development demand in relation to the three waters infrastructure.

(12) The proposed Three Waters chapter updates the provisions relating to stormwater, wastewater and water supply to ensure they reflect the current regional standards and to ensure that future development is able to be appropriately serviced.

(13) This report should also be read in conjunction with the following s32 evaluation reports.

Report	**Relationship to this topic**
Subdivision (SUB)	The Subdivision chapter contains policies, rules and standards relating to three waters and ensures that any lots created are appropriately serviced. The servicing requirements for subdivision are aligned with what is required under the Three Waters chapter. The reason for these policies, rules and standards being located in the subdivision chapter as opposed to the Three Waters

	chapter is to ensure that all the provisions pertaining to subdivision are contained in the subdivision chapter.
Large Lot Residential, Medium Density Residential and High Density Residential Zones	These zones contain a permeable surface standard of 30% for each site to manage stormwater runoff.

Strategic Directions chapter

(14) The following objectives in the Strategic Direction chapter of the Proposed District Plan are the most relevant to this topic.

Infrastructure	
INFSD-O1	**Integration**
Land use and development is integrated with the provision of infrastructure, including transport and three waters services, and open space.	
INFSD-O2	**Coordination**
The nature, timing and sequencing of new development is co-ordinated with the funding, implementation and operation of necessary transport and other infrastructure.	
INFSD-O14	**Water Sensitive Design**
New development integrates water sensitive design to improve freshwater quality and avoid or mitigate the risks of flooding.	
Urban Form and Development	
UDSD-O2	**Outcomes for Well-Functioning Urban Environments**
Urban development supports the creation of liveable, well-functioning urban environments that are: a. Safe and well-designed,	

b. Walkable and connected by public transport and sustainable travel choices, including micro-mobility modes, c. Serviced by the necessary infrastructure appropriate to the intensity, scale and function of the development, d. Connected to open space and the natural environment, e. Ecologically sensitive, f. Close to employment opportunities, g. Resilient to the impacts of natural hazards and climate change, h. Respectful of and integrated with the city's historic heritage, and i. Adaptable over time and responsive to their evolving, more intensive surrounding context.	
UDSD-O4	**Location of Urban Development**
Urban development takes place within areas identified for this purpose in a manner which uses land and infrastructure most efficiently.	

3 Statutory and Policy Context

(15) The following sections discuss the national, regional and local policy framework that are particularly relevant to the statutory and policy context for three waters for the District Plan Review.

3.1 Resource Management Act 1991

3.1.1 Section 5 – Purpose and Principles

(16) The purpose of the RMA is set out in Section 5. The purpose is to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources.

(17) Under s5(2) of the Act, sustainable management means:

> *managing the use, development, and protection of natural and physical resources in a way, or at a rate, which enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being 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.*

3.1.2 Section 6 – Matters of National Importance

(18) Section 6 of the RMA sets out matters of national importance that all persons exercising functions and powers under the Act shall *recognise and provide for* in achieving the purpose of the RMA. The relevant s6 matters for three waters are:

Section	Relevant Matter
6(e)	*The relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga.* Freshwater and coastal waterbodies are important to Māori, their culture and traditions. These waterbodies are affected by stormwater and wastewater infrastructure. In Hutt City, stormwater systems generally discharge into the nearest waterbody and then into Wellington Harbour. In addition, the wastewater network is at capacity, and in times of moderate and high rainfall, the network overflows. Much of the wastewater overflow ends up in coastal water bodies, including Wellington Harbour.
6(h)	*The management of significant risks from natural hazards.* As new development occurs, the rate of stormwater discharge from a site increases due to increased levels of impervious surfaces. Increased stormwater discharge rates have the potential to increase flooding downstream from a site. The management of risks from natural hazards (s6(h)) is therefore relevant to the management of the three waters network.

3.1.3 Section 7 – Other Matters

(19) Section 7 of the RMA sets out other matters that all persons exercising functions and powers under it shall *have particular regard to* in achieving the purpose of the RMA. The relevant s7 matters for three waters are:

Section	Relevant Matter
7(a)	*Kaitiakitanga* The NPS-FM and the introduction of the concept of Te Mana o te Wai recognises the fundamental importance of water and that protecting freshwater protects the health and well-being of the wider environment. Within the limits of its District Plan responsibilities under s31 of the Act, Council has a responsibility to be a kaitiaki of freshwater insofar as it can manage the effects of urban development on the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater.
7(b)	*The efficient use and development of natural and physical resources* When developing land and considering where to locate and how to manage three waters infrastructure it is important to consider the efficient use and development of the natural and physical resources.

7(f)	*Maintenance and enhancement of the quality of the environment* When three waters are managed badly the effects can be adverse on the maintenance and enhancement of the quality of the environment, in particular on downstream receiving environments.
7(g)	*Any finite characteristics of natural and physical resources* The management of three waters infrastructure is inherently achieved through recognising the finite characteristics of natural (water quality) and physical resources (capacity of three waters infrastructure).
7(i)	*The effects of climate change* More frequent storm events of higher intensity, as a result of climate change, have significant implications for the stormwater network in particular.

3.1.4 Section 8 – Treaty of Waitangi

(20) Section 8 of the RMA requires Council to *take into account* the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi when exercising functions and powers under the Act.

(21) Council works in partnership with Taranaki Whānui ki te Upoko o te Ika (Port Nicholson Block Settlement) Trust, Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira Incorporated, Wellington Tenths Trust, Palmerston North Māori Reserve Trust and Te Rūnanganui o Te Āti Awa ki Te Upoko o Te Ika a Māui Incorporated to actively provide for and protect their interests and develop provisions to recognise and provide opportunities for tangata whenua to exercise kaitiakitanga.

3.1.5 Section 31 - Functions of territorial authorities under this Act

(22) Section 31 lists the functions of territorial authorities. The following are of relevance to the Three Waters chapter:

- The establishment, implementation, and review of objectives, policies, and methods to achieve integrated management of the effects of the use, development, or protection of land and associated natural and physical resources of the district (s31(1)(a)).
- The establishment, implementation, and review of objectives, policies, and methods to ensure that there is sufficient development capacity in

respect of housing and business land to meet the expected demands of the district (s31(1)(aa)).

- The control of any actual or potential effects of the use, development, or protection of land, including for the purpose of the avoidance or mitigation of natural hazards s31(1)(b)(i).

(23) Under section 31(1)(aa), the Council has a function to ensure that there is sufficient development capacity within its district. This includes the provision of adequate development infrastructure (including three waters). Section 30(5) of the RMA provides the following definition for development infrastructure:

> *Development infrastructure means the network infrastructure for—*
>
> *(a) water supply, wastewater, and storm water; and*
>
> *(b) to the extent that it is controlled by local authorities, land transport as defined in section 5(1) of the Land Transport Management Act 2003.*

(24) Three waters infrastructure is essential to most urban land use activities. As such, three waters capacity to support land use activities is an important consideration during subdivision and development of land.

(25) The management of three waters and the construction of three waters infrastructure fall within the functions of territorial authorities under the Act, in relation to their actual or potential effects on land, natural hazards and the surface of water in rivers.

(26) For completeness and to avoid duplication of regulation the relevant functions of regional councils in respect to discharges of stormwater, functions relating to water and wastewater as contained in s30 of the RMA are outlined below.

- The establishment, implementation, and review of objectives, policies, and methods to achieve integrated management of the natural and physical resources of the region (s30(1)(a)).
- The preparation of objectives and policies in relation to any actual or potential effects of the use, development, or protection of land which are of regional significance (s30(1)(b)).
- The control of the use of land for the purpose of:

(i) soil conservation;
(ii) the maintenance and enhancement of the quality of water in waterbodies and coastal water;
(iii) the maintenance of the quantity of water in water bodies and coastal water;
(iiia) the maintenance and enhancement of ecosystems in water bodies and coastal water;
(iv) the avoidance or mitigation of natural hazards (s30(1)(c)).

- The control of discharges of contaminants into or onto land, air, or water and discharges of water into water (s30(1)(f)).

3.1.6 Section 15 - Discharge of contaminants into environment

(27) Section 15 of the RMA sets a framework for the discharge of contaminants and is therefore of relevance to this topic. It states:

(1) No person may discharge any—

(a) contaminant or water into water; or

(b) contaminant onto or into land in circumstances which may result in that contaminant (or any other contaminant emanating as a result of natural processes from that contaminant) entering water; or

(c) contaminant from any industrial or trade premises into air; or

(d) contaminant from any industrial or trade premises onto or into land—

unless the discharge is expressly allowed by a national environmental standard or other regulations, a rule in a regional plan as well as a rule in a proposed regional plan for the same region (if there is one), or a resource consent.

(2) No person may discharge a contaminant into the air, or into or onto land, from a place or any other source, whether moveable or not, in a manner that contravenes a national environmental standard unless the discharge—

(a) is expressly allowed by other regulations; or

(b) is expressly allowed by a resource consent; or

(c) is an activity allowed by section 20A.

(2A) No person may discharge a contaminant into the air, or into or onto land, from a place or any other source, whether moveable or not, in a manner that contravenes a regional rule unless the discharge—

(a) is expressly allowed by a national environmental standard or other regulations; or

(b) is expressly allowed by a resource consent; or

(c) is an activity allowed by section 20A.

(3) This section shall not apply to anything to which section 15A or section 15B applies.

3.1.7 Sections 77G to 77I - Intensification requirements in residential zones

(28) The Resource Management (Enabling Housing Supply and Other Matters) Amendment Act 2021 introduced into the RMA requirements for Councils in relation to the permitted scale and form of future residential development. The primary purpose of this RMA amendment was to unlock the development of more housing within New Zealand's growing cities.

(29) Section 77G of the RMA requires that specified territorial authorities amend their District Plans to insert a prescribed set of Medium Density Residential Standards (MDRS) in every relevant residential zone and give effect to Policy 3 of the NPS-UD within these areas.

(30) Section 77H of the RMA allows Councils to impose less enabling standards in these zones where 'qualifying matters' apply. This is the same approach as that provided for under the NPS-UD (Subpart 6, clause 3.33). Section 77I of the Act then specifies the requirements for assessing qualifying matters.

(31) In Hutt City, Plan Change 56 gave effect to these requirements through the new Medium Density and High Density Residential Zone chapters and changes to the Commercial and Mixed Use chapters.

(32) Sections 77G to 77I of the RMA are highly relevant to the Three Waters chapter as all residential zones (excluding the Large Lot Residential Zone) now enable medium density housing (up to 3 units of 3 storeys per site) as a permitted activity, except where qualifying matters apply. New medium density development enabled by these provisions will require water supply, wastewater and stormwater servicing, and development may occur in locations not previously identified by Council as areas for new residential growth and three waters investment.

3.2 National Policy Statements and the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement

(33) Section 75(3)(a) of the RMA requires district plans to give effect to any National Policy Statement. Section 75(3)(b) of the RMA requires district plans to give effect to the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement.

3.2.1 New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement

(34) The New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (NZCPS) sets out objectives and policies to achieve the purpose of the RMA in relation to the coastal environment. The most relevant objectives and policies of the NZCPS for the Three Waters chapter is:

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement	
Objective 1	*To safeguard the integrity, form, functioning and resilience of the coastal environment and sustain its ecosystems, including marine and intertidal areas, estuaries, dunes and land, by:* • *maintaining or enhancing natural biological and physical processes in the coastal environment and recognising their dynamic, complex and interdependent nature;* • *protecting representative or significant natural ecosystems and sites of biological importance and maintaining the diversity of New Zealand's indigenous coastal flora and fauna; and* • *maintaining coastal water quality, and enhancing it where it has deteriorated from what would otherwise be its natural condition,*

	with significant adverse effects on ecology and habitat, because of discharges associated with human activity.

3.2.2 NPS for Freshwater Management

(35) The NPS for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM) directs regional councils to set objectives for the state of freshwater bodies in their regions and set limits on resource use to meet these objectives. It is relevant for district plans in regard to integrated management of land use and freshwater, particularly considering the effects of development and land use activities on the natural environment (which can include impacts of the quality of freshwater and coastal water).

(36) The objective of the NPS for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM) is:

> *to ensure that natural and physical resources are managed in a way that prioritises*:
>
> *(a) first, the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems*
>
> *(b) second, the health needs of people (such as drinking water)*
>
> *(c) third, the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being, now and in the future.*

(37) The most relevant policies of the NPS-FM for the Three Waters chapter are listed below.

NPS for Freshwater Management	
Policy 1	*Freshwater is managed in a way that gives effect to Te Mana o te Wai.*
Policy 2	*Tangata whenua are actively involved in freshwater management (including decision-making processes), and Māori freshwater values are identified and provided for.*
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.*

Policy 4	*Freshwater is managed as part of New Zealand's integrated response to climate change.*
Policy 5	*Freshwater is managed (including through a National Objectives Framework to ensure that the health and well-being of degraded water bodies and freshwater ecosystems is improved, and the health and well-being of all other water bodies and freshwater ecosystems is maintained and (if communities choose) improved.*
Policy 15	*Communities are enabled to provide for their social, economic, and cultural wellbeing in a way that is consistent with this National Policy Statement.*
Clause 3.4 Tangata whenua involvement	*(1) Every local authority must actively involve tangata whenua (to the extent they wish to be involved) in freshwater management (including decision-making processes)…*
Clause 3.5 Integrated management	*(1) Adopting an integrated approach, ki uta ki tai, as required by Te Mana o te Wai, requires that local authorities must:* *(c) manage freshwater, and land use and development, in catchments in an integrated and sustainable way to avoid, remedy, or mitigate adverse effects, including cumulative effects, on the health and well-being of water bodies, freshwater ecosystems, and receiving environments; and* *…* *(4) 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.*

3.2.3 NPS on Urban Development

(38) The NPS on Urban Development 2020 (NPS-UD) aims to support well-functioning urban environments to provide for current and future community well-being. Policy 2 of the NPS-UD requires the Council (being a tier 1 local

authority) to, 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.

(39) 'Sufficient development capacity' is defined by Part 3 of the NPS-UD to mean that development capacity is both 'plan enabled' and 'infrastructure-ready'. Therefore, alongside ensuring development capacity through enabling district plan settings, the NPS-UD seeks that local authority decisions on urban development that affect urban environments are integrated with infrastructure planning and funding decisions and that these decisions are strategic over the medium term and long term.

(40) The NPS-UD is relevant to the Three Waters chapter as it requires the provision of three waters infrastructure throughout the city to support sufficient development capacity to meet expected short, medium and long-term demand.

NPS on Urban Development	
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.*
Objective 5	*Planning decisions relating to urban environments, and FDSs, take into 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; and* *(b) strategic over the medium term and long term; and* *(c) responsive, particularly in relation to proposals that would supply significant development capacity.*
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.*

Policy 1	*Planning decisions contribute to well-functioning urban environments, which are urban environments that, as a minimum*: *(a) have or enable a variety of homes that*: *(i) meet the needs, in terms of type, price, and location, of different households; and* *(ii) enable Māori to express their cultural traditions and norms; and* *(b) have or enable a variety of sites that are suitable for different business sectors in terms of location and site size; and* *(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* *(d) support, and limit as much as possible adverse impacts on, the competitive operation of land and development markets; and* *(e) support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions; and* *(f) are resilient to the likely current and future effects of climate change.*
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.*
Policy 3	*In relation to tier 1 urban environments, regional policy statements and district plans enable*: *(a) in city centre zones, building heights and density of urban form to realise as much development capacity as possible, to maximise benefits of intensification; and* *(b) in metropolitan centre zones, building heights and density of urban form to reflect demand for housing and business use in those locations, and in all cases building heights of at least 6 storeys; and* *(c) building heights of least 6 storeys within at least a walkable catchment of the following*: *(i) existing and planned rapid transit stops* *(ii) the edge of city centre zones*

	(iii) the edge of metropolitan centre zones; and *(d) in all other locations in the tier 1 urban environment, building heights and density of urban form commensurate with the greater of:* *(i) the level of accessibility by existing or planned active or public transport to a range of commercial activities and community services; or* *(ii) 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 those changes:* *(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 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 *(b) when preparing RMA planning documents and FDSs, take into account the values and aspirations of hapū and iwi for urban development; and* *(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* *(d) operate in a way that is consistent with iwi participation legislation.*
Policy 10	*Tier 1, 2, and 3 local authorities*: *(a) that share jurisdiction over urban environments work together when implementing this National Policy Statement; and* *(b) engage with providers of development infrastructure and additional infrastructure to achieve integrated land use and infrastructure planning; and* *(c) engage with the development sector to identify significant opportunities for urban development.*

3.2.4 Tensions between National Policy Statements

(41) It is noted that there are tensions between national direction under the RMA between the different national policy statements. In particular, between the requirement in the NPS-FM for a territorial authority to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects of urban development on the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems (which may require controls or limitations on development) and the NPS-UD which requires Councils to provide sufficient development capacity to meet the housing and business needs of people, communities and future generations in urban environments.

(42) To manage this tension, this District Plan Three Waters chapter focuses on the matters that are within Hutt City Council's jurisdiction and concentrates on managing the effects of three waters infrastructure and the need to provide for additional urban development. Development is enabled in urban areas where there is either sufficient existing or planned three waters capacity and/or levels of service to accommodate new development or an appropriate alternative means of servicing can be provided. It is acknowledged that by improving network capacities and providing for acceptable alternative solutions there will be secondary and consequential outcomes that assist with achieving the outcomes sought under the NPS-FM and NZCPS.

3.3 National environmental standards

(43) National Environmental Standards are regulations made under s43 of the RMA, and effectively function like rules in a district or regional plan.

(44) While National Environmental Standards for Sources of Human Drinking Water are in place, these relate to activities regulated by regional councils.

3.4 National Planning Standards

(45) Section 75(3)(ba) requires district plans to give effect to national planning standards.

(46) The National Planning Standards require that any district plan provisions relating to energy, infrastructure and transport that are not specific to special purpose zones, must be located in Part 2 – District Wide Matters, under the 'Energy, infrastructure and transport' heading, in its own chapter or as part of another addressing energy, infrastructure or transport. Three waters are part of infrastructure and therefore the THW – Three Waters chapter is included under the 'Energy, infrastructure and transport' heading of the Proposed District Plan.

3.5 Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region

(47) Section 75(3)(c) of the RMA requires district plans to give effect to any regional policy statement.

(48) The Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region ('the RPS') identifies the significant resource management issues for the region and outlines the policies and methods required to achieve the integrated sustainable management of the region's natural and physical resources.

(49) The relevant objectives and policies of the RPS for the Three Waters chapter are identified in the following table. The full wording of relevant provisions below is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region	
Section 3.2 Coastal Environment (including public access)	
Objective 7	*The integrity, functioning and resilience of physical and ecological processes in the Coastal Environment are protected from the adverse effects of inappropriate subdivision, use and development.*
Section 3.2 Energy, Infrastructure and Waste	
Objective 10	*The social, economic, cultural and environmental, benefits of regionally significant infrastructure are recognised and protected.*
Section 3.4 Fresh Water	
Objective 12	*The quantity and quality of fresh water:* *(a) meet the range of uses and values for which water is required;* *(b) safeguard the life supporting capacity of water bodies; and* *(c) meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations.*
Objective 26	*Mauri is sustained, particularly in relation to coastal and fresh waters.*
Policy 14	*Minimising contamination in stormwater from new development*
Policy 40	*Maintaining and enhancing aquatic ecosystem health in water bodies*
Policy 42	*Minimising contamination in stormwater from development*
Policy 45	*Using water efficiently*
3.8 Natural Hazards	

Objective 21	*Communities are more resilient to natural hazards, including the impact of climate change and people are better prepared for the consequences of natural hazard events.*
Policy 51	*Minimising the risks and consequences of natural hazards*
3.9 Regional Form, Design and Function	
Policy 58	*Co-ordinating land use with development and operation of infrastructure*

(50) The following sections of the RPS are also of some relevance to three waters:

- Section 3.2 Coastal Environment (Objectives 3 and 6 and Policies 6, 35 and 37).
- Section 3.3 Energy, infrastructure and waste (Policies 7, 8 and 39).
- Section 3.4 Fresh water (Policies 19 and 43)
- Section 3.8 Natural Hazards (Objectives 19 and Policy 51).
- Section 3.10 Resource Management with Tangata Whenua (Objectives 23, 24, 25, 26 and 28 and Policies 48 and 49).

3.5.1 Proposed RPS Change 1

(51) On 19 August 2022 Greater Wellington Regional Council notified Proposed Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region (RPS-PC1). Decisions on Change 1 to the RPS were notified on 26 September 2024, some of which are subject to appeal under Schedule 1 of the Act and some are operative, having been progressed through the Freshwater Planning Process.

(52) The purpose of RPS-PC1 is to implement national direction relating to urban development and freshwater, to strengthen provisions relating to indigenous ecosystems and, of particular relevance to this plan change, to respond to the climate emergency.

(53) The table below lists the notified version of the changes which are relevant for three waters. The full wording of relevant provisions below is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decisions version**
3.1A Climate Change (new chapter)		
Objective CC.1	*By 2050, the Wellington Region is a low-emission and climate-resilient region, where climate change mitigation and adaptation are an integral part of:* *(a) sustainable air, land, freshwater, and coastal management,* *(b) well-functioning urban environments and rural areas, and* *(c) well-planned infrastructure.*	*The Wellington Region is a low-emission and climate-resilient region, where climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation are an integral part of:* *(a) sustainable air, land, freshwater, and coastal management,* *(b) well-functioning urban areas and rural areas, and* *(c) the planning and delivery of infrastructure (including regionally significant infrastructure).*
Objective CC.6	*Resource management and adaptation planning increase the resilience of communities and the natural environment to the short, medium, and long-term effects of climate change.*	*Resource management and adaptation planning increases the resilience of communities, infrastructure and the natural environment to the short, medium, and long-term effects of climate change.*
Policy CC.4	*Climate resilient urban areas*	*Climate responsive development*
Policy CC.14	*Climate-resilient urban areas*	*Climate responsive development*
3.4 Fresh Water (including public access)		
Objective 12	*Natural and physical resources of the region are managed in a way that prioritises:*	*The mana of the Region's waterbodies and freshwater ecosystems is restored and*

	(a) first, the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems *(b) second, the health needs of people (such as drinking water)* *(c) third, the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being, now and in the future; and* *Te Mana o te Wai encompasses six principles relating to the roles of tangata whenua and other New Zealanders in the management of freshwater, and these principles inform this RPS and its implementation. The six principles are:* *(a) Mana whakahaere: the power, authority, and obligations of tangata whenua to make decisions that maintain, protect, and sustain the health and well-being of, and their relationship with, freshwater* *(b) Kaitiakitanga: the obligation of tangata whenua to preserve, restore, enhance, and sustainably use freshwater for the benefit of present and future generations*	*protected by ongoing management of land and water that:* *(a) returns the Region's water bodies and freshwater ecosystems to, and thereafter maintains them, in a state of tūhauora/good health; and* *(b) improves the health and wellbeing of the Region's degraded waterbodies and freshwater ecosystems; and* *(c) applies the Te Mana o te Wai hierarchy of obligations by prioritising:* *i. first, the health and wellbeing of waterbodies and freshwater ecosystems,* *ii. second, the health needs of people* *iii. third, the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being, now and in the future; and* *(d) recognises and provides for the individual natural characteristics and processes of waterbodies including their natural form, and their associated ecosystems; and* *(e) incorporates and protects mātauranga Māori and acknowledges and provides for the connections and relationships*

	(c) Manaakitanga: the process by which tangata whenua show respect, generosity, and care for freshwater and for others *(d) Governance: the responsibility of those with authority for making decisions about freshwater to do so in a way that prioritises the health and well-being of freshwater now and into the future* *(e) Stewardship: the obligation of all New Zealanders to manage freshwater in a way that ensures it sustains present and future generations, and* *(f) Care and respect: the responsibility of all New Zealanders to care for freshwater in providing for the health of the nation.* *And the Statements of Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa*	*of mana whenua / tangata whenua with freshwater; and* *(f) provides for the ability of mana whenua / tangata whenua to safely undertake their cultural and spiritual practices associated with freshwater, including mahinga kai; and* *(g) actively involves mana whenua / tangata whenua in decision-making in relation to the Region's waterbodies; and* *(h) includes engagement with communities, stakeholders, and territorial authorities; and* *(i) supports the wellbeing and safety of the community, by providing for the ability to carry out recreational activities, in and around freshwater environments; and* *(j) supports and protects an abundance and diversity of freshwater habitats for indigenous freshwater species and, where appropriate, the habitat of trout and salmon; and* *(k) supports the reasonable, sustainable and efficient use of water for activities that benefit the Region's economy, including primary production activities, innovation and tourism.*

Policy 14	*Urban development effects on freshwater and the coastal marine area*	*Urban development effects on freshwater and receiving environments*
Policy FW.2	*Reducing water demand*	*Reducing water demand*
Policy FW.3	*Urban development effects on freshwater and the coastal marine area*	*Urban development effects on freshwater and receiving environments*
Policy 40	*Protecting and enhancing the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems*	*Policy 40: Maintaining and improving the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems – consideration* *Policy 40A: Loss of extent and values of natural inland wetlands – consideration* *Policy 40B: Loss of river extent and values - consideration*
Policy 42	*Effects on freshwater and the coastal marine area from urban development*	*Effects on freshwater and receiving environments from urban development*
Policy FW.5	*Water supply planning for climate change and urban development*	*Water supply planning for climate change and urban development*
3.8 Natural Hazards		
Objective 21	*The resilience of our communities and the natural environment to the short, medium, and long-term effects of climate change, and sea level rise is strengthened, and people are better prepared for the consequences of natural hazard events.*	*The resilience of our communities, infrastructure and the natural environment to natural hazards is improved, including to the short, medium, and long-term effects of climate change and sea level rise, and people are better prepared for the consequences of natural hazard events.*

Policy 51	*Minimising the risks and consequences of natural hazards*	*Avoiding or minimising the risks and consequences of natural hazards*
3.9 Regional Form, Design and Function		
Policy 58	*Co-ordinating land use with development and operation of infrastructure*	*Co-ordinating land use with development and operation of infrastructure*

3.6 Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

(54) Section 74(2)(a)(ii) of the RMA requires territorial authorities, when preparing or changing a district plan, to have regard to any proposed regional plan of its region in regard to any matter of regional significance or for which the regional council has primary responsibility under Part 4 of the Act.

(55) The following provisions of the Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region (NRP) are of relevance for this topic.

Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region	
Objectives	
Objective O1 Ki uta ki tai: mountains to the sea	*Air, land, fresh water bodies and the coastal marine area are managed as integrated and connected resources; ki uta ki tai – mountains to the sea.*
Objective O3 Ki uta ki tai: mountains to the sea	*Mauri particularly the mauri of fresh and coastal waters is sustained and, where it has been depleted, natural resources and processes are enhanced to replenish mauri.*
Objective O7 Beneficial use and development	*The recreational values of the coastal marine area, rivers and lakes and their margins and natural wetlands are maintained and where appropriate for recreational purposes, is enhanced.*

Objective O9 Beneficial use and development	*The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of Regionally Significant Infrastructure, renewable energy generation activities and the utilisation of mineral resources are recognised.*
Objective O10 Beneficial use and development	*Regionally Significant Infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities that meets the needs of present and future generations are enabled in appropriate places and ways.*
Objective O12 Māori relationships	*The relationships of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga are recognised and provided for, including:* *(a) maintaining and improving opportunities for Māori customary use of the coastal marine area, rivers, lakes and their margins and natural wetlands, and* *(b) maintaining and improving the availability of mahinga kai species, in terms of quantity, quality and diversity, to support Māori customary harvest, and* *(c) providing for the relationship of mana whenua with Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa, including by maintaining or improving Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa so that the huanga identified in Schedule B are provided for, and* *(d) protecting sites with significant mana whenua values from use and development that will adversely affect their values and restoring those sites to a state where their characteristics and qualities sustain the identified values.*
Objective O13 Māori relationships	*Kaitiakitanga is recognised and mana whenua actively participate in planning and decision-making in relation to the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources.*
Objective O14 Natural character, form and function	*The natural character of the coastal marine area, natural wetlands, and rivers, lakes and their margins is preserved and protected from inappropriate use and development.*

Objective O15 Natural hazards	*The hazard risk and residual hazard risk, from natural hazards and adverse effects of climate change, on people, the community, the environment and infrastructure are acceptable.*
Objective O17 Water quality	*The quality of groundwater, water in surface water bodies, and the coastal marine area is maintained or improved.*
Objective O25 Sites with significant values	*Outstanding water bodies identified in Schedule A (outstanding water bodies) and their significant values are protected and restored. Where the significant values relate to biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai, restoration is to a healthy functioning state including as defined by Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 and 3.8.*
Objective O34 Land use	*The adverse effects on soil and water from land use activities are minimised, including to assist with achieving the outcomes and indicators of desired environmental states for water in Tables 3.1 to 3.8.*
Objective O38 Discharges to land and water	*The adverse quality and quantity effects of stormwater discharges from stormwater networks and urban land uses are reduced over time.*
Objective O40 Discharges to land and water	*Discharges of wastewater to fresh water are progressively reduced.*
Policies	
Policy P1	Ki uta ki tai and integrated catchment management
Policy P6	Uses of land and water
Policy P9	Contact Recreation and Māori customary use
Policy P10	Water storage
Policy P13	Providing for regionally significant infrastructure and renewable electricity generation activities

Policy P18	Mauri
Policy P31	Biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai
Policy P36	Restoring Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour, Wellington Harbour (Port Nicholson) and Wairarapa Moana
Policy P66	Minimising discharges to water or land
Policy P67	Human drinking water supplies
Policy P68	Discharges to land
Policy P69	Promoting discharges to land
Policy P83	Minimising adverse effects of stormwater discharges
Policy P84	Managing land use impacts on stormwater
Policy P87	Minimising wastewater and stormwater interactions
Policy P92	Minimising and improving wastewater discharges
Policy P94	Avoiding new wastewater discharges to fresh water
Policy P97	On-site domestic wastewater management

3.6.1 Proposed NRP Change 1

(56) On 30 October 2023 Greater Wellington Regional Council notified Proposed Change 1 to the Natural Resources Plan (Proposed NRP Change 1).

(57) The purpose of Proposed NRP Change 1 is the implementation of regulatory and non-regulatory recommendations from the Whaitua Implementation Programmes (Te Awarua-o-Porirua (TAoP) and Te Whanganui-a-Tara (TWT) Implementation Programmes). It also includes other regulatory amendments relating to air quality rules and beds of lakes and rivers rules and new sites with significant biodiversity values.

(58) The most relevant amendments and additions of Proposed NRP Change 1 are listed below. The full wording of relevant provisions below is attached as Appendix 2 to this report.

Proposed NRP Change 1	
Objectives	
Objective WH.O1	*The health of all freshwater bodies and the coastal marine area within Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara is progressively improved and is wai ora by 2100.*
Objective WH.O2	*The health and wellbeing of Te Whanganui-a-Tara's groundwater, rivers and natural wetlands and their margins are on a trajectory of measurable improvement towards wai ora …*
Objective WH.O3	*The health and wellbeing of coastal water quality, ecosystems and habitats in Te Whanganui-aTara is maintained or improved to achieve the coastal water objectives set out in Table 8.1 and by 2040.*
Objective WH.O5	*By 2040 the health and wellbeing of the Parangarahu Lakes and associated natural wetlands are on a trajectory of improvement towards wai ora …*
Objective WH.O6	*Groundwater flows and levels, and water quality, are maintained at levels that …*
Objective WH.O8	*Primary contact sites within Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River, Pākuratahi River, Akatarawa River and Wainuiomata River are suitable for primary contact by ensuring that by 2040 …*
Objective WH.O9	*Water quality, habitats, water quantity and ecological processes of rivers are maintained or improved by ensuring that …*
Policies	
Policy WH.P1	*Improvement of aquatic ecosystem health*
Policy WH.P2	*Management of activities to achieve target attribute states and coastal water objectives*
Policy WH.P4	*Achievement of the visual clarity target attribute states*
Policy WH.P5	*Localised adverse effects of point source discharge*

Policy WH.P6	*Cumulative adverse effects of point source discharges*
Policy WH.P7	*Discharges to groundwater*
Policy WH.P9	*General stormwater policy to achieve the target attribute states and coastal water objectives*
Policy WH.P10	*Managing adverse effects of stormwater discharges*
Policy WH.P11	*Discharges of contaminants in stormwater from high risk industrial or trade premises*
Policy WH.P14	*Stormwater discharges from new and redeveloped impervious surfaces*
Policy WH.P17	*General wastewater policy to achieve target attribute states and coastal objectives*
Policy WH.P19	*Managing wastewater network catchment discharges*
Policy WH.P32	*Minimum flows and minimum water levels in the Wellington Harbour and Hutt Valley Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara*
Policy WH.P33	*Core allocation in the Wellington Harbour and Hutt Valley Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara*

3.7 Iwi management plans

(59) Section 74(2A) requires territorial authorities, when preparing or changing a district plan, to take into account any relevant planning document recognised by an iwi authority and lodged with the territorial authority, to the extent that its content has a bearing on the resource management issues of the district.

(60) However, no iwi management plans have been lodged with Hutt City Council.

3.8 Hutt City Council plans, policies, and strategies

(61) Section 74(2)(b)(i) of the RMA requires that when preparing or changing a District Plan, a territorial authority shall have regard to any management plans and strategies prepared under other Acts.

(62) In addition, there are other plans, policies and strategies of Council that, while not directly prepared under a specific Act, should be considered as part of the District Plan Review as they set Council's intentions on some matters that need to be addressed through the District Plan Review.

(63) The following Council plans, policies and strategies are relevant for Public Access:

<table>
<tr><th>Plan / Policy / Strategy</th><th>Relevant Provisions</th></tr>
<tr><td>Infrastructure Strategy 2024-2034</td><td>The Infrastructure Strategy recognises that the impacts of population growth and ageing infrastructure, combined with the effects of climate change and natural hazards, are significant issues. The strategy has the following Vision:
Our infrastructure supports Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt to be a liveable city where all our people thrive: the social, economic, and cultural wellbeing of our community is sustained, and the health and safety of people, property, and the environment is protected.
The strategy identifies the following challenges and responses:
<table>
<tr><th>Challenges</th><th>To address these challenges Council will</th></tr>
<tr><td>Greater demand as the city population grows from 113,00 now to 137,000 by 2043</td><td rowspan="2">Invest in building, maintaining, or renewing critical core infrastructure
Engage with the community, other councils, and key partners</td></tr>
<tr><td>Growing pressure from housing intensification,</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
</table>

<table>
<tr><td></td><td>
<table>
<tr><td>particularly on the valley floor</td><td rowspan="4">Focus on ensuring that environmental standards are met, including water quality
Take a long-term strategic approach to building, maintaining, and operating infrastructure
Make sure that infrastructure investment mitigates the effects of a changing climate
Make prudent financial decisions that are sustainable into the future and across generations</td></tr>
<tr><td>An ageing water infrastructure network resulting from historical underinvestment and constrained regional water storage capacity</td></tr>
<tr><td>Increased risk of climate-induced high rainfall events and sea level rise creating inundation risk</td></tr>
<tr><td>A lack of sustainable transport choices and increasing traffic congestion</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2015-2045</td><td>Water is one of the seven focus areas of the strategy.
This focus area incorporates water supply networks, sewage disposal networks (‘waste-water’), stormwater runoff and management, harbours, lakes, rivers, streams, aquifers and springs. It is much wider than simply water supply – it encompasses the life-giving properties and intrinsic importance of water throughout our environment, including in so-called ‘receiving environments’ such as Te Whanganui-a-Tara (Port Nicholson/Wellington Harbour).
The two identified issues relate to ‘Quality’ and ‘Usage’.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Urban Growth Strategy 2012-2032</td><td>Council published its ‘Urban Growth Strategy’ in March 2014. This strategy provides a 30-year blueprint for private sector development and related Council investment in Hutt City and contains key principles to guide the city’s population growth and development aspirations.
Some of the identified growth areas are recognised as being limited by a lack of underlying water, wastewater or stormwater infrastructure that</td></tr>
</table>

	is needed to support development (e.g. Major Drive, Kelson and Wise Street, Wainuiomata).
Water Conservation and Efficiency Plan – July 2012	The Water Conservation and Efficiency Plan was developed under the previous Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2009-14 and outlines the path Council will follow to achieve the more effective use of the reticulated water supply in the face of a growing population, uncertainty over the changes in our climate and a changing built environment. The main focus of the plan is on conservation and efficiency.

3.9 District plans of adjacent territorial authorities

(64) Section 74(2)(c) of the RMA requires territorial authorities, when preparing or changing a district plan, to have regard to the extent to which the district plan needs to be consistent with the plans or proposed plans of adjacent territorial authorities.

(65) The approach of district plans of adjacent councils for Public Access is summarised below.

Plan	Relevant Provisions

Wellington City Council - Proposed District Plan (operative in part)	• Contains a Three Waters chapter
	• Part 2 - District Wide Matters - Energy, Infrastructure, and Transport - Three Waters
	• Promotes positive effects and requires avoiding, remedying or mitigating adverse effects of urban development on water in relation to three waters infrastructure.
	• Provisions include the following objectives and policies:
	  ○ THW-O1 Protecting water bodies and freshwater ecosystems
	  ○ THW-O2 Infrastructure-enabled urban development
	  ○ THW-O3 Hydraulic neutrality
	  ○ THW-P1 Water sensitive design
	  ○ THW-P2 Building materials
	  ○ THW-P3 Infrastructure-enabled urban development
	  ○ THW-P4 Three waters infrastructure servicing

	○ THW-P5 Hydraulic neutrality ○ THW-P6 Permeable surface • Rules regulating connections to existing three waters infrastructure, building materials, water sensitive design methods and hydraulic neutrality
Porirua City Council – Proposed District Plan (operative in part)	• Contains Three Waters chapter • Part 2 - District Wide Matters - Energy, Infrastructure, and Transport - Three Waters • Considers demand that urban development places on the Three Waters Network to ensure that appropriate levels of service are maintained. • Provisions include the following objectives and policies: ○ THWT-O1 Hydraulic Neutrality ○ THWT-O2 Three Waters Network capacity ○ THWT-P1 Hydraulic Neutrality in Urban Zones, Settlement Zone and the Māori Purpose Zone (Hongoeka) ○ THWT-P2 Integration with the Three Waters Network ○ THWT-P3 Three Waters Network capacity • Rules and standards regulating rainwater tanks, impervious surfaces, water metering, connections to the three waters network and hydraulic neutrality.
Upper Hutt City Council - Operative District Plan	• No Three Waters chapter in the Operative District Plan. • Very few provisions relating to hydraulic neutrality in the residential zones and the Natural Hazards and Subdivision Chapter (related to the Pinehaven catchment).
Kāpiti Coast District Council – Operative District Plan 2021	• No Three Waters chapter in the Operative District Plan. • Some permeable surface area and hydraulic neutrality requirements. • Requirement for all new or relocated residential buildings on land where potable public water supply is available to have a rainwater storage tank and/or a greywater re-use system to manage water demand.
South Wairarapa	• No Three Waters chapter in Proposed District Plan.

District Council – Proposed District Plan	• General Residential Zone includes requirements for rainwater collection and storage. • No permeable surface requirements. • Contains rules and standards relating to stormwater management.

3.10 Other statutory and non-statutory plan, policies, and strategies

(66) In addition to Hutt City Council's plans, policies and strategies (discussed above), there are regional and national plans, policies and strategies that, while not mandatory considerations for the District Plan Review, should still be considered as they form part of the management regime for natural and physical resources in the district, and considering these documents can aid integrated management.

(67) The following other statutory and non-statutory plans, policies and strategies are relevant for three waters:

Plan / Policy / Strategy	Relevant Provisions
Rautaki Hanganga o Aotearoa: New Zealand Infrastructure Strategy 2022-2052 Te Waihanga, the New Zealand Infrastructure Commission	The Strategy sets out the actions New Zealand needs to take over the next 30 years to make sure our infrastructure system meets the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. It sets out five objectives with supporting recommendations for action. The objectives are: • Enabling a net-zero carbon emissions Aotearoa through rapid development of clean energy and reducing the carbon emissions from infrastructure • Supporting towns and regions to flourish through better physical and digital connectivity and freight and supply chains • Building attractive and inclusive cities that respond to population growth, unaffordable housing and traffic congestion through better long-term planning, pricing and good public transport.

	• Strengthening resilience to shocks and stresses by taking a coordinated and planned approach to risks based on good-quality information • Moving to a circular economy by setting a national direction for waste The Strategy recognises the critical importance of the need for better planning for infrastructure to keep pace with population growth and to ensure enough quality, affordable housing in the right places, supported by well-functioning infrastructure. It identifies the need to take a long term approach, allowing for different levels of growth so we don't limit our future, and coordinating infrastructure planning with the planning we do for our homes and communities so that the two work together.
Wairarapa-Wellington-Horowhenua Future Development Strategy 2024-2054 (the FDS) Joint collaboration between the Wellington region's councils, Horowhenua District Council, central government and mana whenua	The FDS is a spatial plan that describes a long-term vision for how the region will grow, change and respond to key urban development challenges and opportunities in a way that gets the best outcomes and maximises the benefits across the region. Of relevance for three-waters, the FDS includes strategic directions of: • Ensuring urban development and infrastructure planning is integrated to create thriving communities. • Realising iwi and hapū values and aspirations. • Prioritising nature, climate and culture through protection and restoration. The FDS includes information on how the strategic directions will be given effect to. Of relevance for three-waters, this includes: • *Focusing on maintaining and upgrading our existing network infrastructure (including transport, energy, water and social) and making the most efficient use of what we have.*

	• *Avoiding development in drinking water protection areas.* • *Encouraging hydraulic neutrality and nature-based solutions.*
Wellington Region Natural Hazards Strategy 2019 Greater Wellington Regional Council in conjunction with the Wellington region territorial authorities	The purpose of this document is to help create a region resilient to the impacts from natural hazard events through a focus on the reduction component of the 4 R's (reduction, readiness, response, recovery) of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act. It provides a framework that allows councils, key stakeholders and the community to develop consistent responses to natural hazards (including sea level rise, flooding, storms). It encourages robust and consistent natural hazard policy approaches across district and regional plans and encourages a risk-based approach to enable progressive risk reduction over time.
Three Waters Strategy – Wellington Metropolitan Region 2018 Wellington Water Limited	This strategy sets out the high-level direction and approach required over the next fifty years to help achieve regional three waters networks that meet community needs, respond to growth, are resilient to future shocks and stresses, are sensitive to the environment, and are cost effective.
Wellington Water Regional Standard for Water Services, December 2021, Version 3.0 Wellington Water Limited	This document was developed to consolidate the existing codes of practice for water services for the city councils in the Wellington metropolitan area (WCC, PCC, HCC and UHCC) in order to provide a regional consistency in terms of the design and implementation of water services. It provides a regionally consistent method of design and implementation of stormwater, wastewater and water supply services across the Wellington region to meet the outcomes of: safe and healthy water, respectful of the environment, and resilient networks support our economy. The document provides minimum standards for the design and construction of proposed three waters infrastructure that will be vested in

	Council, and to the maintenance, renewal, upgrade or decommissioning of existing public infrastructure. This document is to be used in conjunction with the Regional Specification for Water Services v3.0 (December 2021), see below.
Regional Specification for Water Services, December 2021, Version 3.0 Wellington Water Limited	This document is intended to be read in parallel with the Regional Standard for Water Services (see above) and relates only to infrastructure for stormwater, wastewater and water supply networks. The Specifications for Water Services contain details for the types of pipes to be used for specific activities, and what principles to apply for various activities e.g. Stormwater Pumping Stations has its own section covering general guidelines, equipment requirements, pump requirements, pipe requirements etc.
Water Sensitive Design for Stormwater: Treatment Device Design Guideline, December 2019, Version 1.1 Wellington Water Limited	This document is a best practice technical guideline for the design of stormwater treatment devices to reduce stormwater contamination. It outlines WWL's requirements for the design of stormwater treatment devices where these devices are going to be vested with councils and become publicly owned assets. It also provides best practice guidance for the design of stormwater treatment devices where devices are to remain privately owned.

3.11 Other legislation or regulations

(68) In addition to the RMA, other legislation and regulations can be relevant considerations for a district plan, particularly where management of an issue is addressed through multiple pieces of legislation and regulatory bodies.

Legislation / Regulation	**Relevant Provisions**

Building Act 2004	The Building Consent process manages potential effects resulting from the building activities for both new and existing buildings. Section 17 of the Building Act requires all building work to comply with the building code, which includes requirements for buildings to have appropriate water, wastewater and stormwater connections or approved solutions. The building consent process manages potential effects resulting from the building activities for both new and existing buildings. Building consent applications must include provisions for disposing of stormwater and wastewater, or identifying where they are if existing. Building consent can be declined if appropriate connections or solutions cannot be provided.
Local Government Act 2002	The Local Government Act sets out the purpose of local government and the roles and powers of local authorities to meet their purpose. Section10(1)(b) includes good quality infrastructure and services to meet current and future needs of communities (in a cost effective way) as a purpose of local government. The provision of good quality (which is defined as effective, efficient and appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances) water, stormwater and wastewater networks is a required function of local authorities as stormwater and wastewater collection and management are defined as part of network infrastructure. Section 101B of the Local Government Act 2002 requires local authorities to prepare and adopt an infrastructure strategy for a period of at least 30 consecutive financial years. The purpose of the infrastructure strategy is to— (a) identify significant infrastructure issues for the local authority over the period covered by the strategy; and (b) identify the principal options for managing those issues and the implications of those options. The infrastructure strategy must outline how the local authority intends to manage its infrastructure assets, taking into account the need to— (a) renew or replace existing assets; and

	(b) respond to growth or decline in the demand for services reliant on those assets; and (c) allow for planned increases or decreases in levels of service provided through those assets; and (d) maintain or improve public health and environmental outcomes or mitigate adverse effects on them; and (e) provide for the resilience of infrastructure assets by identifying and managing risks relating to natural hazards and by making appropriate financial provision for those risks. Subpart 5 of Part 8 provides that territorial authorities may require development contributions to contribute towards the cost of upgrading existing and providing new infrastructure required for growth.
Health Act 1956	The Health Act set out the duties and functions of the Ministry of Health and other agencies under the act, including Local Authorities. It is the duty of every local authority to improve, promote and protect public health within its district (s23), including the provision of sanitary works (which includes drainage works, sewerage works and works for the disposal of sewage (s25(1)(a)). Therefore, the provision of effective water, stormwater and wastewater networks are a requirement for Council under the Health Act. S70(1)(k) For the purposes of preventing the outbreak or spread of any infectious disease, a medical officer of health may…forbid the discharge of sewage, drainage, or insanitary matter of any description into any watercourse, stream, lake, or source of water supply. Under Section 69O(1) of the Health Act 1956, the Minister of Health has issued Drinking-Water Standards for New Zealand 2005 (Revised 2018). The Drinking-Water Standards for New Zealand provide requirements for drinking-water safety by specifying the: • maximum amounts of substances or organisms or contaminants or residues that may be present in drinking-water

	• criteria for demonstrating compliance with the Standards • remedial action to be taken in the event of non-compliance with the different aspects of the Standards.
Land Drainage Act 1908	The Land Drainage Act sets out when Board may drain land, in public or private ownership, as well as the requirements of Local Authorities with regards to land drainage – required to maintain all watercourses and drains vested in or under their management to be kept free of nuisances or risk to health and maintained in proper order.
NZS 4404: 2010 Land development and subdivision infrastructure.	This standard provides criteria for design and construction of land development addressing a range of topics including requirements for roads, stormwater, wastewater, water supply, landscaping and network utilities.
Hutt City Council Water Supply Bylaw 2022	The Water Supply Bylaw relates to the management and protection of water supplies. The bylaw regulates the access and connection to the water supply system and differentiates between ordinary supply, extraordinary supply and restricted flow supply. It contains provisions relating to the point of supply and general conditions of supply which cover, amongst others, water meters and flow restrictors. The bylaw contains sections relating to applications for supply and administration.
Hutt Valley Trade Wastes Bylaw 2016	The purpose of the Bylaw is to: a. Control trade wastes discharges into the wastewater system to: i. Protect the wastewater system ii. Promote cleaner production iii. Protect the stormwater system iv. Protect workers operating in or with the wastewater system v. Protect the environment by ensuring compliance with the Resource Management Act 1991 - in particular, ensuring

	the necessary resource consent requirements for the wastewater system are met. b. Provide a basis for: i. Consenting and monitoring discharges from industry and trade premises; ii. Charging trade waste users of the wastewater system to cover the cost of conveying, treating and disposing of or reusing their wastes; and c. Ensure that the costs of treatment and disposal are shared fairly between trade waste and domestic wastewater dischargers.

4 Resource management issues

4.1 Introduction to resource management issues

(69) Development within the Hutt City urban zones is serviced by the following three waters network:

- Reticulated water supply;
- Reticulated wastewater; and
- Stormwater management systems.

(70) As development has increased, the demand on these services has also increased. Overtime, the three waters network has been upgraded and renewed. However, this renewal has not kept pace with development and as a result a number of the networks now have limited capacity and regularly perform at a sub-optimal level of service resulting in overflows and discharges into the natural environment. There has also been an increased awareness and community and cultural unacceptance of adverse impacts on the natural environment as a result of overflows and discharges. As such, at both the national, regional and local level there has been a significant tightening of rules around wastewater and stormwater discharge into the natural environment (though these are regulated through the Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region).

(71) The need for development and communities to be serviced by the three waters network is recognised both at a national and regional level. By managing future development to ensure that it does not significantly impact on the three waters network, the Three Waters chapter also ensures that the instances of overflows or discharges into the natural environment stop increasing with time, thereby responding to the community and cultural concerns around the resulting impacts on the natural environment.

4.2 Evidence base

(72) As part of the District Plan Review, the Council has reviewed the operative District Plan, commissioned technical advice and assistance from various internal and external experts and utilised this review and expert advice, along with internal workshops and community feedback, to assist with developing the proposed District Plan, including for the identification of resource management issues.

(73) Key aspects of this for the Three Waters chapter have included an evaluation of the review of the approach of the operative District Plan, reviews of district plans of other councils in the Wellington region, a review of relevant guidance documents, and engagement with Mana Whenua, the community and other stakeholders.

4.2.1 Existing approach of City of Lower Hutt District Plan

(74) The operative District Plan currently does not contain a Three Waters chapter. References and provisions relating to water supply, stormwater and wastewater are predominantly contained in the Subdivision chapter (Chapter 11).

(75) The most relevant provisions in the operative District Plan are summarised below.

Operative District Plan	
Topic / Chapter	**Relevant provisions**
3 Definitions	• Contains definitions for *Permeable Surface* and *Stormwater Neutrality*
4D Hill Residential Activity Area	• References to permeable surfaces in the Explanation and Reasons section relating to 4D 1.2.2 Building Height, Scale, Intensity and Location. • Permitted Activity Condition 4D 2.1.1 (i) requires a minimum of 30% of the net site area to be permeable.

4E Landscape Protection Residential Activity Area	• References to permeable surfaces in the Explanation and Reasons section relating to 4E 1.2.2 Building Height, Scale, Intensity and Location. • Permitted Activity Condition 4E 2.1.1 (h) requires a minimum of 30% of the net site area to be permeable.
4F Medium Density Residential Activity Area	• Objective 4F 2.6 and Policies 4F 3.9 and 4F 3.10 require adequate services and address stormwater management and neutrality. • Matters of discretion for Retirement Villages (4F 4.1.7) contain references to network infrastructure capacity and stormwater management. • Matters of discretion for four or more residential units (4F 4.2.1AA) refer to network infrastructure capacity. • Development Standards include Permeable Surface requirements (4F 4.2.5) and Stormwater Detention requirements (4F 4.2.10).
4G High Density Residential Activity Area	• Objective 4G 2.6 and Policies 4G 3.11 and 4G 3.12 require adequate services and address stormwater management and neutrality. • Matters of discretion for Retirement Villages (4G 4.1.7) contain references to network infrastructure capacity and stormwater management. • Matters of discretion for four or more residential units (4G 4.2.1) refer to network infrastructure capacity. • Development Standards include Permeable Surface requirements (4G 4.2.7) and Stormwater Detention requirements (4G 4.2.12). • Development Standards 4G 4.2.15 Landscaped Area also refers to on-site stormwater management.
5A Central Commercial Activity Area	• Policy 5A 1.2.6 c. (Energy Efficient and Low Impact Urban Development) encourages the incorporation of low impact urban development principles including stormwater management and water quality.

5B Petone Commercial Activity Area	• Several references to managing the effects of development on infrastructure capacity (Policy 5B 1.1.2A i., Matters of Discretion 5B 2.2.2.1 a.vi., Assessment Matters 5B 2.2.3.1 g.)
5E Suburban Mixed Use Area	• Objective 5E 2 requires built development to be adequately serviced and infrastructure constraints to be addressed. • Several references throughout the policies and rules of the chapter to stormwater neutrality in general and the use of rainwater tanks in particular. • Development Standards include Stormwater Retention requirements (5E 4.2.9)
11 Subdivision	• Includes Engineering Standards and Assessment Criteria relating to stormwater, wastewater and water supply. • Very limited references to stormwater neutrality, mostly in site specific provisions.

(76) The main issues with the current approach are:

- The current three water provisions are inconsistent and do not apply throughout all urban zones;
- The standards within the District Plan are out of date and do not reflect the current Wellington Region Water Standards, which applications are currently assessed against; and
- The current approach does not set a framework for when the current network does not have the capacity to accommodate the demand generated by a development.

4.2.2 Analysis of other District Plans

(77) The approach of the district plans of other territorial authorities in the Wellington region are outlined in Section 3.9 above.

(78) In summary, there is a mixed approach to the management of three waters in the various councils in the region.

- The Three Waters chapter of the Proposed Wellington District Plan requires new developments to be able to be serviced by new

connections to the reticulated network, requires hydraulic neutrality and also requires water sensitive urban design for multi-unit residential developments. It addresses the issue at a comparable level to what is proposed for the Hutt City Three Waters chapter.

- The Three Waters chapter of the Proposed Porirua District Plan (decisions version) contains objectives, policies and rules for managing the effects of development on the three waters network and ensuring an appropriate level of service is maintained with regard to network capacity. Unlike the Proposed Wellington District Plan, the Proposed Porirua District Plan Three Waters chapter does not consider the impacts of stormwater on water quality.
- Upper Hutt District Plan does not have a Three Waters chapter. Rather, in the residential zones, there is a requirement for development to achieve hydraulic neutrality. There is also the requirement for new development to be connected to the reticulated three waters network (with stormwater being able to be discharged to soak pits). The Code of Practice for the Council sets out the level of service that needs to be met for the three waters network.
- The Kāpiti Coast District Plan does not have a Three Waters chapter. In residential zones, there is a requirement for development to have rainwater retention tanks or greywater reuse systems. There is also the requirement for new development to be connected to the reticulated three waters network. The Code of Practice for the Council sets out the level of service the needs to be met for the three waters network.
- The Proposed Wairarapa Combined District Plan does not have a Three Waters chapter. The requirements for three water servicing are located in the zone chapters and include policy direction and permitted activity standards defining the level of service that needs to be met.

4.2.3 National guidance documents

(79) There are no relevant national guidance documents.

4.2.4 Advice from mana whenua

(80) Council has engaged with mana whenua on the district plan review through the Kāhui Mana Whenua engagement group. Through this the significance of water bodies to Mana Whenua has been identified, including the importance of protecting their natural characteristics and processes. The provisions of the Three Waters chapter will support the health and well-being of water bodies.

4.2.5 Stakeholder and community engagement

(81) In late 2023 the Draft District Plan (DDP) was released for public feedback. The feedback and suggestions received were taken into consideration and informed the proposed provisions.

- The feedback received on the Three Waters chapter of the Draft District Plan was generally supportive and raised the following issues:
- Rainwater storage and greywater re-use provisions are excessive, expensive and highly impractical, especially in high density environments;
- Duplication between Three Waters chapter and Subdivision chapter;
- Address firefighting water supply in rural areas;
- Duplication of provisions sufficiently addressed by the Natural Resources Plan;
- Rules should only apply to new impervious surfaces; and
- Maintenance of stormwater detention systems.

4.2.6 Key changes to the draft Three Waters chapter

(82) The following key changes have been made to the version of the chapter in the Draft District Plan - both in response to the feedback received and also taking into consideration the changes introduced by Proposed Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement and other higher order guidance:

- Remove references to the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems from provisions (e.g. policies THW-P2 and THW-P4), as this is now sufficiently covered by Proposed Change 1 to the

Natural Resources Plan. Retain wider references to stormwater quality where appropriate.

- Remove the provisions relating to the use of copper and zinc – Proposed Change 1 to the Natural Resources Plan includes equivalent provisions.
- Remove the requirement for rainwater storage tanks and greywater re-use systems for new residential units. These are mitigation measures that can be considered in response to the requirements introduced by Proposed Change 1 to the Natural Resources Plan. Furthermore, at this stage there is insufficient evidence in the Lower Hutt context as to whether these measures would make a meaningful difference to water demand.
- Introduce new provisions that require water meters for all new residential units.
- Remove the requirement for water sensitive design measures on site from commercial and mixed use zones, in recognition that these sites have the ability to be developed to 100% site coverage, and often are small sites. As such, there is usually no ability to provide meaningful water sensitive design measures on the site.
- Introduce a building size of 200m^2 for non-residential buildings in other zones before water sensitive design measures are required.
- Remove references to subdivision from the THW chapter. The three waters provisions for subdivision are now entirely located in the subdivision chapter. This change is to make it clear for plan users where to find the relevant provisions. For consistency, the provisions pertaining to three waters in the subdivision chapter are aligned with those in the Three Waters chapter.

4.2.7 Summary of issues analysis

(83) Based on the research, analysis and consultation outlined above the following resource management issues have been identified.

Issue 1: The three waters network needs to be able to accommodate future growth

(84) The existing three waters network is under pressure and in some areas is at capacity and/or has insufficient capacity to support growth. Further development that does not consider the capacity of the three waters network would continue to place strain on the network and would result in unwanted outcomes including:

- Insufficient volumes and water pressure for human health needs and firefighting;
- Discharge of wastewater in rainfall events into the coastal waters and streams due to undersized capacity;
- Increased flooding as a result of increased imperviousness from buildings, roads and other hard surfaces;
- Decreased river, stream and harbour water quality as a result of stormwater contaminants washing off of roads and other urban surfaces.

(85) Policy 2 of the NPS-UD requires the Council to 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. Under the NPS-UD, 'sufficient development capacity' means that development capacity is both 'plan enabled' (i.e. via the district plan) and 'infrastructure-ready' (i.e. there is either existing capacity available, or investment in capacity is identified in the Long Term Plan and/or infrastructure strategy).

(86) Infrastructure upgrades are expensive and the Council has limited funding options to finance the scale of investment required across the city's three waters network to ensure it can support growth. As such, new development cannot continue to place increased demand on the three waters network without ensuring it appropriately contributes to the cost of infrastructure provision, and that alternative capacity solutions and mitigation measures are considered if and where appropriate.

(87) The response to this issue is:

- The creation of a Three Waters chapter that introduces a set of clear objectives, policies, rules and standards which respond to and manage the demand from new and intensified development on the city's three waters network.

- Three waters provisions that require compliance with the Wellington Water Regional Standard for Water Services, which sets a regionally consistent approach to levels of service for the three waters and provides details on how the networks are to be constructed at the time of development.

Issue 2: The role of the District Plan in managing stormwater and the resulting requirements for new development need to be clear

(88) Council's functions under s31 RMA include achieving the *"integrated management of the effects of the use, development, … of land" and "the control of any actual or potential effects of the use, development, … of land".*

(89) The NPS-FM requires that local authorities manage land use and development in an integrated way, to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the health and well-being of water bodies, freshwater ecosystems and receiving environments.

(90) GWRC's expectation is that district plans include land use controls which will contribute to improved water quality, focused on where land development occurs and the form of development. The Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region and Proposed NRP Change 1 address stormwater management and include contaminant limits for zinc and copper.

(91) WWL's expectation is that Council includes minimum stormwater quality requirements in the District Plan, to assist GWRC to meet its requirements, which in turn require WWL to manage/address effects on the receiving environment in a way that was not previously required.

(92) The response to this issue is:

- Inclusion of objectives, policies and rules in the Three Waters chapter which give effect to Te Mana o te Wai and the NPS-FM.
- Inclusion of objectives, policies and rules in the Three Waters chapter which require hydraulic neutrality and the adoption of water sensitive design methods for new use and development in urban areas.
- Removal of provisions limiting the use of copper and zinc to avoid duplication. This has been sufficiently addressed by Proposed NRP Change 1.

- Inclusion of rules in the Residential zones requiring a minimum area of permeable surfacing.

Issue 3: Growth in the city needs to recognise and respond to flooding hazard risk and the impacts of climate change

(93) New urban development has the potential to increase the risks from natural hazards, particularly in relation to upstream or downstream flooding. Developments that do not manage their peak stormwater flows and volumes have the potential to increase additional stormwater into flooded environments during high rainfall events.

(94) The existing reticulated stormwater system is sized for lower density development without consideration of climate change impacts. Development must not be at risk of flooding nor increase flooding for others or impede overland flow paths.

(95) In response to this issue, the proposed Three Waters chapter introduces a range of objectives, policies and rules that ensure new developments manage stormwater peak flows and volumes so that the volume and rate of offsite stormwater discharge is reduced to at or below the modelled undeveloped flows and volumes, so that they do not increase downstream flooding impacts.

5 Scale and significance assessment

(96) In writing this evaluation report we must provide a level of detail that corresponds to the scale and significance of the environmental, economic, social, and cultural effects anticipated from the implementation of the proposal.

(97) In assessing that scale and significance we have had regard to:

Basis for change	Hutt City's three waters infrastructure is aging/deteriorating and requires significant investment to support growth. There is insufficient capacity in the existing three water system to accommodate the projected growth. The Operative District Plan has significant gaps in its current approach and does not give effect to higher level RMA documents including NPS-UD, NPS-FM, Wellington RPS, Natural Resources Plan.
Degree of change from the operative plan	The proposal represents a moderate shift from the existing District Plan provisions. Specifically, the proposed provisions will: • Require the three waters provision to be considered as part of any new development. • Require the management of stormwater peak flows and volumes to at or below undeveloped flows (hydraulic neutrality). • Require the implementation of water sensitive design techniques to contribute to the management of stormwater quantity and quality. • Introduce a clear policy and rule framework to consider the impacts of additional demand from new development on three waters infrastructure and allows for the consideration of alternative solutions or mitigation measures to address constraint issues, where they exist.

	Introduce clear performance standards outlined in the Wellington Water Regional Standard for Water Services December 2021.
Geographic scale of effects / Number of people affected	The proposed changes will affect most developments in the urban zones. The proposed provisions will require the specific consideration of three waters capacity, level of service and environmental outcomes as part of most new developments within the city. For some developments (especially smaller scale developments) the new provisions may not result in substantial changes or additional requirements. For most medium to large scale developments (e.g. four or more dwellings and non-residential development above a prescribed floor area) the proposed provisions will require the consideration of impacts and the integration of mitigation measures and/or alternative solutions into the overall development, especially where capacity issues are identified. All developments regardless of size will be required to incorporate stormwater peak flow and volume management measures.
Timing and duration of effects	The effects of the three water provisions will be ongoing from the time they become operative.
Types of effects	For some new developments there will be increased costs as a result of having to comply with the proposed requirements (e.g.to install systems to manage stormwater peak flows and volumes, meet permeability standards and/or adopt water sensitive design techniques). Additional costs may also occur if there is insufficient capacity in the water and/or wastewater network, which would require the installation of alternative solutions (such as wastewater retention tanks). These costs would be associated with the design, the installation and the ongoing maintenance of the systems.

	The proposals will also have a range of positive effects. As improvements are made to the three waters network, there will be improved environmental outcomes and levels of service, which will have significant environmental and cultural benefits and could allow for additional yields from land/sites to be realised. Requiring stormwater peak flows to be reduced to at or below the modelled peak flows for each site in an undeveloped state will make a significant positive contribution to managing downstream flooding effects and stormwater network capacity. This will also reduce long term costs. Requiring water sensitive design methods to be incorporated into new development will make a significant positive contribution to managing water flows and contribute towards improving stormwater quality. There may be instances where land or sites in particular locations are unable to be developed or intensified due to the insufficient capacity of the network, and the inability to provide alternative solutions or appropriate mitigation measures that can address the capacity issues.
Health and safety impacts	Health and safety are relevant considerations for the public access topic as protecting health and safety of people (including from natural hazards) may be a relevant reason for restricting public access.
Degree of interest from mana whenua	There is significant interest from mana whenua in relation to three waters. This reflects the special significance of water for mana whenua. Overflows from the wastewater network and discharges from the stormwater network may have significant impact on the mauri of freshwater and coastal waterbodies. The impacts of these overflows and discharges inhibit mana whenua from being able to undertake cultural practices. The Whaitua recommendations are setting more stringent requirements and expectations for: • Managing wastewater overflows;

	• Managing stormwater discharges; and • Reducing water demand.
Degree of risk or uncertainty	The degree of risk and uncertainty is low. There is significant community and mana whenua expectation to improve the existing three waters situation. Developers also want more certainty in relation to three waters infrastructure provision and Council's requirements for new development. The Wellington Water Regional Standard for Water Services is already commonly used within the Wellington Region, setting a regionally consistent approach to levels of service for the three waters provisions. Wellington Water Limited already provides advice to Council's consenting teams about three waters capacity and design. The Council currently sends land use and subdivision applications to WWL to advise on three waters capacity and any other specific three waters requirements. As such the outcomes sought by the new provisions are already being implemented into a number of developments (albeit through a less explicit/clear approach than what is proposed). There is considerable information available to support the design and implementation of stormwater management and water sensitive design methods, including in relation to costs. This includes WWL and Auckland Council guidance.

(98) Overall, the scale and significance of the proposed provisions is **high** for the following reasons:

- The existing provisions in the ODP do not meet current practice in relation to three waters;
- The proposed District Plan provisions in relation to three waters represents a substantial shift from the status quo;
- The proposed provisions apply to most land use and development in urban zones and therefore impact a wider range of development forms; and
- The proposed provision are of high significance to mana whenua - the management of stormwater quality and wastewater disposal has the

potential to influence the quality of fresh water and coastal water bodies, which in turn can have significant cultural impacts.

6 Proposed District Plan objectives and provisions

6.1 Public Access chapter

(99) The proposed Public Access chapter includes objectives and policies to guide the maintenance and enhancement of public access to, adjacent to and along the coastal environment and waterbodies. The Public Access chapter does not contain any rules. If, and where needed, such rules and standards are included in other chapters and supported by the objectives and policies of the Public Access chapter.

(100) The proposed provisions are summarised below.

Objectives	Two objectives: **PA-O1 The Maintenance and Enhancement of Public Access** states the expectation that public access to and along rivers, lakes and the coast is maintained and enhanced. **PA-O2 Managing Adverse Effects of Public Access** describes the intended outcome that public access to and along rivers, lakes and the coast does not have a negative impact on existing natural and coastal environment values, historical and cultural values or public health and safety.
Policies	Three policies that address: **PA-P1 Appropriate Activities** allows for activities where they do not limit or prevent public access. **PA-P2 Maintenance and Improvement of Public Access** requires the maintenance and enhancement of public access through subdivision design and layout that provides for public access and the creation of Esplanade Reserves and Esplanade Strips. **PA-P3 Restriction of Public Access** allows for the restriction of public access in certain circumstances.
Rules	There are no rules proposed for the Public Access chapter.

6.2 Proposed provisions in other chapters

6.2.1 Subdivision

(101) The objectives of the Public Access chapter would be largely implemented through the Subdivision chapter, which contains the provisions regulating Esplanade Reserves and Esplanade Strips.

Objective	**SUB-O4 Esplanades** refers to role of Esplanade Reserves and Esplanade Strips in maintaining, enhancing and protecting public access, ecological values, amenity values and recreational values refers to the provision for and protection of identified natural and coastal environment values.
Policy	**SUB-P8 Esplanade Requirements** contains a policy framework for the provision of Esplanade Reserves and Esplanade Strips that: • Requires the provision of Esplanade Reserves and Esplanade Strips for subdivisions adjacent to the Coastal Marine Area, rivers or lakes to maintain and enhance public access, ecological, amenity and recreational values and natural hazard resilience, and • Allows for the reduction or waiver of any Esplanade Reserve or Esplanade Strip requirements in certain circumstances.
Rules	**A number of subdivision rules** require compliance with SUB-S9.
Standard	**SUB-S9 Esplanade Reserves, Esplanade Strips and Access Strips** prescribes when Esplanade Reserves, Esplanade Strips and access strips are required, and sets the minimum dimensions.

6.2.2 Other Chapters

(102) A number of chapters include references to the policies of the Public Access chapter, mainly as matters of discretion for restricted discretionary activities, thereby ensuring that there is scope for the consideration of potential effects of activities on public access to and along waterbodies and the coast. References to relevant public access policies are included in the chapters on:

- Natural Character,
- Natural Features and Landscapes,

- Coastal Environment, and
- Earthworks.

(103) The proposed provisions relevant to this topic are set out in detail in the ePlan and should be referenced to in conjunction with this evaluation report.

6.3 Overall Approach

(104) In summary the proposed provisions take a relatively simple approach to the management of demand on the capacity of the three waters network in urban areas:

- The provisions require new buildings and conversions of existing buildings to be connected to the reticulated water supply, wastewater and stormwater networks (where available). These connections shall be undertaken in accordance with the Wellington Regional Standard for Water Services (December 2021, Version 3.0).
- Where developments are unable to be serviced by the reticulated water supply, wastewater and/or stormwater networks there may be acceptable alternative solutions and mitigation measures available.
- Where development is unable to provide acceptable alternative solutions or sufficient mitigation measures to address the relevant effects, the proposed framework does not support these developments.
- Developments need to achieve hydraulic neutrality.
- For developments involving four or more residential units, retirement villages and non-residential buildings over 200m2, there is a requirement to include water sensitive design methods as part of the development.
- New residential units and retirement villages in residential and commercial zones need to be fitted with water metering devices.

(105) The proposed provisions relate to use and development in urban areas and are located in a standalone Three Waters chapter. The subdivision chapter includes three waters provisions for subdivision and require an equivalent level of service to be provided. As such there is some duplication of provisions

in the Three Waters and the Subdivision chapters, but this is considered to be acceptable since it assists with plan interpretation and implementation.

6.4 Three Waters Chapter - Proposed Provisions

(106) In summary, the proposed provisions in the Three Waters chapter include the following objectives, policies and rules.

Three Waters Chapter - THW	
Objectives	**THW-O1 - Infrastructure-enabled urban development** Sets the expectation that use and development within unban zones are serviced by reticulated services, and when service levels cannot be met, then the need for mitigation measures to be installed. **THW-O2 – Hydraulic neutrality and stormwater management** Sets an objective for the management of stormwater for future use and development in urban areas with regard to hydraulic neutrality, flood risks and stormwater quality.
Policies	**THW-P1 Three waters infrastructure servicing** Requires use and development in urban zones to be connected to the reticulated network in accordance with the Regional Standard for Water Services, December 2021 and that there is capacity to accommodate the demand. **THW-P2 Three waters infrastructure capacity** Outlines when it is acceptable for use and development to occur when there is no capacity in the network and what outcomes mitigation measures need to achieve. **THW-P3 Hydraulic neutrality** Outlines the need for use and development to be hydraulically neutral. **THW-P4 Water sensitive design** Provides a policy framework for the installation of water sensitive design measures into use and development.

	THW-P5 Water supply Requires the installation of water meters into new use and development.
Rules	**THW-R1 New buildings (excluding accessory buildings), and conversions of existing buildings in an Urban Zone – Connections to the Reticulated Network** Are permitted activities, when service connections are met and elevates to restricted discretionary activity when these standards are not met. **THW-R2 - New buildings (excluding accessory buildings) in an Urban Zone - Hydraulic Neutrality** Are permitted activities, subject to achieving hydraulic neutrality, and elevate to restricted discretionary activity when these conditions are not met. **THW-R3 - New buildings (excluding accessory buildings) in an Urban Zone - Water Sensitive Design** Are permitted activities for smaller scale activities in identified zones, and restricted discretionary activities for larger scale developments. **THW-R4 - New residential units and retirement villages that are connected to the reticulated water system** Are permitted activities subject to the installation of water metering devices and elevate to restricted discretionary activity status.

(107) The proposed framework takes an approach where if a development is able to meet the servicing requirements of the Wellington Regional Water Services Standard 2021, and can achieve hydraulic neutrality, then it is permitted. When these matters are unable to be met, then a development escalates to a restricted discretionary activity status.

(108) The proposed framework also seeks to control water quality from larger scale developments. Therefore developments with more than three residential units or non-residential buildings with footprints greater than 200m2 have a restricted discretionary starting point and are required to implement water sensitive design methods to manage the quantity and quality of stormwater runoff.

6.4.1 Levels of Service

(109) For developments in urban zones, Rule THW-R1 requires all new developments that are connected to the reticulated network to meet the performance criteria for the three waters network. This is to ensure that every building that is connected to the reticulated three waters systems can either be serviced, due to the capacity in the network, or if there is no capacity in the network, has appropriate mitigation installed so that its additional demand can be accommodated.

(110) The provisions for reticulated water, wastewater and connections into stormwater management systems for subdivisions are located in the subdivision chapter (and addressed in the associated s32 report) and are aligned with the provisions in the proposed Three Waters Chapter.

(111) The proposed rule framework only addresses the level of service that developments need to meet. It does not address details as to how connections into the three waters network must be built. These matters are addressed under the Building Code and the Building Act 2004. Having a framework around these matters would be a duplication of process and would not address any relevant environmental effect.

6.4.2 Hydraulic Neutrality

(112) The proposed provisions require new development to achieve hydraulic neutrality. Where hydraulic neutrality cannot be achieved the activity status escalates to restricted discretionary. This elevation allows for the effects of not achieving hydraulic neutrality to be assessed, including potential downstream impacts on flooding.

6.4.3 Water Sensitive Design

(113) The proposed provisions require the implementation of water sensitive design methods for larger developments to manage stormwater quality. The proposed provisions do not require water sensitive urban design for smaller residential developments that involve less than 3 residential units or for non-residential units with a footprint of less than 200m^2 in area. However, for developments of more than 3 residential units and for non-residential buildings with a footprint greater than 200m^2, there is a requirement for

stormwater sensitive urban design to be installed and a restricted discretionary activity status.

6.4.4 Water Supply – Water Meters

(114) The proposed provisions require new residential units and retirement villages in residential, commercial and mixed use zones to be fitted with water meters. This is only required where the development is proposed to be connected to the reticulated water supply network. The requirement for water meters is introduced to manage and ideally reduce the demand on the water supply network.

6.4.5 Water Supply - Rainwater Storage and Greywater Re-use Systems

(115) The introduction of requirements for rainwater storage tanks and greywater re-use systems for residential developments has been considered but has been rejected for the following reasons:

- Rainwater collection for non-potable water supply aims at having a maximum water supply available at all times while rainwater collection for stormwater detention relies on rainwater detention tanks being mostly empty.
- To achieve both objectives it would require either two separate rainwater tanks or one combined system with significantly larger storage capacity.
- If rainwater collection for non-potable water supply was introduced as a standard it would apply in addition to rainwater collection for stormwater detention standard.
- Rainwater collection for non-potable water supply is particularly unreliable when it's needed most – in summer and during drought periods. To make a noticeable difference during these times large capacity storage tanks are required.
- There is uncertainty regarding the effectiveness and efficiency of rainwater harvesting for medium and high density developments where decentralised options may be more appropriate.

- For use inside the house internal plumbing of a third piping system is required (unless the water is treated to be used as potable water). Installation of a third piping system would be more justifiable if it was used for internal greywater reuse as well. At this stage there appears to be no comprehensive guidance by WWL for these systems.
- Recent research by WW found that neither rainwater harvesting nor greywater re-use at a domestic scale would provide sufficient yield to be a strategic water resource. One important factor was the uncertainty regarding the uptake of these options. The introduction of requirements through District Plans would increase certainty but would also need to be accompanied by detailed guidance and acceptable solutions.

6.4.6 Building Materials – Copper and Zinc

(116) The introduction of provisions limiting the use of exposed copper and zinc as an external building product has been considered. While the value, efficiency and effectiveness of such provisions is accepted, it is noted that Proposed Change 1 to the Natural Resources Plan contains equivalent provisions. It is therefore considered unnecessary to duplicate these provisions.

6.4.7 Non-notification Clauses

(117) There are a number of non-notification clauses proposed within this chapter. These are as follows:

- THW-R1 – Applications under this rule are precluded from public and limited notification.
- THW-R2 – Applications under this rule are precluded from public notification, but not limited notification as there is the potential for non-compliance to increase the flood risk downstream from an application site.
- THW-R3 - Applications under this rule are precluded from both public and limited notification.
- THW-R4 - Applications under this rule are precluded from both public and limited notification.

(118) It is appropriate that there are non-notification clauses for these rules since the nature of the effects from non-compliance will usually require expert engineering assessment and advice. It is anticipated that there would be limited benefit from non-technical input through notification of affected parties. The inclusion of the proposed non-notification clauses also supports and aligns with the non-notification clauses contained in underlying zone chapters.

6.4.8 Definitions

(119) The following definitions are proposed to support the provisions of the Three Waters chapter. These definitions assist with the understanding and implementation of the chapter.

Term	Definition
Hydraulic Neutrality	means managing stormwater runoff from all new lots or development through either on-site disposal or storage, so that stormwater is released from the site at a rate that does not exceed the pre-development peak stormwater runoff.
Hydraulic Neutrality Device	means the physical measure(s) to achieve hydraulic neutrality.
Three waters network	means the reticulated water network, the reticulated wastewater network and stormwater management systems
Water Sensitive Design	means the integration of planning, engineering design and water management to mimic or restore natural hydrological processes in order to address the quantitative and qualitative impacts of land use and development on land, water and biodiversity, and the community's aesthetic and recreational enjoyment of waterways and the coast. Water sensitive design manages stormwater at its source as one of the tools to control runoff and water quality. The terms green infrastructure, low impact design, low impact urban design and water sensitive urban design are often used synonymously with water sensitive design.

6.5 Proposed Provisions in Other Chapters

6.5.1 Subdivision

(120) The provisions relating to three waters and subdivision are located in the Subdivision (SUB) Chapter. Subdivision provides for additional development potential enabled by the permitted land use provisions of the underlying zone. As part of undertaking subdivision, the services are installed to accommodate a complying development. It is important that the three waters network can accommodate the demand generated by a subdivision, and that the provisions reflect the requirements of the Three Waters Chapter.

Subdivision	
Objective	**SUB-O3 Servicing of Allotments** Requires that new allotments are adequately serviced.
Policy	**SUB-P7 Servicing and Access** Contains a policy framework that requires: • The allotments to be serviced in accordance with the Wellington Water Regional Standard for Water Services December 2021 • Requires the upgrading of infrastructure when there is no capacity to accommodate a subdivision • Requires allotments that are not serviced by the reticulated network to be of a size and shape that can accommodate the demand generated by the proposal.
Rules	**SUB-R1 Boundary Adjustments** **SUB-R2 Updating of an Existing Cross-lease Title** **SUB-R3 Unit Title subdivision and subdivision that does not create any vacant allotments** **SUB-R4 Subdivision that creates vacant allotment** All require new allotments to comply with the standards relating to water supply (SUB-S4), wastewater disposal (SUB-S5) and stormwater management (SUB-S6).

Standards	**SUB-S4 Water Supply** • requires connection to the reticulated water supply network where available; and • outlines the water supply requirements where there is no reticulated network. **SUB-S5 Wastewater Disposal** • requires connection to the reticulated wastewater system where available; and • outlines the requirements where such system is not available. **SUB-S6 Stormwater Management** • requires new subdivisions to achieve hydraulic neutrality; • requires connection to existing stormwater management systems where available; and • outlines the requirements where such connection cannot be achieved.

6.5.2 Residential Zones

(121) The residential zone chapters all include standards that require at least 30% of a site to be permeable surfaces in order to manage stormwater runoff and reduce the risk of surface ponding and flooding (Large Lot Residential Zone LLRZ-S6, Medium Density Residential Zone MRZ-S7 and High Density Residential Zone HRZ-S7).

7 Evaluation of objectives

(122) This section is the evaluation of objectives, as required through s32(1)(a) of the RMA.

(123) An objective is a statement of what is to be achieved through the resolution of a particular resource management issue. A district plan objective should set out a desired end state to be achieved through the implementation of policies and rules.

(124) Under s75(1)(a) of the Resource Management Act, a district plan must state the objectives for the district.

(125) Under s32(1)(a) of the Resource Management Act, an evaluation report required under the Act must examine the extent to which the objectives of the proposal being evaluated are the most appropriate way to achieve the purpose of the RMA. The purpose of the RMA, as stated in s5(1) of the Act, is to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources.

7.1 Evaluation of Objective THW–O1

Evaluation of Objectives	
Proposed Objective - Preferred	
THW-O1 Infrastructure-enabled urban development Future use and development of land in urban areas is sufficiently supported by existing or planned three waters infrastructure capacity at an appropriate level of service. Alternative means to service use and development are considered where necessary and appropriate.	
Relevance	
Addresses a relevant resource management issue	The proposed objective addresses the relevant resource management issues for three waters identified in section 4.2.7 above.
Assists the Council to undertake its functions under s31	Section 31(1)(a) requires Councils to control the effects of use, development or protection of land. The proposed objective allows Council to manage the effects from development

RMA	connecting into the reticulated water supply, wastewater and stormwater systems and ensures that that the reticulated systems are able to accommodate the demand generated by a development.
Gives effect to higher level documents	The proposed objective assists Council with achieving sustainable management under Section 5 of the Act. It does this through setting the expectation that wastewater discharges into the local environment do not increase, and with time will decrease as infrastructure upgrades are made. This will protect the natural environment and assist communities that use and rely on waterbodies to provide for their social, economic, and cultural wellbeing and improve their health and safety. The proposed objective will assist Council with meeting its requirements under Section 6(e) of the RMA. Local iwi have a strong cultural connection with the waters and land in Lower Hutt. These connections are being significantly impacted, particularly by the discharge of wastewater into the natural environment. The proposed objective will assist with reducing the number of discharges and will allow for these cultural values and connections to improve with time. The proposed objective gives effect to the NPS-UD through providing for land development while considering the resulting impacts on the three waters network. This allows for an integrated approach to land development infrastructure capacity planning. The proposed objective gives effect to the NPS-FM by ensuring there is sufficient capacity in the infrastructure network to accommodate the demand generated from development. When this capacity does not exist, the objective requires alternative methods for servicing to be considered. This will assist with ensuring water quality in freshwater bodies is improved overtime by reduced wastewater discharges due to an overloaded network. The proposed objective gives effect to the RPS, particularly Policy 58 which requires co-ordinating land use with the development and operation of infrastructure. The proposed objective requires that there is sufficient capacity within the network to accommodate the increased demand from development.
Usefulness	

Guides decision-making	The objective outlines the outcome sought and sets the expectation that the three waters networks are able to accommodate the demand arising from development within the urban zones. The objective provides clear direction on what the intended outcomes are and describes the desired end state.
Reasonableness	
Will not impose unjustifiably high costs on the community/parts of the community	The proposed objective will not impose unjustifiably high costs on the community. While the objective will generate some additional costs (particularly when mitigation measures are required due to capacity constraints within the three waters network), these are generally relatively moderate when compared to the cost of a development. It is also recognised that many developments are already being designed and constructed with consideration of the impact on the three waters network. This is occurring as a result of changing practices and the involvement of Wellington Water Limited in consenting processes. The proposed objective will formalise this existing approach. As such, many of the costs incurred by this objective are already being realised by the development community and this objective will not add to these costs.
Acceptable level of uncertainty and risk	The objective is clear, with little uncertainty - it directs developments in urban areas to be connected to the three water networks where there is capacity.
Achievability	
Consistent with identified tangata whenua and community outcomes	The proposed objective specifically allows for the capacity of the three waters network to be considered for the majority of urban developments. This will assist with reducing the occurrences of unplanned wastewater discharges due to heavy rainfall events or aging and damaged pipelines. This will support the improvement of the mauri of the natural environment and will allow for increased uptake of cultural practices.

	The proposed objective aligns with and elaborates on the strategic objectives which have been well consulted on with the community.
Realistically able to be achieved within the Council's powers, skills and resources	Most resource consent applications are currently assessed for their impact on the three waters network, albeit with limited direction from the Operative District Plan in some cases. The proposed objective provides formal direction in relation to this matter. The outcomes sought in the objective are able to be achieved within the Council's powers, skills and resources.
Other Potential Objectives	
Operative District Plan Objectives - Status Quo **4F 2.6 Objective** Built development is adequately serviced by network infrastructure or addresses any infrastructure constraints. **5E 2.5 Objective** Built development is adequately serviced by network infrastructure or addresses any infrastructure constraints. The status quo objectives of the Operative District Plan that relate to infrastructure capacity only apply to the residential and suburban mixed use zones and not to the wider urban zones and as such, it only partially assists the council with undertaking its functions under Section 31 of the RMA. Council is also not fully achieving sustainable management under Section 5 of the Act. In particular, the discharge of wastewater into the natural environment as a result of the reticulated wastewater network being over capacity means there are direct impacts on the social, cultural and economic wellbeing of those communities that rely on water bodies (particularly the coastal environment) as well as their health and safety as a result of coming into contact with contaminated water. The status quo objectives only partially gives effect to Section 6(e) of the Act by allowing for increased demand on the three waters network which resulted in downstream effects such as increased peak stormwater runoff and increases in discharge of wastewater into the natural environment. This has significantly impacted on local iwi cultural values and the ability to undertake cultural practices. The status quo does not give fully give effect to the following objectives O1 and O6 of	

the NPS-UD since the Operative District Plan does not contain any objectives relating to the three waters network and integrated urban and infrastructure development for the majority of the urban zones.

Alternative 1

The following variation of the proposed objective has been considered – Include an alternative objective that does not provide for alternative means to service the use and development.

This option has not been pursued since it does not allow for the consideration of alternative methods to achieve the required level of service and thereby has the potential to significantly reduce development potential within the city due to the aging three waters network and partial lack of capacity.

Alternative 2

The following variation of the proposed objective has been considered – Include a reference to subdivision in the objective.

All provisions covering three waters requirements in the context of subdivision have been included in the Subdivisions chapter and therefore the inclusion of a reference to subdivision was considered to be confusing and unhelpful.

Summary

The proposed objective is the most appropriate way to achieve the purpose of the Act and to give effect to higher order direction. The proposed objective requires future development to ensure that there is sufficient capacity within the three waters network to accommodate its associated demand. Where the reticulated three waters network does not have the capacity to accommodate the demand then on-site mitigation measures will be required. This will ensure that the levels of service provided by the three waters network does not continue to reduce with time. As upgrades to existing infrastructure and new infrastructure are undertaken under the Local Government Act over time (through investment identified in the Long Term Plan) the proposed objective should result in an improvement in the levels of service provided by the three waters network.

The proposed objective builds on the strategic directions. In particular, the proposed objective would assist with improving the capacity of the three waters network over time (particularly as upgrades and new infrastructure become available).

The status quo or the considered alternatives do not achieve the same consistency

with higher order direction or the strategic directions as the proposed objective. As such the status quo and the alternative versions are not considered to be the most appropriate option to achieve the purpose of the Act.

7.2 Evaluation of Objective THW–O2

Evaluation of Objectives	
Proposed Objective - Preferred	
THW-O2 Hydraulic Neutrality and Stormwater Management Future use and development in urban areas incorporates measures to manage stormwater runoff so it does not increase offsite stormwater peak flows compared to current levels, does not increase flood risks, and improves stormwater quality.	
Relevance	
Addresses a relevant resource management issue	The proposed objective addresses the relevant resource management issues for three waters identified in section 4.2.7 above.
Assists the Council to undertake its functions under s31 RMA	Section 31(1)(a) requires Councils to control the effects of use, development or protection of land. The proposed objective allows the Council to manage the effects from stormwater runoff on downstream flooding and stormwater quality.
Gives effect to higher level documents	The proposed objective assists the Council with achieving sustainable management under Section 5 of the Act and with meeting its requirements under Sections 6(e) and 6(h) and Sections 7(a), 7(d) and 7(f). Local iwi have a strong cultural connection and cultural values with the waters and land in Hutt City. These connections are being significantly impacted, particularly in relation to the discharge of wastewater into the natural environment. The proposed objective will shift focus to the well-being of water. Section 6(h) of the RMA requires significant natural hazard risk to be managed. The proposed objective seeks to ensure this in relation to flooding through ensuring there is no increase in peak stormwater discharge from sites. This will ensure that new development does not increase the risk of flooding to downstream properties.

	This objective will assist Council in having regard to kaitiakitanga (section 7(a)), intrinsic values of ecosystems (section 7(d)), and maintenance and enhancement of environmental quality by focusing managing the effects of subdivision and development on the well-being of water. The proposed objective gives effect to the following objectives of the NPS-UD: O1: 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. O6: Local authority decisions on urban development that affect urban environments are: Integrated with infrastructure planning and funding decisions; and Strategic over the medium term and long term; and Responsive, particularly in relation to proposals that would supply significant development capacity. The requirement to ensure that developments are hydraulically neutral assists with ensuring that development and its impact on three waters infrastructure are considered and that the impacts from peak stormwater runoff do not worsen as a result of development occurring. This also assists with maintaining the efficiency of the urban environment to provide for the social and economic wellbeing of the community it serves. This objective gives effect to the NPS-FM and the obligation for Council to include objectives to promote positive effects and avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects of urban development on the health and well-being of water bodies, freshwater ecosystems and receiving environments.
Usefulness	

Guides decision-making	The proposed objective outlines the outcomes sought for hydraulic neutrality and stormwater management. It is clear in its goal and its applicability and accordingly provides clarity for decision makers.
Reasonableness	
Will not impose unjustifiably high costs on the community/parts of the community	The proposed objective will not impose unjustifiably high costs on the community. While the need to achieve hydraulic neutrality and stormwater management will result in some additional costs, these are generally not significant when compared to the overall cost of a development. It is also recognised that usually developments are already being designed and constructed to be hydraulically neutral and consider the potential impact on water quality. The proposed objective will formalise this existing approach and will apply across all relevant zones.
Acceptable level of uncertainty and risk	The objective is clear, with little uncertainty. The proposed objective clearly directs for hydraulic neutrality to be achieved and stormwater be managed for new use and development in urban areas.
Achievability	
Consistent with identified tangata whenua and community outcomes	The requirement for hydraulic neutrality and stormwater management will help to ensure that future development does not increase flooding risk downstream and improves stormwater quality.
Realistically able to be achieved within the Council's powers, skills and resources	The proposed objective provides formal direction in relation to hydraulic neutrality and stormwater management. Since Wellington Water Limited already considers this matter as part of the Council process, it is considered that the outcomes sought in the objective are able to be achieved within the Council's powers, skills and resources.
Other Potential Objectives	

Operative District Plan Objectives - Status Quo

4F 2.6 Objective

Built development is adequately serviced by network infrastructure or addresses any infrastructure constraints.

4G 2.6 Objective

Built development is adequately serviced by network infrastructure or addresses any infrastructure constraints.

5E 2.4 Objective

Built development is adequately serviced by network infrastructure or addresses any infrastructure constraints.

The status quo objectives only apply to the residential and suburban mixed use zones and not to the wider urban zones. As such, they only partially assist the council with undertaking its functions under Section 31 of the RMA and do not fully address Section 6(h) of the Act and do not give full effect to the objectives O1 and O6 of the NPS-UD. There are no objectives relating to stormwater management and stormwater quality. In particular, by being silent on hydraulic neutrality in non-residential urban zones, it allows for a lack of integration of development and development infrastructure.

There are costs resulting from uncertainty and lack of guidance in non-residential zones. Council generally requires that developments in urban areas are hydraulically neutral which is normally achieved through conditions of consent on discretionary and non-complying activities. However, there are no objectives relating to hydraulic neutrality and stormwater management. The lack of direction in the Operative District Plan on this matter means that there is no clarity for applicants or Council on the outcomes sought and what hydraulic neutrality devices are seeking to achieve. This in turn results in significant uncertainty and risk for all parties at the time of resource consent application and determination.

The Operative District Plan does not respond to community and tangata whenua expectations and outcomes sought.

Alternative 1

The following variation of the proposed objective has been considered - Introduce two separate objectives covering hydraulic neutrality and stormwater management individually.

The alternative approach of creating two separate objectives covering the topics of hydraulic neutrality and stormwater management independently has not been pursued

since there is significant overlap between these matters. The main focus for both is to manage the quantity and quality of stormwater run-off to avoid off-site flooding and adverse effects on the receiving environment.

Summary

The proposed objective is the most appropriate way to achieve the purpose of the Act and to give effect to higher order direction.

The proposed objective requires all new use and development to ensure there is no increase in offsite stormwater peak flows and volumes. This is an effective means of managing peak stormwater discharge rates from a site to ensure that a development does not increase downstream flooding risks. This also assists with improving stormwater quality and retaining capacity in the stormwater network by providing onsite attenuation which contributes to reducing the peak pressures of stormwater discharges.

The proposed objective builds on the Strategic Direction objectives by setting an outcome that use and development need to meet in order to give effect to these strategic directions.

This objective complements Natural Hazard Objective NH-O1 as a way to not increase the risk from natural hazard events. In this regard the proposed objective supports Council with ensuring that the District Plan provisions are considered with its responsibilities under Section 6(h) of the RMA and the RPS. The objective also supports the Council to carry out its functions under s31(1)(a) and s31(1)(aa) of the Act.

The alternative options do not achieve the same consistency with higher order direction or the strategic directions as the proposed objective.

8 Evaluation of policies and rules

(126) Policies and rules implement, or give effect to, the objectives of a plan.

(127) Policies of a district plan are the course of action to achieve or implement the plan's objective (i.e. the path to be followed to achieve a certain, specified, environmental outcome). Rules of a district plan implement the plan's policies, and have the force and effect of a regulation.

(128) Under s32(1)(b) of the Resource Management Act, an evaluation report required under the Act must 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.

(129) Under s32(2) of the Resource Management Act, the assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of the provisions 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.

Structure of this evaluation

(130) For this evaluation, the provisions that implement the two objectives of the proposed Three Waters chapter are evaluated collectively, including the relevant provisions of the proposed Subdivision chapter. This is because these provisions work together to implement the objectives.

Quantification of benefits and costs

(131) Section 32(2)(b) requires that, where practicable, the benefits and costs of a proposal are to be quantified.

(132) Based on the assessment of the scale and significance of the proposed provisions above, specific quantification of the benefits and costs in this report could be beneficial. However, specific quantification of the benefits and costs beyond the information and evidence outlined in this report is not readily available or practicable at a detailed level. As such, a qualitative approach has been undertaken when considering the potential costs and benefits associated with this proposal and, where relevant, in the assessment of policies, rules and other methods contained in this report.

Risk of acting / not acting if information is uncertain or insufficient

(133) As part of the assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of provisions, section 32(2)(c) of the RMA requires an assessment of the risk of acting or not acting if there is uncertain or insufficient information about the subject matter of the provisions.

(134) For the proposed Three Waters chapter, there is certain and sufficient information on which to base the proposed policies and methods as:

- Higher order documents (RMA, NPS-FM and RPS) provide direction about managing water in an integrated way and recognising and providing for the relationship of mana whenua with water. The proposed provisions are consistent with this higher order direction.
- Higher order documents (NPS-UD and RPS) require that development in urban areas must be able to be appropriately serviced by the three waters networks and the proposed policies and rules ensure that this outcome is achieved whilst mitigating impacts on the network.
- The proposed provisions allow Council to undertake its functions under s31(1)(a), (aa) and (b)(i) of the RMA.
- The Operative District Plan provisions are resulting in an increase in demand on the three waters networks and reduced capacity. This reduction in capacity would continue under the existing provisions.

Evaluation of provisions to implement Objectives THW-O1 and THW-O2
Proposed provisions • **THW-P1 Three Waters Infrastructure Servicing** • **THW-P2 Three Waters Infrastructure Capacity** • **THW-P3 Hydraulic Neutrality** • **THW-P4 Water Sensitive Design** • **THW-P5 Water Supply** • **THW-R1 New buildings (excluding accessory buildings), and conversions of existing buildings in an Urban Zone – Connections to the Reticulated Network.** • **THW-R2 New buildings (excluding accessory buildings) in an Urban Zone - Hydraulic Neutrality**

- **THW-R3 New buildings (excluding accessory buildings) in an Urban Zone - Water Sensitive Design**
- **THW-R4 New residential units and retirement villages that are connected to the reticulated water system.**
- **Subdivision policies, rules and standards relating to servicing of new allotments**

Efficiency and effectiveness

Costs	**Benefits**
Environmental • Potential for impacts on amenity values through stormwater management equipment, such as aboveground stormwater tanks (which can have similar impacts on amenity values as other structures and buildings). **Economic** • Potential for increased development costs as a result of the need to provide water sensitive design/stormwater management measures. These costs may not be significant in the context of the overall development as the methods to achieve water sensitive design can also achieve some or all of the required stormwater management requirements and the requirement for permeable surfaces in residential zones. • Potential for ongoing maintenance and/or compliance costs to ensure infrastructure remains effective.	**Environmental** • Retention or restoration of natural drainage systems. • Reduced runoff volumes and peak flows. • Flow quantity and variability are more similar to those in an undeveloped catchment than would be the case under a conventional development approach. • Improved stormwater quality through opportunities to reduced concentrations of contaminants. • Ecological benefits, including reducing bank scour, erosion, improved stream habitat quality and connectivity through riparian planting • Reduced built environment footprint as a result of lower use of hard infrastructure. • More resilient stormwater network, as less reliance on pipes and other hard infrastructure.

• Consenting costs associated with going through the resource consent process to demonstrate how requirements will be incorporated into a development. • Potential for increased maintenance costs to WWL. • Opportunity costs from using space for tanks and rain gardens. • The proposed provisions are not expected to impact on employment opportunities or economic growth. **Social** • No direct or indirect social costs have been identified. **Cultural** • No direct or indirect cultural costs have been identified.	• Potential to avoid need for future environmental remediation because water sensitive design assists in filtering stormwater. • Less environmental damage during storm events due to more resilience in the water system. • Better integration of stormwater management and land use. • Potential for reduced wastewater discharges if water sensitive design includes water efficiency/water conservation measures and source control to help management stormwater discharges into wastewater systems. **Economic** • Providing for on-site mitigation of capacity and/or level of service constraints enables development within Hutt City to continue. • Reduced damage from flooding, reduced clean-up costs and faster community recovery. • Depending on the water sensitive design methods, maintenance and operation costs may be lower. • Reduction in hard infrastructure costs, i.e. pipes, catchpits and kerbs. • Reduced building material consumption through adoption of efficient designs and limited use of concrete and asphalt.

	• The proposed provisions are not expected to impact on employment opportunities or economic growth. **Social** • Reduced surface flooding due to reduced peak flows. • Additional capacity in the stormwater system to accommodate increased rainfall intensity and assist with climate change adaptation. • Improved stormwater quality contributes to aquatic ecosystem health and improved physiological health of people. • Increased infrastructure resilience, providing for operational reliability in a wider variety of circumstances, including natural hazards and climate change. • Over time reduced discharges to the natural environment, which will enable increased use of coastal and freshwater bodies for recreation and food gathering. **Cultural** • Recognition and involvement of mana whenua in decision-making and planning processes. • Recognition of Te Ao Māori in design. • Opportunity to acknowledge and include mātauranga Māori into research, design and operation of water sensitive design systems. • Opportunity to improve/restore the mauri of fresh and coastal waters.

	• Opportunity to avoid mixing of waters from different catchments. • Opportunity to incorporate indigenous planting and traditional varieties to enable cultural harvesting.

Effectiveness and efficiency summary

The proposed provisions are effective in achieving the proposed objectives because:

- They give effect to higher order direction;
- They directly implement the proposed objectives; and
- They are clear, consistent and certain.

The proposed provisions are efficient in achieving the proposed objectives because:

- They give effect to higher order direction (Sections 6(e) and 6(h), NPS-UD, NPS-FM and RPS) through a clear, transparent and consistent framework that is appropriately located within the District Plan.
- While the proposed provisions will result in some additional economic costs, it is considered that the resulting benefits to residents outweigh these costs. It is also noted that the additional costs to development for incorporating mitigation measures into the design are often considerably lower than the costs from (repeated) damage from flooding events.
- The proposed provisions reflect and formalise existing practice in relation to a number of land developments that are occurring within the City (and the wider region) and are accepted by the development community.
- The proposed provisions would assist with the transfer of costs for addressing stormwater runoff and increased flooding risk from private property owners and local and regional government onto developers at the time the developments are undertaken.

Other reasonably practicable options for achieving the objective

Status Quo

Under the status quo provisions there are only limited three water related policies and rules that mostly apply in residential zones. The status quo is considered to be ineffective and inefficient at giving effect to higher order direction. The existing provisions allow for a number of developments to occur without the need to improve the health and well-being of water, manage stormwater peak flows and volumes or manage the source control of contaminants. It is therefore considered that the status quo is not appropriate to achieve the outcome of the proposed objectives.

The operative provisions (policies and rules) are considered to be ineffective and inefficient for the following reasons:

- They do not give effect to higher order direction.
- The existing provisions largely apply at the time of subdivision but not to land use developments. Only developments in the residential and suburban zones need to achieve hydraulic neutrality.
- The existing provisions have assisted with contributing to the existing issues that are being experienced by the three waters networks and it is expected these issues would continue to increase and worsen under the status quo.
- The existing approach means that land use developments may be consented without always having to consider and manage the impact on the three waters networks, thereby further reducing capacity and performance of this network.
- There is a desire within the existing provisions and the resource consent process to use the Wellington Water Regional Standard for Water Services 2021 to guide new development. However, as the Operative District Plan does not reference this document, it makes the resource consent process inefficient and there is potential for considerable debate around consent conditions and the outcomes sought under the Wellington Water Regional Standard for Water Services 2021 vs outcomes sought in the District Plan.

Include Requirements for Rainwater Storage and Greywater Re-use Systems

The inclusion of provisions that require the installation of rainwater storage tanks and greywater re-use systems for residential developments has been considered. These systems would be used for non-potable water supply purposes and intended to reduce water demand especially during peak times and draught periods. However, there is uncertainty regarding the reliability, efficiency and effectiveness of these systems, especially in a medium or high-density environment, where there is less demand for outdoor water use such as watering gardens. Furthermore, it is noted that the rainwater collection systems for water supply and for stormwater detention have conflicting requirements - rainwater collection tanks

for water supply need to be kept as full as possible at all times whereas rainwater collection tanks for stormwater detention need to be (mostly) empty to be able to reduce peak stormwater flows.

Include Restrictions for Copper and Zinc

The inclusion of provisions that limit the use of copper and zinc building materials to prevent the discharge of contaminants into the environment has been considered. While the benefits and values of such provisions are acknowledged they have not been included in the Three Waters chapter since they would duplicate similar provisions that have recently been introduced by Greater Wellington Regional Council through Proposed Change 1 to the Natural Resources Plan.

Overall evaluation

The proposed provisions:

- Require future use and development to consider and respond to any capacity constraints in the existing three water networks.
- Provide for the consideration of alternative solutions where network constraints have been identified.
- Require future use and development to achieve hydraulic neutrality and implement water sensitive design methods.
- Ensure that the majority of new development within the urban zones are required to manage stormwater peak flows and volumes, thereby not increasing peak stormwater discharges from the site.
- Ensure that quality of stormwater runoff from urban development is improved to the extent feasible through the implementation of water sensitive design methods.
- Give effect to high order direction and provide a clear framework of policies and rules.
- Have a number of economic, social and cultural benefits which outweigh the identified costs.

The proposed policies and rules are the most appropriate way to achieve the proposed objectives. They are effective and efficient and provide regulatory certainty. The provisions achieve positive environmental outcomes and enable people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being.

9 Summary

(135) This evaluation has been undertaken in accordance with section 32 of the RMA in order to identify the need, the benefits and costs and the appropriateness of the proposal and having regard to its effectiveness and efficiency relative to other means in achieving the purpose of the RMA. The evaluation demonstrates that this proposal is the most appropriate option as it:

- Best gives effect to higher order documents, including section 6 of the RMA, NPS-FM, NPS-UD, the Regional Policy Statement and the National Planning Standards;
- Is the most effective and efficient way to achieve the purpose of the Act and the strategic objectives of the Proposed District Plan; and
- Addresses the identified resource management issues.

10 Attachments

Appendix 1: Full wording of relevant objectives and policies of the Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region and Proposed RPS Change 1

Appendix 2: Full wording of relevant objectives and policies of the Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region and Proposed NRP Change 1

Appendix 1: Full wording of relevant objectives and policies of the Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region and Proposed RPS Change 1

Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region	
3.2 Coastal Environment	
Objective 7	*The integrity, functioning and resilience of physical and ecological processes in the Coastal Environment are protected from the adverse effects of inappropriate subdivision, use and development.*
3.3 Energy, Infrastructure and Waste	
Objective 10	*The social, economic, cultural and environmental, benefits of regionally significant infrastructure are recognised and protected.*
3.4 Fresh Water	
Objective 12	*The quantity and quality of fresh water:* *(a) meet the range of uses and values for which water is required;* *(b) safeguard the life supporting capacity of water bodies; and* *(c) meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations.*
Objective 26	*Mauri is sustained, particularly in relation to coastal and fresh waters.*
Policy 14 Minimising contamination in stormwater from new development	*Regional plans shall include policies, rules and/or methods that protect aquatic ecosystem health by minimising ecotoxic and other contaminants in stormwater that discharges into water, or onto or into land that may enter water, from new subdivision and development.*
Policy 40 Maintaining and enhancing aquatic	*When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a regional or district plan, particular regard shall be given to:*

Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region	
ecosystem health in water bodies	*(a) requiring that water quality, flows and water levels and aquatic habitats of surface water bodies are managed for the purpose of safeguarding aquatic ecosystem health;* *(b) requiring, as a minimum, water quality in the coastal marine area to be managed for the purpose of maintaining or enhancing aquatic ecosystem health; and* *(c) managing water bodies and the water quality of coastal water for other purposes identified in regional plans.*
Policy 42 Minimising contamination in stormwater from development	*When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district plan, the adverse effects of stormwater run-off from subdivision and development shall be reduced by having particular regard to:* *(a) a limiting the area of new impervious surfaces in the stormwater catchment;* *(b) using water permeable surfaces to reduce the volume of stormwater leaving a site;* *(c) restricting zinc or copper roofing materials, or requiring their effects to be mitigated;* *(d) collecting water from roofs for domestic or garden use while protecting public health;* *(e) using soakpits for the disposal of stormwater;* *(f) using roadside swales, filter strips and rain gardens;* *(g) using constructed wetland treatment areas;* *(h) using in situ treatment devices;* *(i) using stormwater attenuation techniques that reduce the velocity and quantity of stormwater discharges; and* *(j) using educational signs, as conditions on resource consents, that promote the values of water bodies and methods to protect them from the effects of stormwater discharges.*
Policy 45 Using water efficiently	*When considering an application for a resource consent, or a change, variation or review of a district plan, particular regard shall be given to requiring water collection, water demand management options, and water reuse and/or water recycling measures, so that water is used efficiently.*

Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region	
3.8 Natural Hazards	
Objective 21	*Communities are more resilient to natural hazards, including the impact of climate change and people are better prepared for the consequences of natural hazard events.*
Policy 51 Minimising the risks and consequences of natural hazards	*When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review to a district or regional plan, the risk and consequences of natural hazards on people, communities, their property and infrastructure shall be minimised, and/or in determining whether an activity is inappropriate particular regard shall be given to:* *(a) the frequency and magnitude of the range of natural hazards that may adversely affect the proposal or development, including residual risk;* *(b) the potential for climate change and sea level rise to increase the frequency or magnitude of a hazard event;* *(c) whether the location of the development will foreseeably require hazard mitigation works in the future;* *(d) the potential for injury or loss of life, social disruption and emergency management and civil defence implications – such as access routes to and from the site;* *(e) any risks and consequences beyond the development site;* *(f) the impact of the proposed development on any natural features that act as a buffer, and where development should not interfere with their ability to reduce the risks of natural hazards;* *(g) avoiding inappropriate subdivision and development in areas at high risk from natural hazards;* *(h) the potential need for hazard adaptation and mitigation measures in moderate risk areas; and* *(i) the need to locate habitable floor areas and access routes above the 1:100 year flood level, in identified flood hazard areas.*
3.9 Regional Form, Design and Function	
Policy 58 Co-ordinating land use with development	*When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a plan change, variation or review of a district plan for subdivision, use or development, particular regard shall be given to*

Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region	
and operation of infrastructure	*whether the proposed subdivision, use or development is located and sequenced to:* *(a) make efficient and safe use of existing infrastructure capacity; and/or* *(b) coordinate with the development and operation of new infrastructure.*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
3.1A Climate Change (new chapter)		
Objective CC.1	*By 2050, the Wellington Region is a low-emission and climate-resilient region, where climate change mitigation and adaptation are an integral part of:* *(a) sustainable air, land, freshwater, and coastal management,* *(b) well-functioning urban environments and rural areas, and* *(c) well-planned infrastructure.*	*The Wellington Region is a low-emission and climate-resilient region, where climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation are an integral part of:* *(a) sustainable air, land, freshwater, and coastal management,* *(b) well-functioning urban areas and rural areas, and* *(c) the planning and delivery of infrastructure (including regionally significant infrastructure).*
Objective CC.6	*Resource management and adaptation planning increase the resilience of communities and the natural environment to the short, medium, and long-term effects of climate change.*	*Resource management and adaptation planning increases the resilience of communities, infrastructure and the natural environment to the short, medium, and long-term effects of climate change.*
Policy CC.4	***Climate resilient urban areas*** *District and regional plans shall include policies, rules and/or methods to provide for climate-resilient urban areas by providing for actions and initiatives described in Policy CC.14*	***Climate responsive development*** *District plans shall include objectives, policies, rules and/or non-regulatory methods to require development and infrastructure to be located, designed, and constructed in ways that provide*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
	which support delivering the characteristics and qualities of well-functioning urban environments.	*for climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation and climate-resilience, prioritising the use of nature-based solutions and informed by mātauranga Māori.* *This includes, as appropriate to the scale and context of the activity*: *(a) requiring provision of urban green space, particularly canopy trees, to reduce urban heat and reduce stormwater flowrates*: *(i) prioritising the use of appropriate indigenous species, and* *(ii) contributing to achieving a wider target of 10 percent tree canopy cover at a suburb-scale by 2030, and 30 percent cover by 2050,* *(b) requiring methods to increase water resilience, including harvesting of water at a domestic and/or community-scale for non-potable uses (for example by requiring rain tanks, rainwater reuse tanks, and setting targets for urban roof area rainwater collection),* *(c) requiring that significant adverse effects on the climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation and climate-resilience functions and values of an ecosystem shall be avoided, and other adverse effects on these*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
		functions and values shall be avoided, minimised, or remedied, *(d) promoting efficient use of water and energy in buildings and infrastructure, and* *(e) promoting appropriate design of buildings and infrastructure so they are able to withstand the predicted future higher temperatures, intensity and duration of rainfall and wind over their anticipated life span.*
Policy CC.14	***Climate-resilient urban areas*** *When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, provide for actions and initiatives, particularly the use of nature-based solutions, that contribute to climate-resilient urban areas, including:* *(a) maintaining, enhancing, restoring, and/or creating urban greening at a range of spatial scales to provide urban cooling, including working towards a target of 10 percent tree canopy cover at a suburb-scale by 2030, and 30 percent cover by 2050,* *(b) the application of water sensitive urban design principles to integrate natural water systems into built form and landscapes, to reduce flooding, improve water*	***Climate-responsive development*** *When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district plan, require that development and infrastructure is located, designed and constructed in ways that provide for climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation and climate-resilience prioritising the use of nature-based solutions and informed by mātauranga Māori. This includes as appropriate to the scale and context of the activity:* *(a) providing urban green space, particularly canopy trees, to reduce urban heat and reduce stormwater flowrates:* *i. prioritising the use of appropriate indigenous species, and* *ii. contributing to achieving a wider target of 10 percent tree*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
	quality and overall environmental quality, *(c) capturing, storing, and recycling water at a community-scale (for example, by requiring rain tanks, and setting targets for urban roof area rainwater collection),* *(d) protecting, enhancing, or restoring natural ecosystems to strengthen the resilience of communities to the impacts of natural hazards and the effects of climate change,* *(e) providing for efficient use of water and energy in buildings and infrastructure, and* *(f) buildings and infrastructure that are able to withstand the predicted future temperatures, intensity and duration of rainfall and wind.*	*canopy cover at a suburb-scale by 2030, and 30 percent cover by 2050; and* *(b) methods to increase water resilience, including by requiring harvesting of water at a domestic and/or community-scale for non-potable uses (for example by requiring rain tanks, rainwater re-use tanks, and setting targets for urban roof area rainwater collection); and* *(c) avoiding significant adverse effects on the climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation and climate-resilience functions and values of an ecosystem, and avoiding, minimising, or remedying other adverse effects on these functions and values; and* *(d) promoting efficient use of water and energy in buildings and infrastructure; and* *(e) promoting appropriate design of buildings and infrastructure so they are able to withstand the predicted future higher temperatures, intensity and duration of rainfall and wind over their anticipated life span.*
3.4 Fresh Water (including public access)		
Objective 12	*Natural and physical resources of the region are managed in a way that prioritises:*	*The mana of the Region's waterbodies and freshwater ecosystems is restored*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
	(a) first, the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems *(b) second, the health needs of people (such as drinking water)* *(c) third, the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being, now and in the future; and* *Te Mana o te Wai encompasses six principles relating to the roles of tangata whenua and other New Zealanders in the management of freshwater, and these principles inform this RPS and its implementation. The six principles are:* *(a) Mana whakahaere: the power, authority, and obligations of tangata whenua to make decisions that maintain, protect, and sustain the health and well-being of, and their relationship with, freshwater* *(b) Kaitiakitanga: the obligation of tangata whenua to preserve, restore, enhance, and sustainably use freshwater for the benefit of present and future generations* *(c) Manaakitanga: the process by which tangata whenua show respect, generosity, and care for freshwater and for others* *(d) Governance: the responsibility of those with authority for making decisions about freshwater to do*	*and protected by ongoing management of land and water that:* *(a) returns the Region's water bodies and freshwater ecosystems to, and thereafter maintains them, in a state of tūhauora/good health* *(b) improves the health and wellbeing of the Region's degraded waterbodies and freshwater ecosystems* *(c) applies the Te Mana o te Wai hierarchy of obligations by prioritising:* *i. first, the health and wellbeing of waterbodies and freshwater ecosystems,* *ii. second, the health needs of people* *iii. third, the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural wellbeing, now and in the future.* *(d) recognises and provides for the individual natural characteristics and processes of waterbodies including their natural form, and their associated ecosystems* *(e) incorporates and protects mātauranga Māori and acknowledges and provides for the connections and relationships of mana whenua / tangata whenua with freshwater* *(f) provides for the ability of mana whenua / tangata whenua to*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
	so in a way that prioritises the health and well-being of freshwater now and into the future *(e) Stewardship: the obligation of all New Zealanders to manage freshwater in a way that ensures it sustains present and future generations, and* *(f) Care and respect: the responsibility of all New Zealanders to care for freshwater in providing for the health of the nation.* *And the Statements of Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa*	*safely undertake their cultural and spiritual practices associated with freshwater, including mahinga kai* *(g) actively involves mana whenua / tangata whenua in decision-making in relation to the Region's waterbodies* *(h) includes engagement with communities, stakeholders, and territorial authorities* *(i) supports the wellbeing and safety of the community, by providing for the ability to carry out recreational activities, in and around freshwater environments* *(j) supports and protects an abundance and diversity of freshwater habitats for indigenous freshwater species and, where appropriate, the habitat of trout and salmon* *(k) supports the reasonable, sustainable and efficient use of water for activities that benefit the Region's economy, including primary production activities, innovation and tourism.*
Policy 14	***Urban development effects on freshwater and the coastal marine area*** *Regional plan objectives, policies, and methods including rules, must give effect to Te Mana o te Wai and in doing so must:*	***Urban development effects on freshwater and receiving environments*** *Regional plans shall give effect to Te Mana o te Wai and include objectives, policies, rules and methods for urban development:*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
	(a) Enable the active involvement of mana whenua / tangata whenua in freshwater management (including decision-making processes), and Māori freshwater values are identified and provided for; *(b) Adopt an integrated approach, ki uta ki tai, that recognises the interconnectedness of the whole environment to determine the location and form of urban development;* *(c) Require the control of both land use and discharge effects from the use and development of land on freshwater and the coastal marine area;* *(d) Achieve the target attribute states set for the catchment;* *(e) Require the development, including stormwater discharges, earthworks and vegetation clearance meet any limits set in a regional plan;* *(f) Require that urban development is designed and constructed using the principles of Water Sensitive Urban Design;* *(g) Require that urban development located and designed to minimise the extent and volume of earthworks and to follow, to the extent practicable, existing land contours;*	*(a) enable the active involvement of mana whenua / tangata whenua in freshwater management (including decision-making processes); and* *(b) identify and provide for Māori freshwater values; and* *(c) adopt an integrated approach, ki uta ki tai, that recognises the interconnectedness of the whole environment to determine the location and form of urban development; and* *(d) control both land use and discharge effects from urban development on freshwater and receiving environments; and* *(e) identify how to achieve the target attribute states and environmental flows and levels set for the catchment; and* *(f) require urban development, including stormwater discharges, to meet any limits set in a regional plan; and* *(g) require urban development to incorporate water sensitive urban design techniques to minimise the generation of contaminants from stormwater runoff, and maximise, to the extent practicable the removal of contaminants from stormwater; and* *(h) require that urban development is appropriately located and designed to protect and enhance*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
	(h) Require that urban development is located and designed to protect and enhance gully heads, rivers, lakes, wetlands, springs, riparian margins and estuaries; *(i) Require riparian buffers for all waterbodies and avoid piping of rivers;* *(j) Require hydrological controls to avoid adverse effects of runoff quantity (flows and volumes) and maintain, to the extent practicable, natural stream flows;* *(k) Require stormwater quality management that will minimise the generation of contaminants, and maximise, to the extent practicable, the removal of contaminants from stormwater; and* *(l) Identify and map rivers and wetlands.*	*the health and wellbeing of gully heads, rivers, lakes, wetlands, springs, riparian margins and estuaries and other receiving environments including the natural form and flow of the waterbody; and* *(i) require urban development adjacent to natural waterbodies to protect and enhance riparian margins; and* *(j) promoting and enabling the daylighting of rivers.*
Policy FW.2	***Reducing water demand*** *District plans shall include policies, rules and/or methods to reduce demand of water from registered water suppliers and users, including where practicable:* *(a) provisions improving the efficiency of the end use of water on a per capita basis for new developments; and* *(b) provisions requiring alternate water supplies for non-potable use in new developments.*	***Reducing water demand*** *District plans shall include policies, rules and/or methods to reduce demand for water from community drinking water supplies and group drinking water supplies, including where practicable:* *(a) promoting alternate water supplies for non-potable use in new developments, such as the requirement to install rainwater tanks.*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
Policy FW.3	***Urban development effects on freshwater and the coastal marine area*** *District plans shall include objectives, policies, and methods including rules, that give effect to Te Mana o te Wai and section 3.5(4) of the NPS-FM, and in doing so must:* *(a) Partner with mana whenua / tangata whenua in the preparation of district plans;* *(b) Protect and enhance Māori freshwater values, including mahinga kai;* *(c) Provide for mana whenua / tangata whenua and their relationship with their culture, land, water, wāhi tapu and other taonga;* *(d) Incorporate the use of mātauranga Māori to ensure the effects of urban development are considered appropriately;* *(e) Adopt an integrated approach, ki uta ki tai, that recognises the interconnectedness of the whole environment to determine the location and form of urban development;* *(f) Integrate planning and design of stormwater management to achieve multiple improved outcomes – amenity values, recreational, cultural, ecological, climate, vegetation retention;*	***Urban development effects on freshwater and receiving environments*** *District plans shall include objectives, policies, and methods including rules for urban development, that give effect to Te Mana o te Wai and section 3.5(4) of the NPS-FM, and in doing so must:* *(a) partner with mana whenua / tangata whenua and recognise and provide for their relationship with their culture, land, water, wāhi tapu and other taonga; and* *(b) incorporate the use of mātauranga Māori to ensure the effects of urban development are considered appropriately; and* *(c) adopt an integrated approach, ki uta ki tai, that recognises the interconnectedness of the whole environment to determine the location and form of urban development; and* *(d) integrate planning and design of stormwater management to achieve multiple improved outcomes – amenity values, recreational, cultural, ecological, climate, vegetation retention; and* *(e) consider the effects of the location, layout and design of urban development on freshwater and; and* *(f) require that water sensitive urban design principles and methods are applied during consideration of*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
	(g) Consider the effects on freshwater and the coastal marine area of subdivision, use and development of land; *(h) Consider the use and development of land in relation to target attribute states and any limits set in a regional plan;* *(i) Require that Water Sensitive Urban Design principles and methods are applied during consideration of subdivision, the extent of impervious surfaces and in the control of stormwater infrastructure;* *(j) Require that urban development is located and designed to minimise the extent and volume of earthworks and to follow, to the extent practicable, existing land contours;* *(k) Require that urban development is located and designed to protect and enhance gully heads, rivers, lakes, wetlands, springs, riparian margins and estuaries;* *(l) Require riparian buffers for all waterbodies and avoid piping of rivers;* *(m) Require hydrological controls to avoid adverse effects of runoff quantity (flows and volumes) and maintain, to the extent practicable, natural stream flows;* *(n) Require efficient use of water;*	*subdivision, including the extent of impervious surfaces and stormwater infrastructure; and* *(g) require urban development to be designed, constructed and maintained to achieve hydraulic neutrality; and* *(h) require that urban development is located and designed to protect and enhance the health and wellbeing of gully heads, rivers, lakes, wetlands, springs, riparian margins and estuaries and other receiving environments; and* *(i) identify aquifers and drinking water source areas in the district and include information about how urban development in these areas is managed in the region; and* *(j) require that urban development is located and designed to protect natural flows and enable the daylighting of rivers as far as practicable; and* *(k) manage land use and development in a way that will minimise the generation of contaminants, including in relation to the choice of building materials.*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
	(o) Manage land use and development in a way that will minimise the generation of contaminants, including building materials, and the extent of impervious surfaces; *(p) Consider daylighting of streams, where practicable; and* *(q) Consider the effects of land use and development on drinking water sources.*	
Policy 40	***Protecting and enhancing the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems*** *When considering an application for a regional resource consent, particular regard shall be given to:* *(a) that water quality, flows and water levels and aquatic habitats of surface water bodies are managed in a way that gives effect to Te Mana o Te Wai and protects and enhances the health and well-being of waterbodies and the health and wellbeing of freshwater ecosystems;* *(b) that, as a minimum, water quality in the coastal marine area is managed in a way that protects and enhances the health and well-being of waterbodies and the health and wellbeing of marine ecosystems.*	***Maintaining and improving the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems*** *When considering an application for a regional resource consent, the regional council must have regard to:* *(a) managing water quality, flows and water levels and aquatic habitats of water bodies in a way that improves the health and well-being of degraded waterbodies and freshwater ecosystems, and at least maintains the health and wellbeing of all other water bodies and freshwater ecosystems; and* *(b) managing water quality in the coastal marine area in a way that maintains and, where degraded, protects and enhances the health and well-being of coastal waterbodies and the health and wellbeing of marine ecosystems; and*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
	(c) providing for mana whenua / tangata whenua values, including mahinga kai; *(d) maintaining or enhancing the functioning of ecosystems in the water body;* *(e) maintaining or enhancing the ecological functions of riparian margins;* *(f) minimising the effect of the proposal on groundwater recharge areas that are connected to surface water bodies;* *(g) maintaining or enhancing the amenity and recreational values of rivers and lakes, including those with significant values listed in Table 15 of Appendix 1;* *(h) protecting the significant indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values of rivers and lakes, including those listed in Table 16 of Appendix 1;* *(i) maintaining natural flow regimes required to support aquatic ecosystem health;* *(j) maintaining or enhancing space for rivers to undertake their natural processes:* *(k) maintaining fish passage;* *(l) protecting and reinstating riparian habitat, in particular*	*(c) providing for mana whenua / tangata whenua values, including mahinga kai; and* *(d) partnering with mana whenua / tangata whenua; and* *(e) maintaining or enhancing the ecological functions of riparian margins; and* *(f) minimising the effect of proposals such as gravel extraction, exploratory drillings, flood protection and works in the beds of lakes and rivers on groundwater recharge areas that are connected to surface water bodies; and* *(g) maintaining or enhancing the amenity and recreational values of rivers and lakes, including those with significant values listed in Table 15 of Appendix 1; and* *(h) protecting the values of rivers and lakes that have significant indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values as identified in Table 16 of Appendix 1; and* *(i) maintaining natural flow regimes required to support aquatic ecosystem health; and* *(j) maintaining or enhancing space for rivers to undertake their natural processes; and* *(k) maintaining fish passage except when this conflicts with clause (o); and*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
	riparian habitat that is important for fish spawning; *(m) restricting stock access to estuaries rivers, lakes and wetlands; and* *(n) avoiding the removal or destruction of indigenous wetland plants in wetlands.*	*(l) protecting and reinstating riparian habitat, in particular riparian habitat that is important for fish spawning; and* *(m) restricting stock access to estuaries rivers, lakes and wetlands; and* *(n) avoiding the removal or destruction of indigenous wetland plants in wetlands; and* *(o) protecting the habitat of indigenous freshwater species; and* *(p) protecting the habitat of trout and salmon, insofar as this is consistent with clause (o).*
Policy 42	***Effects on freshwater and the coastal marine area from urban development*** *When considering an application for a resource consent the regional council must give effect to Te Mana o te Wai and in doing so must have particular regard to:* *(a) Adopt an integrated approach, ki uta ki tai, that recognises the interconnectedness of the whole environment to determine the location and form of urban development;* *(b) Protect and enhance mana whenua /tangata whenua freshwater values, including mahinga kai;*	***Effects on freshwater and receiving environments from urban development*** *When considering an application for a regional resource consent that relates to urban development the regional council must have regard to:* *(a) adopting an integrated approach, ki uta ki tai, that recognises the interconnectedness of the whole environment to determine the location and form of urban development; and* *(b) protecting and enhancing Māori freshwater values, including mahinga kai, in partnership with mana whenua / tangata whenua; and*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
	(c) Provide for mana whenua/tangata whenua and their relationship with their culture, land, water, wāhi tapu and other taonga; *(d) Incorporate the use of mātauranga Māori to ensure the effects of urban development are considered appropriately;* *(e) The effects of use and development of land on water, including the effects on receiving environments (both freshwater and the coastal marine area);* *(f) The target attribute states set for the catchment;* *(g) Require that the development, including stormwater discharges, earthworks and vegetation clearance meets any limits set in a regional plan;* *(h) Require that urban development is located and designed and constructed using the principles of Water Sensitive Urban Design;* *(i) Require that urban development located and designed to minimise the extent and volume of earthworks and to follow, to the extent practicable, existing land contours;* *(j) Require that urban development is located and designed to protect and enhance gully heads, rivers, lakes, wetlands, springs, riparian margins and estuaries;*	*(c) providing for mana whenua / tangata whenua and their relationship with their culture, land, water, wāhi tapu and other taonga; and* *(d) incorporating the use of mātauranga Māori to ensure the effects of urban development are considered appropriately; and* *(e) the effects of use and development of land on water, including the effects on receiving environments (both freshwater and the coastal marine area); and* *(f) the target attribute states set for the catchment; and* *(g) the extent to which the urban development, including stormwater discharges, meets any limits set in a regional plan and the effect of any exceedances; and* *(h) the extent to which urban development incorporates water sensitive urban design techniques and hydrological control to minimise the generation of contaminants from stormwater runoff, and maximise, to the extent practicable, the removal of contaminants from stormwater; and* *(i) the extent to which urban development is located and designed to protect and enhance the health and wellbeing of adjacent rivers, lakes, wetlands,*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
	(k) Require hydrological controls to avoid adverse effects of runoff quantity (flows and volumes) and maintain, to the extent practicable, natural stream flows; *(l) Require stormwater quality management that will minimise the generation of contaminants, and maximise, to the extent practicable, the removal of contaminants from stormwater;* *(m) Require riparian buffers for all waterbodies and avoid piping of rivers;* *(n) Daylighting of rivers, where practicable;* *(o) Mapping of rivers and wetlands;* *(p) Efficient end use of water and alternate water supplies for non-potable use;* *(q) protecting drinking water sources from inappropriate use and development; and* *(r) applying an integrated management approach to wastewater networks including partnering with mana whenua as kaitiaki and allowance for appropriately designed overflow points where necessary to support growth and consideration of different approaches to wastewater management to resolve overflow.*	*springs, riparian margins, and receiving environments, including the natural form and flow of the waterbody; and* *(j) the extent to which hydrological control minimises adverse effects of runoff quantity (flows and volumes) and other potential adverse effects on natural stream values; and* *(k) the provision of riparian buffers for urban development adjacent to natural waterbodies; and* *(l) the extent to which the development avoids piping of rivers and whether there is a functional need for the activity in that location; and* *(m) the practicability of daylighting rivers within the area proposed for urban development area; and* *(n) efficient end use of water and alternate water supplies for non-potable use; and* *(o) protecting drinking water sources from inappropriate use and development; and* *(p) applying a catchment approach to wastewater networks including partnering with mana whenua as kaitiaki and allowance for appropriately designed overflow points where necessary to support growth and consideration of different approaches to*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
		wastewater management to resolve overflow.
Policy FW.5	***Water supply planning for climate change and urban development*** *When considering a change, variation or review of a regional or district plan particular regard shall be given to:* *(a) climate change impacts on water supply, including water availability and demand;* *(b) demand from future population projections;* *(c) development of future water sources, storage, treatment and reticulation; and* *(d) protection of existing and future water sources.*	***Water supply planning for climate change and urban development*** *When considering a change, variation or review of a regional plan that relates to urban development, the regional council shall have regard to:* *(a) climate change impacts on community drinking water supplies and group water supplies, including water availability and demand and the potential for saline intrusion into aquifers; and* *(b) demand from future population projections; and* *(c) development of future water sources, storage, treatment and reticulation; and* *(d) an integrated approach, ki uta ki tai, in the protection of existing and future water sources.*
3.8 Natural Hazards		
Objective 21	*The resilience of our communities and the natural environment to the short, medium, and long-term effects of climate change, and sea level rise is strengthened, and people are better prepared for the consequences of natural hazard events.*	*The resilience of our communities, infrastructure and the natural environment to natural hazards is improved, including to the short, medium, and long-term effects of climate change and sea level rise, and people are better prepared for the consequences of natural hazard events.*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
Policy 51	***Minimising the risks and consequences of natural hazards*** *When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review to a district or regional plan, the risk and consequences of natural hazards on people, communities, their property and infrastructure shall be minimised, and/or in determining whether an activity is inappropriate particular regard shall be given to:* *(a) the likelihood and consequences of the range of natural hazards that may adversely affect the subdivision, use or development, including those that may be exacerbated by climate change and sea level rise,* *(c) whether the location of the subdivision, use or development will foreseeably require hazard mitigation works in the future;* *(d) the potential for injury or loss of life, social and economic disruption and civil defence emergency management implications – such as access routes to and from the site;* *(e) whether the subdivision, use or development causes any change in the risk and consequences from natural hazards in areas beyond the application site;* *(f) minimising effects of the subdivision, use or development*	***Avoiding or minimising the risks and consequences of natural hazards*** *When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review to a district or regional plan, the risk and consequences of natural hazards on people, communities, their property and infrastructure shall be avoided or minimised, and/or in determining whether an activity is inappropriate particular regard shall be given to:* *(a) the likelihood and consequences of the range of natural hazards that may adversely affect subdivision, use or development, including those that may be exacerbated by climate change and sea level rise; and* *(b) whether the location of the subdivision, use or development will foreseeably require hazard mitigation works in the future; and* *(c) the potential for injury or loss of life, social and economic disruption and civil defence emergency management implications – such as access routes to and from the site; and* *(d) whether the subdivision, use or development causes any change in the risks and consequences from natural hazards in areas beyond the application site; and*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
	on any natural features that may act as a buffer to reduce the impacts from natural hazards; *(g) avoiding subdivision, use or development and hazard sensitive activities where the hazards and risks are assessed as high to extreme;* *(h) appropriate hazard risk management and/or adaptation measures for subdivision, use or development in areas where the hazards and risks are assessed as low to moderate, including an assessment of residual risk; and* *(i) the allowance for floodwater conveyancing in identified overland flow paths and stream corridors; and* *(j) the need to locate floor levels of habitable buildings and buildings used as places of employment above the 1% AEP (1:100 year) flood level, in identified flood hazard areas.*	*(e) minimising effects of the subdivision, use or development on any natural features that may act as a buffer to reduce the impacts from natural hazards; and* *(f) avoiding subdivision, use or development and hazard sensitive activities where the hazards and risks are assessed as high, unless there is a functional or operational need to be located in these areas; and* *(g) appropriate hazard risk management and/or adaptation measures for subdivision, use or development in areas where the hazards and risks are assessed as low to moderate, including an assessment of residual risk; and* *(h) the allowance for floodwater conveyancing in identified overland flow paths and stream corridors; and* *(i) the need to locate floor levels of habitable buildings and buildings used as places of employment above the 1% annual exceedance probability (1:100 year) flood level, in identified flood hazard areas; and* *(h) whether Te Ao Māori or mātauranga Māori provides a broader understanding of the hazards and risk management options.*

Proposed RPS Change 1		
Provision	**Notified version**	**Decision version**
3.9 Regional Form, Design and Function		
Policy 58	***Co-ordinating land use with development and operation of infrastructure*** *When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a plan change, variation or review of a district plan for subdivision, use or development, require all new urban development including form, layout, location, and timing is sequenced in a way that:* *(a) the development, funding, implementation and operation of infrastructure serving the area in question is provided for; and* *(b) all infrastructure required to serve new development, including low or zero carbon, multi modal and public transport infrastructure, is available, or is consented, designated or programmed to be available prior to development occurring.*	***Co-ordinating land use with development and operation of infrastructure*** *When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a plan change, variation or review of a district plan, for subdivision, use or development, seek to achieve development that is integrated with infrastructure, in a way that:* *(a) makes effective, efficient and safe use of existing infrastructure capacity; and* *(b) makes provision for the development, funding, implementation and operation of infrastructure serving the area in question; and* *(c) all infrastructure required to serve new development is available or is able to be delivered in a timeframe appropriate to service the development, and this may require timing or staging development accordingly.*

Appendix 2: Full wording of relevant objectives and policies of the Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region and Proposed NRP Change 1

Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region	
Objectives	
Objective O1 Ki uta ki tai: mountains to the sea	*Air, land, fresh water bodies and the coastal marine area are managed as integrated and connected resources; ki uta ki tai – mountains to the sea.*
Objective O3 Ki uta ki tai: mountains to the sea	*Mauri particularly the mauri of fresh and coastal waters is sustained and, where it has been depleted, natural resources and processes are enhanced to replenish mauri.*
Objective O7 Beneficial use and development	*The recreational values of the coastal marine area, rivers and lakes and their margins and natural wetlands are maintained and where appropriate for recreational purposes, is enhanced.*
Objective O9 Beneficial use and development	*The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of Regionally Significant Infrastructure, renewable energy generation activities and the utilisation of mineral resources are recognised.*
Objective O10 Beneficial use and development	*Regionally Significant Infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities that meets the needs of present and future generations are enabled in appropriate places and ways.*

Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region	
Objective O12 Māori relationships	*The relationships of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga are recognised and provided for, including:* *(a) maintaining and improving opportunities for Māori customary use of the coastal marine area, rivers, lakes and their margins and natural wetlands, and* *(b) maintaining and improving the availability of mahinga kai species, in terms of quantity, quality and diversity, to support Māori customary harvest, and* *(c) providing for the relationship of mana whenua with Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa, including by maintaining or improving Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa so that the huanga identified in Schedule B are provided for, and* *(d) protecting sites with significant mana whenua values from use and development that will adversely affect their values and restoring those sites to a state where their characteristics and qualities sustain the identified values.*
Objective O13 Māori relationships	*Kaitiakitanga is recognised and mana whenua actively participate in planning and decision-making in relation to the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources.*
Objective O14 Natural character, form and function	*The natural character of the coastal marine area, natural wetlands, and rivers, lakes and their margins is preserved and protected from inappropriate use and development.*
Objective O15 Natural hazards	*The hazard risk and residual hazard risk, from natural hazards and adverse effects of climate change, on people, the community, the environment and infrastructure are acceptable.*
Objective O17 Water quality	*The quality of groundwater, water in surface water bodies, and the coastal*

Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region	
	marine area is maintained or improved.
Objective O25 Sites with significant values	*Outstanding water bodies identified in Schedule A (outstanding water bodies) and their significant values are protected and restored. Where the significant values relate to biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai, restoration is to a healthy functioning state including as defined by Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 and 3.8.*
Objective O34 Land use	*The adverse effects on soil and water from land use activities are minimised,* *including to assist with achieving the outcomes and indicators of desired* *environmental states for water in Tables 3.1 to 3.8.*
Objective O38 Discharges to land and water	*The adverse quality and quantity effects of stormwater discharges from* *stormwater networks and urban land uses are reduced over time.*
Objective O40 Discharges to land and water	*Discharges of wastewater to fresh water are progressively reduced.*
Policies	
Policy P6 Uses of land and water	*The cultural, social and economic benefits of using land and water for:* *(a) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and* *(b) industrial processes and commercial uses associated with the potable water supply network, and* *(c) community and domestic water supply, and* *(d) food production and harvesting (including aquaculture), and* *(e) gravel extraction from rivers for flood protection and control purposes, and* *(f) irrigation and stock water, and*

Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region	
	(g) firefighting (emergency or training purposes), and *(h) contact recreation and Māori customary use, and* *(i) transportation, including along, across, and access to, water bodies, and* *(j) enabling urban development where it maintains the quality of the natural environment, and* *(k) waste management facilities.* *shall be recognised.*
Policy P9 Contact Recreation and Māori customary use	*Use and development avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects on contact recreation and Māori customary use in fresh and coastal water, including by:* *(a) providing water quality and, in rivers, flows suitable for the community's objectives for contact recreation and Māori customary use, and* *(b) managing activities to maintain or enhance contact recreation values in the beds of lakes and rivers, including by retaining existing swimming holes and maintaining access to existing contact recreation locations, and* *(c) encouraging improved access to suitable swimming and surfing locations, and* *(d) providing for the passive recreation and amenity values of fresh water bodies and the coastal marine area.*
Policy P10 Water storage	*Promote the development of water harvesting and recognise its benefits as a means to achieve improved efficiency in the allocation and use of water.*
Policy P13 Providing for regionally significant infrastructure and	*The use, development, operation, maintenance, and upgrade of regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities are provided for, in appropriate places and ways. This includes by having particular regard to:* *(a) the strategic integration of infrastructure and land use, and*

Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region	
renewable electricity generation activities	*(b) the location of existing infrastructure and structures, and* *(c) the need for renewable energy generation activities to locate where the renewable energy resources exist, and* *(d) the functional need and operational requirements associated with developing, operating, maintaining and upgrading regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities.*
Policy P18 Mauri	*The mauri of fresh and coastal waters shall be recognised as being important to Māori and is sustained and enhanced, including by:* *(a) managing the individual and cumulative adverse effects of activities that may impact on mauri in the manner set out in the rest of the Plan, and* *(b) providing for those activities that sustain and enhance mauri, and* *(c) recognising and providing for the role of kaitiaki in sustaining mauri.*
Policy P31 Biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai	*Adverse effects on biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai shall be managed by:* *(a) in the first instance, activities that risk causing adverse effects on the values of a Schedule F ecosystem or habitat, other than activities carried out in accordance with a wetland restoration management plan, shall avoid these ecosystems and habitats. If the ecosystem or habitat cannot be avoided, the adverse effects of activities shall be managed by (b) to (g) below.* *(b) avoiding adverse effects where practicable, and* *(c) where adverse effects cannot be avoided, minimising them where practicable, and (d) where adverse effects cannot be minimised, they are remedied, except as provided for in (a) to (g), and* *(e) where more than minor residual adverse effects cannot be avoided, minimised, or remedied, biodiversity offsetting is provided where possible, and* *(f) if biodiversity offsetting of more than minor residual adverse effects is not possible, biodiversity compensation is provided, and*

Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region	
	(g) the activity itself is avoided if biodiversity compensation cannot be undertaken in a way that is appropriate as set out in Schedule G3, including Clause 2 of that Schedule. *In relation to activities within the beds of lakes, rivers and natural wetlands, (e) to (g) only apply to activities which meet the exceptions in Policy P110.* *A precautionary approach shall be used when assessing the potential for adverse effects on ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values identified in Schedule F.* *Note* *Policy P38 applies to the management of adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity values within the coastal environment.* *Proposals for biodiversity mitigation under (b) to (d) above, and biodiversity offsetting, and biodiversity compensation will be assessed against the principles listed in Schedule G1 (biodiversity mitigation), and Schedule G2 (biodiversity offsetting), and Schedule G3 (biodiversity compensation).*
Policy P36 Restoring Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour, Wellington Harbour (Port Nicholson) and Wairarapa Moana	*The ecological health and significant values of Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour, Wellington Harbour (Port Nicholson) and Wairarapa Moana will be restored including by:* *(a) managing activities, erosion-prone land, and riparian margins to reduce sedimentation rates and pollutant inputs, to meet the water quality, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai objectives set out in Tables 3.4 to 3.8, and* *(b) undertaking planting and pest management programmes in harbour and lake habitats and ecosystems.*
Policy P66 Minimising discharges to water or land	*Discharges of contaminants to water or land will be minimised through the following hierarchy:* *(a) avoiding the production of the contaminant,* *(b) reducing the amount of contaminants, including by reusing, recovering or recycling contaminants,* *(c) minimising the volume or amount of the discharge,*

Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region	
	(d) discharging to land is promoted over discharging direct to water, including using land-based treatment, constructed wetlands or other systems to treat contaminants prior to discharge. *Note* *In determining if it is appropriate to discharge to land as required by clause (d), consideration must be given to the requirements of Policy P68.*
Policy P67 Human drinking water supplies	*The adverse effects from discharges to land and water on the quality of community drinking water supplies and group drinking water supplies shall be avoided to the extent necessary to implement regulations for human drinking water. The drinking water supply operator will be consulted with as appropriate, taking into consideration emerging contaminants and industry best practice.*
Policy P68 Discharges to land	*The discharge of contaminants to land shall be managed to:* *(a) minimise adverse effects on the life-supporting capacity of soil,* *(b) avoid creating contaminated land,* *(c) not exceed the capacity of the soil to treat, use or remove the contaminant,* *(d) not exceed the available capacity of the soil to absorb the discharge,* *(e) avoid significant adverse effects on public health and amenity,* *(f) not result in a discharge to water that causes more than a minor adverse effects, and* *(g) avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on mana whenua values when considering applications for discharges to land which may adversely affect statutory acknowledgement areas, sites of significance, or Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga sites, identified in this Plan, any relevant district plan, or in a planning document recognised by an iwi authority and lodged with a local authority.*
Policy P69 Promoting	*The discharge of contaminants to land is promoted over direct discharges to water, particularly where there are adverse effects on:*

Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region	
discharges to land	*(a) aquatic ecosystem health, or* *(b) mahinga kai, or* *(c) contact recreation, or* *(d) Māori customary use.*
Policy P83 Minimising adverse effects of stormwater discharges	*The adverse effects of stormwater discharges shall be minimised, including by:* *(a) using good management practice, and* *(b) taking a source control and treatment train approach to new activities and land uses, and* *(c) implementing water sensitive urban design in new subdivision and development, and* *(d) progressively improving existing stormwater, wastewater, road and other public infrastructure, including during routine maintenance and upgrade, and* *(e) managing localised adverse effects, including by addressing particular attributes appropriate to the receiving environment.*
Policy P84 Managing land use impacts on stormwater	*Land use, subdivision and development, including stormwater discharges, shall be managed so that runoff volumes and peak flows:* *(a) avoid or minimise scour and erosion of stream beds, banks and coastal margins, and* *(b) do not increase risk to human health or safety, or increase the risk of inundation, erosion or damage to property or infrastructure,* *including by retaining, as far as practicable, pre-development hydrological conditions in new subdivision and development.*
Policy P87 Minimising wastewater and stormwater interactions	*The adverse effects of wastewater and stormwater interactions on fresh and coastal water shall be minimised by:* *(a) avoiding wastewater contamination of stormwater from new wastewater networks or connections authorised after the date of 31 July 2015, and* *(b) removal of existing wastewater contamination of stormwater progressively, and as soon as reasonably practicable, and*

Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region	
	(c) progressively reducing stormwater and groundwater infiltration and inflow into the wastewater network.
Policy P92 Minimising and improving wastewater discharges	*The adverse effects of existing wastewater discharges to fresh water and coastal water shall be minimised, and:* *(a) in the case of existing wastewater discharges to fresh water from wastewater treatment plants, the quality of discharges shall be progressively improved and the quantity of discharges shall be progressively reduced, and* *(b) in the case of existing wastewater discharges to coastal water from wastewater treatment plants, the quality of discharges shall be progressively improved where the discharge contributes to an objective in Table 3.3 of Objective O18 or Table 3.8 of Objective O19 not being met, and* *(c) in the case of existing wastewater discharges to fresh water or coastal water from wastewater network overflows during or following rainfall events, the frequency and/or volume of discharges shall be progressively reduced.* *Where improvements are required, these are undertaken within timeframes appropriate to the degree of improvement required and the level of effects of the discharge on the environment.*
Policy P94 Avoiding new wastewater discharges to fresh water	*New wastewater discharges to fresh water are avoided.*
Policy P97 On-site domestic wastewater management	*The discharge of contaminants to land from on-site domestic wastewater treatment and discharge systems shall avoid adverse effects on mana whenua values, and not result in more than minor adverse effects on fresh water, including groundwater and coastal water. The discharge shall be avoided where reticulated sewerage is available. On-site domestic wastewater treatment and discharge systems shall be designed, operated and maintained in accordance with the New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1547:2012 – On-site domestic wastewater management.*

Proposed NRP Change 1	
Objectives	
Objective WH.O1	*The health of all freshwater bodies and the coastal marine area within Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara is progressively improved and is wai ora by 2100.* *Note* *In the wai ora state:* • *Āhua (natural character) is restored and freshwater bodies exhibit their natural quality, rhythms, range of flows, form, hydrology and character* • *All freshwater bodies have planted margins* • *All freshwater bodies and coastal waters have healthy functioning ecosystems and their water conditions and habitat support the presence, abundance, survival and recovery of At-risk and Threatened species and taonga species* • *Mahinga kai and kaimoana species are healthy, plentiful enough for long term harvest and are safe to harvest and eat or use, including for manuhiri and to exercise manaakitanga* • *Mana whenua are able to undertake customary practices at a range of places throughout the catchment.*
Objective WH.O2	*The health and wellbeing of Te Whanganui-a-Tara's groundwater, rivers and natural wetlands and their margins are on a trajectory of measurable improvement towards wai ora , such that by 2040:* *(a) water quality, habitats, water quantity and ecological processes are at a level where the state of aquatic life is maintained, or meaningful progress has been made towards improvement where degraded, and* *(b) the hydrology of rivers and erosion processes, including bank stability are improved and sources of sediment are reduced to a more natural level, and*

Proposed NRP Change 1	
	(c) the extent and condition of indigenous riparian vegetation is increased and improved, and *(d) the diversity, abundance, composition, structure and condition of mahinga kai species and communities are increased, and* *(e) huanga of mahinga kai and Māori customary use for locations identified in Schedule B (Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa) are maintained or improved, and* *(f) mana whenua can safely connect with freshwater and enjoy a wider range of customary and cultural practices, including mahinga kai gathering, and* *(g) mana whenua and communities can safely connect with freshwater and enjoy a wider range of activities, including swimming and food gathering, and* *(h) freshwater of a suitable quality is available for the health needs of people.*
Objective WH.O3	*The health and wellbeing of coastal water quality, ecosystems and habitats in Te Whanganui-aTara is maintained or improved to achieve the coastal water objectives set out in Table 8.1 and by 2040:* *(a) sediment inputs into Mākara Estuary are reduced, and* *(b) high contaminant concentrations, including around discharge points, are reduced, and* *(c) diversity, abundance, composition, structure and condition of mahinga kai species and communities has increased, and* *(d) huanga of mahinga kai and Māori customary use for locations identified in Schedule B (Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa) are maintained or improved, and*

Proposed NRP Change 1	
	(e) the extent and condition of estuarine seagrass, saltmarsh and brackish water submerged macrophytes are increased and improved to support abundant and diverse biota, and *(f) coastal areas support healthy functioning ecosystems, and their water conditions and habitats support the presence, abundance, survival, and recovery of At-risk and Threatened species and taonga species, and* *(g) mana whenua can safely connect with the coastal marine area and enjoy a wider range of customary and cultural practices, including mahinga kai gathering and tauranga waka, and* *(h) mana whenua and communities can safely connect with the coastal marine area and enjoy a wider range of activities, including food gathering and swimming.*
Objective WH.O5	*By 2040 the health and wellbeing of the Parangarahu Lakes and associated natural wetlands are on a trajectory of improvement towards wai ora, such that:* *(a) water quality, habitats, water quantity and ecological processes are at a level where the state of aquatic life is maintained, or meaningfully improved where degraded, to achieve the target attribute states in Table 8.2, and* *(b) the lakes are not impacted by submerged invasive plants and support healthy native aquatic plants, and* *(c) the lakes function as a productive nursery with breeding habitats of indigenous species, and* *(d) riparian vegetation is present around the perimeter of each lake, and* *(e) the diversity, abundance, composition, structure and condition of mahinga kai species and communities has increased, and*

Proposed NRP Change 1	
	(f) mana whenua can safely connect with and enjoy waterbodies to undertake a wider range of customary and cultural practices, including mahinga kai gathering, and *(g) huanga of mahinga kai and Māori customary use for locations identified in Schedule B (Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa) are maintained or improved.*
Objective WH.O6	*Groundwater flows and levels, and water quality, are maintained at levels that:* *(a) ensure base flows or levels in surface water bodies and springs are supported and salt-water intrusion is avoided, and* *(b) protect groundwater dependent ecosystems, and* *(c) protect ecosystems in connected surface water bodies, and* *(d) ensure that groundwater is of sufficient quality for human and stock drinking water, and* *(e) ensure there is not a long-term decline in mean annual groundwater levels, including artesian pressures and* *(f) avoid aquifer consolidation.*
Objective WH.O8	*Primary contact sites within Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River, Pākuratahi River, Akatarawa River and Wainuiomata River are suitable for primary contact by ensuring that by 2040:* *(a) Escherichia coli concentrations are at least maintained, or improved where the target attribute states in Table 8.3 are not met, and* *(b) there is low risk of health effects from exposure to benthic cyanobacteria.*
Objective WH.O9	*Water quality, habitats, water quantity and ecological processes of rivers are maintained or improved by ensuring that:* *(a) where a target attribute state in Table 8.4 is not met, the state of that attribute is improved in all rivers and river reaches in the part*

Proposed NRP Change 1	
	Freshwater Management Unit so that the target attribute state is met within the timeframe indicated within Table 8.4, and *(b) where a target attribute state in Table 8.4 is met, the state of that attribute is at least maintained in all rivers within the part Freshwater Management Unit, and* *(c) where any attribute in any river or river reach is in a better state than the target attribute state, that attribute is at least maintained at the better state in every river or river reach, and* *(d) where a huanga of mahinga kai and Māori customary use for locations identified in Schedule B (Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa) and is not achieved, the state of the river or river reach is improved.*
Policies	
Policy WH.P1 Improvement of aquatic ecosystem health	*Aquatic ecosystem health will be improved by:* *(a) progressively reducing the load or concentration of contaminants, particularly sediment, nutrients, pathogens and metals, entering water, and* *(b) restoring habitats, and* *(c) enhancing the natural flow regime of rivers and managing water flows and levels, including where there is interaction of flows between surface water and groundwater, and* *(d) co-ordinating and prioritising work programmes in catchments that require changes to land use activities that impact on water.*
Policy WH.P2 Management of activities to achieve target attribute	*Target attribute states and coastal water objectives will be achieved by regulating discharges and land use activities in the Plan, and non-regulatory methods, including Freshwater Action Plans, by:* *(a) prohibiting unplanned greenfield development and for other greenfield developments minimising the contaminants and*

Proposed NRP Change 1	
states and coastal water objectives	*requiring financial contributions as to offset adverse effects from residual stormwater contaminants, and* *(b) encouraging redevelopment activities within existing urban areas to reduce the existing urban contaminant load, and* *(c) imposing hydrological controls on urban development and stormwater discharges to rivers* *(d) requiring a reduction in contaminant loads from urban wastewater and stormwater networks, and* *(e) stabilising stream banks by excluding livestock from waterbodies and planting riparian margins with indigenous vegetation, and* *(f) requiring the active management of earthworks, forestry, cultivation, and vegetation clearance activities, and* *(g) soil conservation treatment, including revegetation with woody vegetation, of land with high erosion risk, and* *(h) requiring farm environment plans (including Freshwater Farm Plans) to improve farm practices that impact on freshwater.*
Policy WH.P4 Achievement of the visual clarity target attribute states	*To achieve the visual clarity target attribute states in Table 8.4 in part Freshwater Management Units where the target attribute state is:* *(a) met, the mean annual sediment load must be at least maintained, and* *(b) where it is not met, the mean annual sediment load must be reduced as set out in Table 8.5.*
Policy WH.P5 Localised adverse effects of point source discharge	*The localised adverse effects of point source discharges to freshwater and coastal water beyond the zone of reasonable mixing are avoided or minimised, including by avoiding:* *(a) the production of any conspicuous oil or grease films, scums or foams, or floatable or suspended materials, or*

Proposed NRP Change 1	
	(b) any conspicuous change in colour or visual clarity, or *(c) any emission of objectionable odour, or* *(d) the rendering of freshwater unsuitable for consumption by farm animals, or* *(e) any significant adverse effects on aquatic life including through:* *(i) change in temperature, or* *(ii) reduced dissolved oxygen in surface water bodies, or* *(iii) increased toxicity effects.*
Policy WH.P6 Cumulative adverse effects of point source discharges	*The cumulative adverse effects of point source discharges, excluding stormwater network and wastewater discharges, to water are avoided and:* *(a) any new discharge is inappropriate if contaminants in the discharge would cause the affected freshwater body to decline in relation to the target attribute state(s) for that part Freshwater Management Unit(s) and/or coastal water objective(s), and* *(b) all existing discharges in part Freshwater Management Units or coastal water management units where the target attribute states and/or coastal water objectives are met are only appropriate if:* *(i) at a minimum, an application for a resource consent includes a defined programme of work for upgrading the discharge, in accordance with good management practice, within the term of the resource consent, and* *(c) all existing discharges in part Freshwater Management Units or coastal water management units where the target attribute states and/or coastal water objectives are not met are only appropriate if:*

Proposed NRP Change 1	
	(i) the conditions on a resource consent require reduction of the adverse effects and improve the discharge at a level consistent with the degree of over allocation required to be reduced within that part Freshwater Management Unit and/or the coastal water management unit, and *(ii) in determining the improvement to water quality required in (ii), and the timeframe in which it is to be achieved, consideration will be given to the discharge's contribution to the target attribute state(s) for that part Freshwater Management Unit and/or coastal water objective not being met.*
Policy WH.P7 Discharges to groundwater	*All discharges to land that may enter groundwater, and discharges to groundwater, shall not degrade the quality of groundwater, and where the quality of groundwater is degraded, existing discharges shall be managed to improve groundwater quality.*
Policy WH.P9 General stormwater policy to achieve the target attribute states and coastal water objectives	*Stormwater discharges to a surface water body or coastal water, or into or onto land in a manner that may enter freshwater or coastal water, are managed so that the baseline water quality state for copper and zinc is maintained, or improved where degraded, including in the relevant part Freshwater Management Unit or coastal water management unit, in order for the coastal water objectives and target attribute states to be met by the timeframes set out in Tables 8.1 and 8.4.*
Policy WH.P10 Managing adverse effects of stormwater discharges	*All stormwater discharges and associated land use activities shall be managed by:* *(a) using source control to minimise contaminants in the stormwater discharge and maximise, to the extent practicable, the removal of contaminants from stormwater, including through the use of water sensitive urban design measures, and* *(b) using hydrological control and water sensitive urban design measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects of*

Proposed NRP Change 1	
	stormwater quantity and maintain, to the extent practicable, natural stream flows, and *(c) installing, where practicable, a stormwater treatment system for stormwater discharges from a property or properties taking into account:* *(i) the treatment quality (load reduction factor), and* *(ii) opportunities for the retention or detention of stormwater flows or volume, including any flood storage volume required, and* *(iii) any potential adverse effects that may arise as a result of the stormwater treatment system or discharge, including erosion and scour, and localised adverse water quality effects, and* *(iv) inspections, monitoring and ongoing maintenance, including costs, to maintain functionality in terms of treatment quality and capacity, and* *(v) existing or proposed communal stormwater treatment systems in the stormwater catchment or sub-catchment, or part Freshwater Management Unit.* *Note* *If the installation of a stormwater treatment system includes infrastructure in the bed of a lake or river, resource consent may be required for the placement of the infrastructure under section 5.5 of this Plan.*
Policy WH.P11 Discharges of contaminants in stormwater from high risk industrial or trade premises	*The discharge of stormwater to water, including discharges via the stormwater network, from a high risk industrial or trade premise shall be managed by:* *(a) having procedures and equipment in place to contain any spillage of hazardous substances for storage or removal, and* *(b) avoiding contaminants or hazardous substances being entrained in stormwater and discharged to a surface water body or coastal water, including via the stormwater network, or where avoidance is*

Proposed NRP Change 1	
	not practicable, implementing good management practice to avoid or minimise adverse effects on the environment, including reducing contaminant volumes and concentrations as far as practicable, and applying measures, including secondary containment, treatment, management procedures, and monitoring, and *(c) installing an interceptor where there is a risk of petroleum hydrocarbons entering into the stormwater network, a surface water body or coastal water, and* *(d) avoiding or mitigating adverse effects of stormwater discharges on groundwater quality.*
Policy WH.P14 Stormwater discharges from new and redeveloped impervious surfaces	*The adverse effects of stormwater discharges from new greenfield development shall be minimised, and adverse effects of stormwater discharges from existing urban areas reduced to the extent practicable, upon redevelopment, through implementing:* *(a) an on-site stormwater treatment system or an off-site communal stormwater treatment system that is designed to:* *(i) receive at least 85% of the mean annual runoff volume stormwater generated from new and redeveloped impervious surfaces of the property, and* *(ii) achieve copper and zinc load reductions factors equivalent to that of a raingarden/bioretention device, and* *(b) where stormwater discharges will enter a river, hydrological controls either on-site, or off-site via a communal stormwater treatment system.*
Policy WH.P17 General wastewater policy to achieve	*Wastewater discharges to a surface water body or coastal water, or into or onto land in a manner that may enter freshwater or coastal water are managed so that the baseline water quality state for Escherichia coli or enterococci is maintained, or improved where degraded, including in the relevant part Freshwater Management Unit or coastal water management*

Proposed NRP Change 1	
target attribute states and coastal objectives	*unit, in order for the target attribute states and coastal water objectives to be met by the timeframes set out in Tables 8.1 and 8.4.*
Policy WH.P19 Managing wastewater network catchment discharges	*All wastewater network catchment discharges, including those which discharge via a stormwater network, shall be managed by:* *(a) progressively reducing the frequency and/or volume of wet weather overflow events to meet or exceed the containment standard of no more than 2 per year through the implementation of the methodologies set out in a Wastewater Network Catchment Improvement Strategy prepared in accordance with Schedule 32 (wastewater strategy), and* *(b) prioritising the removal of wet weather overflows in wastewater network sub-catchments where wet weather overflows are discharging to Schedule A (outstanding water bodies), Schedule C (mana whenua), Schedule H (contact recreation and Māori customary use) sites, and primary contact sites in Map 85, and mahinga kai, or where they may affect group drinking water supplies and community drinking water supplies, and* *(c) progressively reducing the frequency and/or volume of dry weather discharges or the potential for these discharges through the implementation of a Wastewater Network Catchment Improvement Strategy prepared in accordance with Schedule 32 (wastewater strategy) to contribute to meeting the target attribute states for Escherichia coli in Table 8.4 and the coastal water objectives for enterococci in Table 8.1, and* *(d) implementing an inflow and infiltration programme to proactively upgrade the pipe network to progressively reduce stormwater and groundwater infiltration and inflow into the wastewater network catchment, and*

Proposed NRP Change 1	
	(e) engaging with mana whenua on their values and interests in relation to discharges and receiving waters, including adverse effects on Māori customary use and mahinga kai, and *(f) avoiding wastewater network catchment discharges entering private property or educational facilities, and* *(g) avoiding increasing the frequency and/or volume of wastewater network catchment discharges as a result of climate change, or new urban development and intensification, and* *(h) monitoring and modelling the wastewater network catchment to identify catchments to be prioritised, the Escherichia coli or enterococci concentration in the discharge, and changes in discharge frequency, volume and quality over time following improvements in the network infrastructure.*
Policy WH.P1~~1~~32 Minimum flows and minimum water levels in ~~the~~ Wellington ~~Harbour and Hutt Valley~~ Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara	*Minimum flows and minimum water levels in ~~the Wellington Harbour and Hutt Valley~~ Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara are:* *(a) for rivers (including tributaries) the minimum flows in Table 8.~~1~~7, and* *(b) for rivers not in Table 8.~~1~~7, 90% of the mean annual low flow, and* *(c) for natural lakes, existing minimum water levels.*
Policy WH.P2~~3~~33 Core allocation in ~~the~~	*The maximum amount of water available for allocation from rivers (and tributaries) and groundwater in the Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River, Wainuiomata River catchment and Ōrongorongo River catchments, at the time an application is made for resource consent to take and use water, shall not exceed whichever is the greater of:*

Proposed NRP Change 1	
~~Wellington~~ ~~Harbour and~~ ~~Hutt Valley~~ Whaitua <u>Te Whanganui-a-Tara</u>	*(a) the total amount allocated by resource consents, or* *(b) the allocation amounts identified in Tables 8. ~~2~~<u>8</u>-8.~~3~~<u>9</u> except for the taking and use of water identified in Policy P124 at flows above the median flow.* *Where the total amount allocated by resource consents exceeds the allocation amounts in Tables 8. 28 and 8.39 that does not imply that an existing consented community drinking water supply is an over allocation, which will be a matter considered through the Whaitua Implementation Programme.*