



Public Notification of withdrawal of part of Lower Hutt's Proposed District Plan

Hutt City Council has withdrawn parts of the Proposed Lower Hutt District Plan on Thursday, 15 January 2026, in accordance with section 80Q of the Resource Management Act 1991 (the RMA).

The parts that have been withdrawn are:

- The following **Historical and Cultural Values chapters, schedules and overlays**:
 - The *Historical Heritage and Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori* chapters
 - *SCHED1: Heritage Buildings and Structures, SCHED2: Heritage Areas and SCHED6: Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori*
 - The *Heritage Areas, Heritage Areas – Contributing Buildings and Heritage Buildings and Structures* overlays
- The following **Natural Environment Values chapters, schedules and overlays**:
 - The *Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity, Natural Character, Natural Features and Landscapes and Public Access* chapters
 - *SCHED4: Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes*
 - The *Outstanding Natural Features and Outstanding Natural Landscapes* overlays
- The following **non-hazard parts of the Coastal Environment chapter and associated schedules and overlays**:
 - Objectives *CE-O1: Coastal Environment* and *CE-O2: High, Very High and Outstanding Coastal Natural Character Areas*
 - The following policies:
 - *CE-P1: Identification of the Coastal Environment*
 - *CE-P2: Identification of Coastal Natural Character Areas*
 - *CE-P3: Customary Harvesting in the Coastal Environment*
 - *CE-P4: Restoration of Natural Character in the Coastal Environment*
 - *CE-P5: Indigenous Vegetation Removal in the Coastal Environment*
 - *CE-P6: Use and Development in the Coastal Environment*
 - *CE-P7: Mining, Quarrying and Forestry Activities in the Coastal Environment*
 - The following rules:
 - *CE-R1: Customary harvesting by Tangata Whenua in the Coastal Environment*
 - *CE-R2: Restoration in the Coastal Environment*
 - *CE-R3: Indigenous vegetation removal in the Coastal Environment*
 - *CE-R4: Land use activities in the Coastal Environment*

- *CE-R5: Quarrying activities, Mining activities and Plantation forestry in the Coastal Environment*
 - *CE-R6: Maintenance, repair, alteration and demolition of existing buildings and structures in the Coastal Environment*
 - *CE-R7: New buildings and structures and additions to existing buildings and structures in the Coastal Environment*
- *Standards CE-S1: Indigenous vegetation removal within High and Very High Coastal Natural Character Areas and CE-S2: New buildings and structures and additions to existing buildings and structures within High or Very High Coastal Natural Character Areas*
- *SCHED5: Coastal Natural Character Areas*
- *The Coastal Environment, Outstanding Coastal Natural Character Areas and High and Very High Coastal Natural Character Areas overlays*
- **The following *parts relating to Highly Productive Land*:**
 - *Objective GRUZ-HPLO-O1: Protection of highly productive land in the Highly Productive Land Overlay*
 - *Policies GRUZ-HPLO-P1: Existing activities in the Highly Productive Land Overlay and GRUZ-HPLO-P2: Activities in the Highly Productive Land Overlay*
 - *Rules GRUZ-HPLO-R1: Construction of new buildings and structures and alterations and additions to existing buildings and structures in the Highly Productive Land Overlay and GRUZ-HPLO-R2: Land use activities in the Highly Productive Land Overlay*
 - *The Highly Productive Land overlay*

The online version of the Proposed District Plan (including the map viewer) has been amended to reflect this withdrawal.

Reason for the withdrawal

In August 2025, the RMA was amended to introduce new *plan stop* requirements. This included requirements for councils to stop proposed plan change processes (including proposed district plans) where hearings had not commenced *unless an exemption applies*.

Proposed plans changes (or parts of them) can either be automatically exempt (where they meet one or more of the criteria in section 80U of the RMA) or where an exemption is granted by the Minister for the Environment (under section 80V of the RMA).

The only parts of the Proposed District Plan that are automatically exempt are those that relate to natural hazards.

Hutt City Council has requested an exemption from the Minister to allow all parts of the Proposed Lower Hutt District Plan to proceed *except for the parts described in this notice*. The Minister has approved this request.

However, Council is required to withdraw the parts that are not included in that exemption.

Note on related provisions of the Proposed District Plan

Provisions in other chapters of the Proposed District Plan also address historical heritage, sites of significance to Māori, ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity, natural character of coastal and riparian margins, natural features and landscapes, public access, coastal natural character areas and highly productive land (for example, the Infrastructure, Earthworks and Subdivision chapters).

As these provisions are often integrated within the rest of those chapters, those provisions have not been withdrawn at this stage.

These provisions will either be withdrawn or otherwise amended through the remainder of the plan change process to ensure the Proposed District Plan complies with the exemption.

Note on corresponding parts of the Operative District Plan

As these parts of the Proposed District Plan have been withdrawn, the corresponding parts of the Operative District Plan (such as *Chapter 14E: Significant Natural, Cultural and Archaeological Resources* and *Chapter 14F: Heritage Buildings and Structures*) will remain operative and in effect. The provisions of the Operative District Plan remaining operative and in effect, and how these integrate with the Proposed District Plan, will need to be determined through the remainder of the plan change process.

Further information

For further information on the Proposed District Plan, please visit the Hutt City Council website at hutt.city/dpreview.