

1 A Guide to Using the District Plan

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1. A Guide to Using the District Plan

1.1 Introduction

This is the first District Plan prepared by North Shore City Council and replaces the five District Plans which made transitional provision for the city's former territorial local authorities. It covers the whole of the city.

The District Plan is a legal document, prepared in accordance with the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). The Plan is the Council's resource management strategy for the city and indicates how the Council will control the effects of activities and development within its jurisdiction. It will direct the Council's resource management decisions over a 10 year period.

This section of the Plan:

- Explains the contents of the District Plan
- Provides information on how to use the District Plan
- Indicates the range of leaflets which have been prepared to assist people in using the District Plan.

1.2 Plan Contents

The District Plan comprises two parts:

1. This document, which contains the planning objectives, policies and rules for activities and development in the city; and
2. The District Plan maps, which show the location of Activity zones, designated public works, and restrictions applying to sites which need to be identified.

The Plan is prepared as an integrated document which should be read as a whole to understand the interrelationship between different sets of policies and rules, and to ensure that all the rules relevant to a particular planning application are taken into account. The Council, from time to time prepares leaflets which explain the planning process and the provisions of different sections of the Plan to assist in understanding the Plan. Section 1.4 discusses the supporting information that is publicly available.

The Plan document comprises 21 sections which are grouped as shown in Table 1.1.

Sections	Contents
1-5	Provide background material
6-14	Contain policies and rules which apply throughout the city
15-20	Contain policies and rules specific to Activity zones
21	Defines the terms used throughout the Plan
Appendices	Include detailed schedules relating to particular sections, and are attached to the individual sections

1.3 How to Use the District Plan

Table 1.2 provides guidance on the use of each section of the Plan.

Table 1.2 How to Use the District Plan	
Section	When Required
1. A Guide to Using the District Plan	
2. District Plan Development	Use to understand how the Plan has been developed and the range of methods available to achieve the Plan's objectives.
3. Procedures and General Rules	Use to understand details of requirements before any work or Activity is commenced; when and how to apply for a resource consent; the information required; the process for considering applications; how the Plan's effectiveness will be measured; and the process for review.
4. Resources of the City	Use for background information on demographic data and a description of the City's natural resources.
5. Issues	Use to understand the resource management issues facing the city.
6. Managing the Growth and Development of the City	Use to understand the Council's goals and the overall strategy which the Council has adopted in planning for the city's future development.
7. Tangata Whenua Values	Use for an understanding of tangata whenua values and involvement in resource management.
8. Natural Environment	Sets out the management methods for the coastal environment, landscape, wildlife areas and trees. Use this if your site is close to the ocean, a river or lake, or if the District Plan maps identify its landscape, landform, geological features, wildlife habitat or notable trees as being significant.
9. Subdivision and Development	Use for undertaking any subdivision or development in any area.
10. Pollution, Hazardous Substances and Waste Management	Use for activities generating any discharges or waste, and those using hazardous substances or processes.
11. Cultural Heritage	Use if your site is identified in the District Plan as having a building, object, or place of heritage or archaeological significance.

Table 1.2 How to Use the District Plan	
Section	When Required
12. Transportation	Sets out management methods for the roading and transportation network. Use for off-site access and parking requirements.
13. Signs	Use to determine what kind of signs are permitted.
14. Network Utilities and Designations	Use to determine how infrastructure relating to network utilities and designations are provided for.
15. Business	Use for any commercial or industrial activity or development.
16. Residential	Use for development of housing, for residential activities, and for alterations or additions to buildings on residential land.
17. Urban Expansion	Use to determine where future urban development is to locate and how it is to proceed.
18. Rural	Use for activities and development in rural areas which are not intended for future urban development.
19. Recreation	Use to determine the activities and development which are permitted on reserves.
20. Special Purpose	Limited in application to major institutions and special activities.
21. Definitions	Sets out the meaning of terms and expressions used within the District Plan.
Appendices	Set out detailed information and requirements in respect of the Schedules of protected items, development controls etc., and are located at the end of the relevant sections.
District Plan maps	Contain information on zoning, designations and scheduled trees, buildings, sites and objects.

1.4 Supporting Information

The Council provides additional information to assist in the understanding of the District Plan. This information is provided in the form of leaflets, guidelines and other publicly available documents.

Supporting information is provided for information purposes only and does not form part of the District Plan. Applicants are advised to refer to the provisions of the Plan where there is any doubt as to Council's requirements.

