

## FULL PUBLIC NOTICE

### **Proposed Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region – open for submissions**

The Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region (Regional Policy Statement) provides an overview of the resource management issues of the Wellington Region and sets out the policies and methods to achieve integrated resource management of the natural and physical resources of the whole region.


Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) has prepared Proposed Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement to make changes to the Regional Policy Statement to account for new national direction and to address issues in the Wellington Region. Proposed Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement is now open for public submission.

The focus of Proposed Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement is to implement and support the National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020 (NPS-UD) and to start the implementation of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM). We are also addressing issues related to climate change, indigenous biodiversity and high natural character.

The Proposed Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement document and Section 32 report showing all the changes being proposed and the reasons for the changes are available at [www.gw.govt.nz/rpschange1](http://www.gw.govt.nz/rpschange1). The Proposed Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement documentation can also be viewed in person at:

- Greater Wellington Regional Council – Wellington Office, 100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington
- Greater Wellington Regional Council – Masterton Office, 34 Chapel Street, Masterton
- public libraries throughout the Region

### **The process we'll follow**

Greater Wellington is satisfied that part of Proposed Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement is a 'freshwater planning instrument' and therefore subject to the freshwater planning process under Section 80A and Part 4 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act (RMA). The Proposed Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement document identifies the new or amended provisions that form part of the 'freshwater planning instrument' using a freshwater symbol as follows FW. The provisions that are part of the 'freshwater planning instrument' either give effect to the NPS-FM with respect to freshwater quality or quantity or otherwise relate directly to matters which impact freshwater quality or quantity. The Section 32 report justifies why each provision is part of the freshwater planning instrument.

The remaining Proposed Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement provisions that are not part of a 'freshwater planning instrument', that is, those provisions that are not identified by the freshwater symbol, will proceed through the standard process for preparing a regional policy statement under Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the RMA.

### **How to make a submission**

The local authority in its own area and any person can make a submission on any of the proposed changes to Proposed Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement, either online or in written form.

Making a submission ensures your views will be considered and allows you to participate in the Proposed Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement process if you wish.

However, if you could gain an advantage in trade competition through your submission, then you may do so only if you are directly affected by an effect of Proposed Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement that:

- adversely affects the environment, and
- does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

The RMA specifies the format to be used for making a submission. Submission forms, including our online submission portal, can be found on our website [www.gw.govt.nz/rpschange1](http://www.gw.govt.nz/rpschange1). Please provide your submission online or send your submission to [regionalplan@gw.govt.nz](mailto:regionalplan@gw.govt.nz) or by post to Environmental Policy, PO Box 11646, Manners St, Wellington 6142, ATT: Hearings Adviser.

**The closing date for submissions is 5.00pm 14 October 2022.** The timeframe for making a submission has been doubled to enable more time for submissions, pursuant to Section 37 of the RMA.

Note that under the RMA all submissions and accompanying data must be made available for public inspection. In order to achieve that, Greater Wellington will upload all submissions and accompanying data onto its website above.

#### What happens next?

- We'll publish a summary of all submissions received.
- There will be an opportunity for certain persons to make a further submission supporting or opposing submissions already made if they so wish.
- At the hearing of submissions you will have an opportunity to speak in support of your submission
- The process for public participation after the hearing will depend on the planning process (i.e. freshwater planning process or standard Part 1 Schedule1 process) for a particular provision.

<b>For provisions following the freshwater planning process (Part 4 of RMA Schedule 1):</b>	<b>For provisions following the standard process (Part 1 of Schedule 1):</b>
We'll provide public notice of our decisions based on recommendations from the freshwater hearing panel.	We'll provide public notice of the hearing panel's recommendations and then public notice of our final decisions based on the recommendations from the hearing panel.
There is a limited opportunity for submitters to appeal to the Environment Court or High Court depending on whether Greater Wellington accepts or rejects the recommendations of the freshwater hearings panel.	There is an opportunity for submitters to appeal to the Environment Court.

#### Insertion of Housing Bottom lines

The Housing Bottom lines for the Wellington Tier 1 urban environment have been directly inserted into the Regional Policy Statement under section 55(2)(b) of the RMA as required by the NPS-UD. For more information please see our website [www.gw.govt.nz/rps](http://www.gw.govt.nz/rps)

If you have any questions about Proposed Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement, please contact our team at [regionalplan@gw.govt.nz](mailto:regionalplan@gw.govt.nz)

Daran Ponter  
**CHAIR**  
WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL  
19 August 2022  
Greater Wellington, 100 Cuba St, Wellington 6011