

# planning news

KEEPING YOU INFORMED OF PLANNING ISSUES

Issue 04 September 2011

## MapIt.Horowhenua

Work is well underway on the development of Council's external facing WebMap tool named MapIt.Horowhenua. Developed to meet growing public demand, MapIt.Horowhenua aims to deliver a wide range of information held by Council in a spatial, or map based, format. MapIt.Horowhenua is to be a free service to users.

Internal testing has now been completed and the final tweaks made to the maps and User Guide. The last piece of work to Council's firewall will be completed in the next few days and, by the time you are reading this article, it is anticipated that the external testers will have been contacted and supplied with the URL to allow them to "play" with the new system.

MapIt.Horowhenua will ultimately be launched from Council's website – [www.horowhenua.govt.nz](http://www.horowhenua.govt.nz) – keep an eye out for this button:

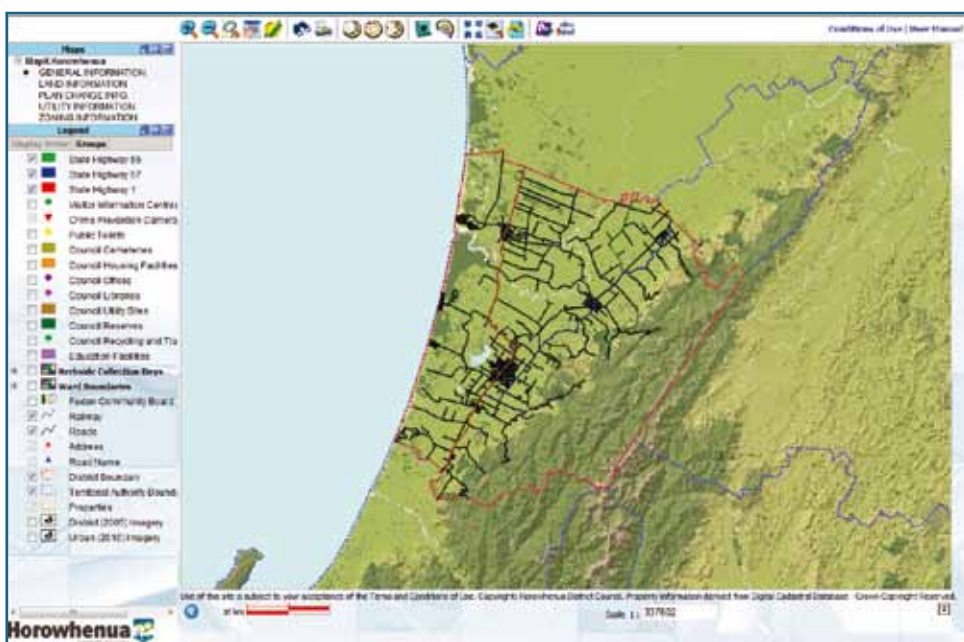


Once you arrive at the webpage, you will see some information about the site and be invited to read and agree to the Conditions of Use (which contain standard disclaimers and copyright information) before moving to the mapping tool.

We have settled on 5 maps initially:

1. General Information – general information and places of interest across the district.

2. Land Information – parcel specific data including legal descriptions, and rating information.
3. Plan Change Info – data relating to Plan Changes 20, 21 and 22.
4. Utility Information – water, wastewater and stormwater data.
5. Zoning Information – essentially an on-line representation of the District Plan maps.



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## Planning Industry Group Meeting – December 2011

We are giving you early warning of our end of year meeting so that you can mark it off in your diaries. The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers commencing **3.00pm on Thursday, 1 December 2011**. The meeting will be followed by nibbles and refreshments.

We would welcome suggestions on matters that would/could prove of interest. Many thanks to Hamish Wesney for his contribution following our last meeting.

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There is a comprehensive user guide to help you navigate your way around the site with information on how to get the best out of MapIt.Horowhenua.

One of the smarts we are particularly happy with is a pop up form that provides information on a particular property including rating information, legal description, valuation data, land area, and electoral ward information. This form can easily be printed and handed to customers.

There is frequent use made of tool tips to assist in delivering information to users. Simply by hovering over a property or feature (for example a water pipe) information will display in the map window. Clicking on the property or feature will enable additional information to be displayed. By using "select by" tools the resulting data reports can be exported to Excel with the click of a button.

Users will also get access to Council's latest digital aerial photography. Urban areas were photographed in early 2010. Rural areas have just been re-flown as part of a Regional initiative and will be available in a couple of months.

Planning information is displayed in a variety of ways – polygons, linear and point features. Maps should be viewed at a scale which enables the user to view the entire site being researched. Discussion with Council's Planning staff is recommended where any doubt exists regarding the location or interpretation of any feature relating to planning information.

MapIt.Horowhenua is a tool that would be of value to a wide range of professionals from surveyors, consultants, builders and architects to real estate agents and valuers. We do know that our data is not always 100%, but we endeavour to provide users with information that is as accurate and up to date as possible. If you come across what seems to be an error, or where data is missing,

simply e-mail Council at [maps@horowhenua.govt.nz](mailto:maps@horowhenua.govt.nz). Likewise if you have suggestions for new maps or features to be shown, let us know by emailing us as above.

**Horowhenua**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

<b>Assessment:</b> 112847	<b>Property ID:</b> 21519
<b>Situation Address:</b> 16 Trafalgar Street LEVIN	<b>Status:</b> Current
<b>Legal Description:</b> Lot: 33 DP: 1656	<b>VG Number:</b> 1505004900
<b>Land Value :</b> \$ 142000.00	<b>Capital Value :</b> \$ 235000.00
<b>Improvements Value :</b> \$ 93000.00	<b>Last Valuation Date:</b> 1/09/2008
<b>Land Area:</b> 0.1004 (Hectares)	<b>Ward:</b> Levin
<b>Rates:</b> \$2,080.37	<b>Has Water Meter:</b> No

**Rate Lines**

Rate	Description	Rates Set
General Rates	District Wide	\$93.95
General Rates - Residential	Urban	\$457.77
Roading Rate	District Wide - Roading	\$69.06
Roading Rate - Residential	Urban - Roading	\$336.49
Library Rates	Library	\$102.80
Representation & Governance	Representation & Governance	\$167.90
Solid Waste	Solid Waste Urban	\$58.00
Swimming Pool District	District Wide - Swimming Pool	\$47.90
Swimming Pool Towns	Levin - Swimming Pools	\$117.30
Sewer Disposal District	District Wide - Sewer	\$340.20
Water Supply District	District Wide - Water Supply	\$269.00
Overpayments	Overpayments	\$0.00
<b>Total Rates</b>		<b>\$2,080.37</b>

Disclaimer: This valuation information is provided as at 29/08/2011 2:45:03 p.m. and is used for rating purposes as from commencement of subsequent rating years i.e. 1 July 2011. It should not be used for property settlement purposes and contact should be made with the Horowhenua District Council if such a figure is required.

## Plan change update

### Plan Change 20 – Rural Subdivision and Plan Change 21 – Urban Growth and Greenbelt Residential

The Council adopted the decisions on these two plan changes in February 2010. The decisions were appealed to the Environment Court. Council has successfully mediated the resolution of these appeals, with all but one of the appellants.

The remaining appeal is in relation to both plan changes and involves a rural site north of the Foxton Beach settlement. Although Council is currently involved in ongoing mediation with the appellant, it appears an Environment Court hearing may be necessary to resolve this appeal. Council officers continue to work with the appellant to try to make the Plan Changes operative (with the exception of the appeal site and related provisions).

### Plan Change 22 Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes

The peer review of the Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes has been completed by the landscape architects of Boffa Miskell. The findings of their peer review were presented to submitters at a submitter meeting held 27 June 2011. A copy of the final peer review report was sent to all submitters in August.

The Section 42A planning report is currently being prepared and is likely to be circulated to submitters during September.

Council officers are currently working towards an October 2011 date for the hearing of submitters on this plan change. The date for the hearing has yet to be finalised.

At the August Council meeting, the Council formally resolved that a report on the use of independent commissioners be submitted to the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2011 Council meeting.

## Staff appointments

We are pleased to announce that Sue Graham has recently been appointed Senior Planner (previously Sue held the position in an acting capacity) and Sheena McGuire (a soon to be Massey graduate) has accepted the position of Resource Management Policy Planner (fixed term two year contract). Sheena will commence work with us on 14 November 2011 and will be assisting David McCorkindale with the District Plan review.

## District Plan review

Good progress continues to be made on the Shaping Horowhenua project for the review of the District Plan. Officers are currently putting the final touches on a Public Discussion Document that is to be released to all residents later in September. The Discussion Document covers a wide range of resource management issues and outlines a number of options that the Council is currently considering to address these issues. The Discussion Document will provide the opportunity for the community and interest groups to give informal feedback on the issues and options. Feedback received will be used to help inform the drafting of the Proposed District Plan.

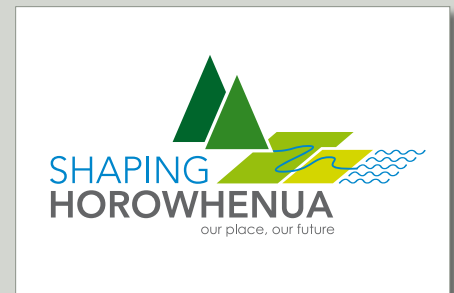
We hope you will take the time to consider and respond to the Discussion Document. As a user of our District Plan we would welcome the opportunity to sit down with you and discuss any specific concerns or suggestions that you may want to see addressed as part of the District Plan Review. Please contact us if you are interested in meeting.

Council is aiming to notify the proposed District Plan mid-way through 2012 with the hearings anticipated to be held in 2013. A more detailed project timetable is currently available on our website. [www.horowhenua.govt.nz/districtplan](http://www.horowhenua.govt.nz/districtplan)

Be sure to keep an eye on the Shaping Horowhenua pages of our website to

get information and updates about this project.

For further information on the District Plan Review please contact David McCorkindale Ph 06 366 0999 or email [districtplan@horowhenua.govt.nz](mailto:districtplan@horowhenua.govt.nz).



## Department of Conservation update

The Department of Conservation (DOC) has realigned its conservancy boundaries to enable the Department to better manage these areas. The realigned conservancies came into force on 1st December 2010. The Horowhenua was divided into two DOC areas before the realignment - the northern portion of the Horowhenua was within the old Palmerston North Area and the southern part was within the old Kapiti Area. The Horowhenua now fits mainly within the new Manawatu Rangitikei Area with some of the hill country being within the Kapiti Wellington Area. These areas are both within the Wellington Hawkes Bay Conservancy. This Conservancy was extended into the Manawatu Rangitikei to enable the lower half of the north island to be managed as a single operational unit.

The Wellington Hawkes Bay Conservancy contains four areas; the Wairarapa Area, the Kapiti Wellington Area, the Manawatu Rangitikei Area and the Hawkes Bay Area. The Conservancy also has a new Te Reo name "Rekohu Wharekauri ki te Tini a Maui" meaning "the Chatham Islands and the multitudes of Maui". This acknowledges the geographical make-up of the conservancy, with the Chatham's at the front because it is first to see the light of a new day. Contact details for the Wellington Hawkes Bay Conservancy Office and the Manawatu Rangitikei Area Office are as follows:

### Wellington Hawke's Bay Conservancy Office

Phone: +64 4 472 5821  
 Fax: +64 4 499 0077  
 Email: [wellingtonco@doc.govt.nz](mailto:wellingtonco@doc.govt.nz)  
 Address: 181 Thorndon Quay, Thorndon, Wellington

### Manawatu Rangitikei Area Office

Phone: +64 6 350 9700  
 Fax: +64 6 350 9701  
 Email: [wellingtonco@doc.govt.nz](mailto:wellingtonco@doc.govt.nz)  
 Address: 717 Tremaine Avenue, Palmerston North 4414





## Ministry for the Environment Resource Management Act two yearly survey of local authorities

Every two years the Ministry for the Environment carries out the Resource Management Act (RMA) survey of local authorities in New Zealand. The survey includes questions about key aspects of RMA implementation such as:

- the numbers and types of resource consent applications processed
- the time taken to process resource consent applications
- charges to applicants for resource consent applications
- good practice in resource consent processing
- monitoring, compliance, complaints and enforcement
- Māori participation in RMA processes
- the numbers and types of plan changes and variations.

### The purpose of the survey is to:

- help the Minister for the Environment monitor how the RMA is being put into practice
- highlight trends over time in implementation of the RMA, as well as areas where performance by local authorities may require greater attention
- promote good practice under the RMA and improve local authorities' performance
- enable each local authority to compare its performance with others
- provide local authorities with information so they can more accurately respond to enquiries about RMA processes.

Council has recently completed the survey which covers the 2010/2011 financial year (1 July 2010 - 30 June 2011) and whilst the national results have still to be collated and report published it is felt that the following statistics will be of interest to readers:

### Consents processed during the reporting period to a decision:

Consent Type	Subdivision	Land Use	Total
Number of notified consents processed.	1	0	1
Number of limited notified consents processed.	0	2	2
Number of non notified consents processed.	36	84	120
<b>Total consents processed</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>123</b>

### Activity status of consents processed:

Activity Status	Number of consents processed
Controlled	35
Discretionary	32
Restricted Discretionary	52
Non-complying	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>123</b>

Of the 123 consents processed 121 (98.4%) were processed within the statutory time frame. The two consents that were processed outside of the statutory time frame were non notified land use consents, both being one day over due. This compares favourably with the 64.2% of consents that were processed within the statutory timeframe in the 2007/2008 survey.

### Costs charged (gst excl) for processing consents:

Consent Type	Lowest Charged	Median Charged	Highest Charged	Total Charged
Notified Subdivision *	\$31,091	\$31,091	\$31,091	\$31,091
Limited Notified Land Use **	\$6,282	\$6,287	\$6,292	\$12,574
Non notified Land Use	\$225	\$1,017	\$3,396	\$95,368
Non notified Subdivision	\$817	\$1,790	\$9,785	\$80,888

\* No publicly notified land use consent applications were processed during the reporting period.

\*\* No subdivision consents were processed on a limited notified basis during the reporting period.

Staff are confident that the above figures will compare favourably when compared with other Councils (the figures will be contained in the report that will be released by the Ministry for the Environment).

Further information on the survey (and earlier surveys) can be obtained on the Ministry's website [www.mfe.govt.nz](http://www.mfe.govt.nz).