

14. Cross Boundary Issues

The boundaries of the Horowhenua District are administrative boundaries (lines on maps) which for most part are not recognised by the processes of nature. The Horowhenua District shares its territorial boundary with the following jurisdictions:

- Manawatu District
- Palmerston North City
- Kapiti Coast District
- Tararua District
- Masterton District
- Carterton District

The boundary with the Tararua, Masterton and Carterton districts is relatively limited and is located within the Tararua Ranges. There is also a jurisdictional boundary with the Horizons Regional Council which administers the coastal marine area which runs along the length of the coastline.

A cross boundary issue is one that is either:

- common to Horowhenua District and one or more of the territorial authorities adjoining it, or
- relates to an issue within or derived from Horowhenua that is also of significance to another district, or
- is a district issue or policy that affects or is affected by a regional policy, or
- is a regional issue or policy that affects or is affected by a district issue or policy.

A cross boundary issue can therefore relate to either an activity that may have significant adverse effects that cross territorial boundaries, or to a plan policy that affects the policies of other territorial authorities or is affected by such policies. One example of a cross boundary effect is the effect of traffic on a road as a result of a development in an adjoining territorial local authority.

Issue 14.1 CROSS BOUNDARY ISSUES

The need for integrated and coordinated resource management across administrative boundaries.

ISSUE DISCUSSION

Many of the resource management issues addressed in this District Plan are also issues in neighbouring territorial authorities (e.g. coastal issues, natural hazards, subdivision, etc). The RMA and local government processes provide for policies and rules to be formulated to reflect the views of the local community, as well as local context, development pressures, and socio-economic and environmental conditions. It is therefore not critical that each territorial authority adopts an identical approach to managing the same resource management issue. There are likely to be some benefits where there is consistent approach

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in place for managing resource management issues or at least the processes are in place for dealing with cross boundary issues when they arise.

Types of cross boundary issues which are likely to occur in the Horowhenua District include:

- Land use activities, development and subdivision which have potential to create adverse effects on people or property in a neighbouring district.

Typically this type of issue involves resource consents for land use activities, development or subdivision in the rural or coastal areas of the District which have environmental effects that extend beyond the District boundary, but it can also include permitted activities where the environmental effects such as noise cross the boundary.

These types of issues could include:

- The management of natural or built resources which straddle territorial or jurisdictional boundaries.
- The management of activities on the surface of the Manawatu River.
- The management of flood risk from the Manawatu River.
- The management of activities which take place in the adjacent coastal marine area.
- The management of the Tararua State Forest which extends across several territorial boundaries.
- The maintenance of land transport networks throughout the District.
- The management of windfarm developments which either extend across districts or are highly visible from neighbouring districts.

In addition, the District administrative/ boundaries shared with Kapiti Coast District, Manawatu District and Palmerston North City do not always coincide with cadastral boundaries. This can result in a site being subject to District Plan requirements of neighbouring District Councils that differ on the same issue.

This range of cross boundary issues highlights the situations where coordination between authorities is necessary to ensure efficient and effective administration of the District Plan as well as to achieve integrated resource management.

To ensure that such matters are addressed in District Plans, the RMA requires that district plans identify the processes to be used to address issues which cross territorial boundaries.

Objectives & Policies

Objective 14.1.1 Cross Boundaries Issues

To address resource management issues which cross administrative boundaries in a coordinated and integrated manner.

Policy 14.1.2

Cooperate with other neighbouring territorial authorities and the Regional Council to address resource management issues in an integrated manner.

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Explanation and Principal Reasons

This policy recognises that the RMA promotes a number of procedures for Council and other neighbouring Councils (including Horizons Regional Council) to work together to help facilitate integrated resource management and to streamline processes by keeping bureaucracy (time and cost) to a minimum.

Methods for Issues 14.1 & Objective 14.1.1

Processes to deal with any issue, which crosses jurisdictional boundaries, shall include the following:

District Plan and Plan Changes

- In any review of the District Plan or District Plan Changes, the Council will consult with neighbouring territorial authorities and Horizons Regional Council to identify issues of common interest or which cross boundaries.

Resource Consent Applications

- On receiving an application for resource consent that is to be notified and where the activity may create effects that affect a neighbouring district, the Council will notify the relevant council as an affected party.
- On receiving a resource consent application for a windfarm development that has potential to be seen or have adverse effects on a neighbouring district, the Council will advise the relevant neighbouring council(s).
- Hold and participate in joint hearings with other local authorities where appropriate and provided for by the RMA.

Other Processes

- Council will make submissions where appropriate on resource management documents prepared by Horizons Regional Council and neighbouring district councils.
- Council will respond to requests by other authorities when issues of common importance arise from time-to-time. The Council may also undertake monitoring of activities with cross boundary effects and be involved in information transfer on cross boundary issues. The Council will endeavour to ensure co-ordination of activities on matters of joint concern.

The methods use a mix of statutory and non-statutory tools to manage cross boundary issues. Cooperation and coordination with other councils is important where resource management issues cross administrative boundaries and responsibilities. The methods provide for the efficient administration of the RMA and the integration of resource management responsibilities with adjacent territorial authorities.

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ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS

The environmental result for cross boundary issues which is anticipated to result from the combined implementation of the above policies and methods is as follows:

- 14(a) Resource management issues which cross administrative boundaries are dealt with in a coordinated and integrated manner.