

Road Controlling Authorities Forum

RMA Reform – What will it deliver?



Purpose of the Review/Cabinet Direction

“The aim of the review is to improve environmental outcomes and better enable urban and other development within environmental limits”



**In the immortal words of
Freddie Mercury.....**

***We want it all and We want it
NOW!!***

How will we get it?

OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENTS ACT

Purpose and Related Provisions

The purpose clause includes Te Oranga o te Taiao, and use of the environment for the well-being of present and future generations.

Related provisions cover the Treaty, environmental limits, and environmental outcomes



Purpose and related provisions translated through the development of NPF

National Planning Framework

Contains the environmental limits that are set nationally, targets, other provisions such as methods and rules, and a precautionary approach, to direct and guide those exercising functions and powers under the NBA in the implementation of the Act

Purpose and related provisions, and NPF translated into plan provisions

Natural and Built Environments Plan

Developed by local government, central government and mana whenua, replaces the existing regional policy statements, regional plans and district plans. Contains provisions (including rules) that determine whether a consent is required, whether it needs to be notified, and what an application will be assessed against in order to grant it. Includes designations (reserving land for infrastructure works etc)

Resource Consents

Implementation of Designations

STRATEGIC PLANNING ACT

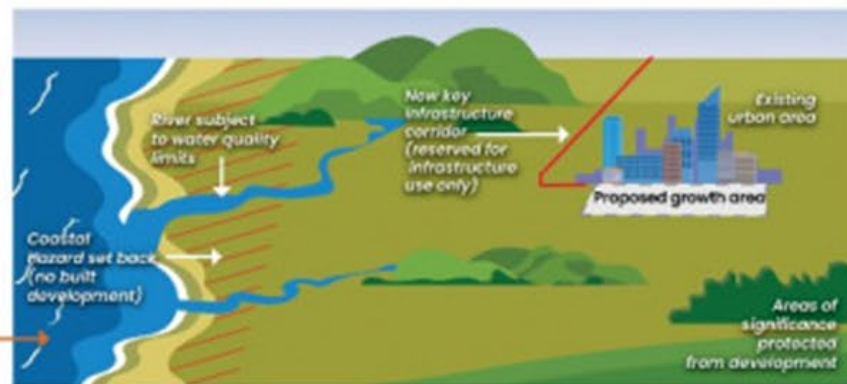
Climate Change Response Act

Local Government Act

Land Transport Management Act

Long-Term Regional Spatial Strategy

Jointly developed by local government, central government and mana whenua



Climate Adaptation Act

RSS translated into plan provisions

Local Government funding mechanisms

Long-term plans, Regional Land Transport Plans, Annual Plans

Implementation agreements

Central Government funding mechanisms

Implementation of plans

When will we get it?

INDICATIVE TIMELINE FOR THE PROPOSED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT REFORMS

2021		2022			
THIRD QUARTER	FOURTH QUARTER	FIRST QUARTER	SECOND QUARTER	THIRD QUARTER	FOURTH QUARTER

Select committee inquiry into the partial Natural and Built Environments Act (exposure draft)

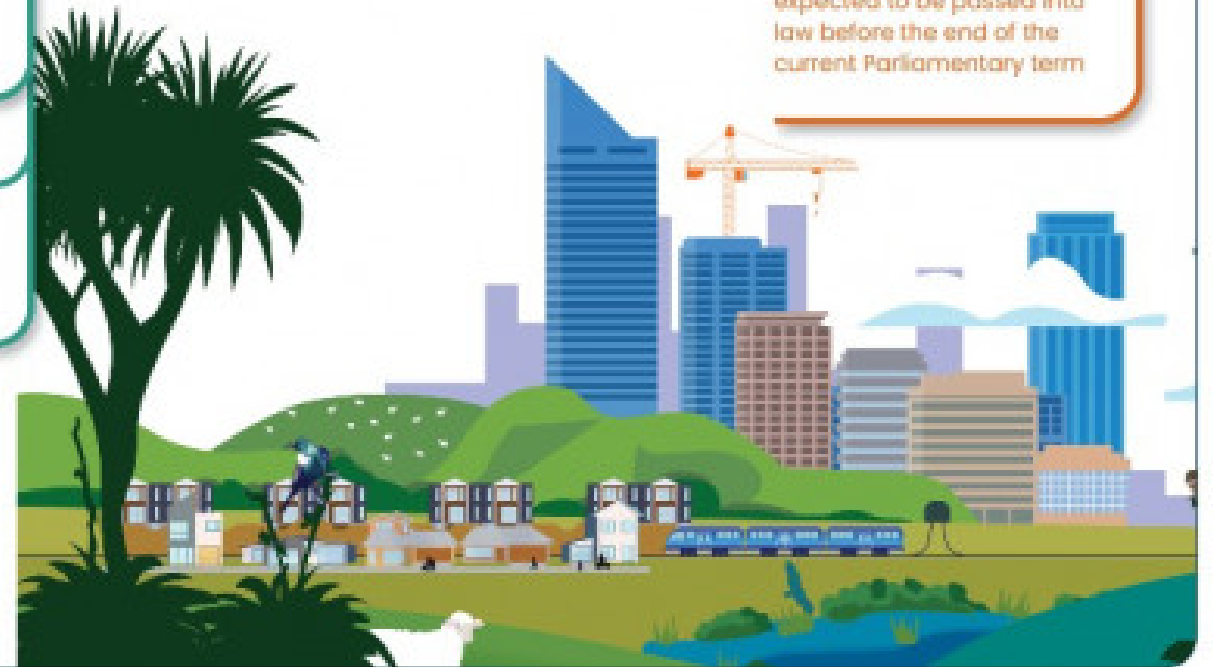
Public invited to make submissions on exposure draft

Inquiry expected to last around three months

Select committee processes examine full Natural and Built Environments Act and Strategic Planning Act

Public invited to make submissions on the full Bills

Natural and Built Environments Act and Strategic Planning Act expected to be passed into law before the end of the current Parliamentary term



Where are we now?

Current Status

- Partial “Exposure Draft” of the Natural and Built Environments Bill released for submissions 2021
- 3000 submissions
- Environment Select Committee Report identified a number of areas for clarification and improvement which MfE is working on now
- Completed Bill and the accompanying Spatial Planning Act due to be introduced to the House
- Spatial Planning Act to – no sign of that as yet
- Climate Adaptation Act – due 2023
- Intention is still to have the package passed into law during this term of government

Some things to think about:

- We are in a state of flux – we know change is coming but its not entirely clear what it will mean.
- If we are serious about improving the natural and physical environment it will inevitably constrain some development.
- But some of our climate commitments require us to consider new development which will have other environmental effects.
- More national direction - be careful what you wish for!
- National Planning Framework is critical – if we do it right this is where the “tensions” between outcomes get resolved.



Key principals

Minister for the Environment to Cabinet

"note that should there be any doubt about which outcomes are to prevail in the event they come into conflict, this be reconciled and clarified through the National Planning Framework or, in the absence of such direction, through Natural and Built Environments Plans"

THE END
Any Questions?

GreenwoodRoche
PROJECT LAWYERS