

CITY OF TAURANGA DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW
Issues and Options Paper

ISSUE: Sustainability	
Issue Summary	Whether the District Plan should provide more direction on sustainability.
Introduction	<p>Promoting the sustainable management of natural and physical resources is the “purpose” of the RMA. In this context “sustainable management” is defined as:</p> <p><i>“Managing the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources in a way, or at a rate, which enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well being and for their health and safety”</i></p> <p>Amendments to the RMA in 2004 also introduced the requirement to have regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The efficiency of the end use of energy; • The effects of climate change; • The benefits to be derived from the use and development of renewable energy. <p>Central government has also recognised the importance of moving toward a vision of a sustainable low emission energy economic and social system through the release of the <i>New Zealand Energy Strategy</i> and the <i>New Zealand Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy</i>.</p>
Identification of Issues	<p><i>Existing Situation</i></p> <p>The District Plan currently has limited approach to environmental sustainability with consideration limited to coastal and flood prone areas and waste minimisation.</p> <p><i>The Issue</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To what extent should the District Plan provide direction on sustainability?
Description of some options	<p>One option could be to incorporate sustainability as a guiding principle within the District Plan and the Code of Practice and encouraging sustainable best practice; or</p> <p>We could retain the status quo.</p> <p>Alternatively you may consider there is a better way to address this issue. If so we would like to hear from you.</p>
Relevant technical information	<p>Further information regarding climate change can be viewed at:</p> <p>www.qualityplanning.org.nz/plan-topics</p> <p>Other relevant information can be viewed at:</p> <p>www.climatechange.govt.nz www.mfe.govt.nz/publications</p>

Key Contact	If you require any further detail on this issue, or any other matter to do with transportation and parking please contact: James Danby Planner: Environment email: james.danby@tauranga.govt.nz ddi: 07 577 7322 or visit www.taurangadistrictplan.govt.nz
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