

5. REGIONAL PLANNING DOCUMENTS AFFECTING CHRISTCHURCH CITY

RR 9177

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Corporate Plan Output: Regional & District Plans & Policies	

The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the primary functions of the Canterbury Regional Council (CRC) and how they relate to the City Council, and to provide a list of Canterbury Regional Council planning documents which affect Christchurch City.

REGIONAL COUNCIL FUNCTIONS

The functions of regional councils, as set out in section 30 of the Resource Management Act, include:

- the integrated management of the natural and physical resources of the region as a whole
- the effects of use, development and protection of land of regional significance
- the control of the use of land for the purpose of soil conservation
- quantity and quality of water bodies and coastal water
- the avoidance and mitigation of adverse effects from hazardous substances
- the Coastal Marine Area (ie below Mean High Water Springs (MHWS))
- the taking, use, damming and diversion of water
- the control of water quality, levels and flows
- the discharge of contaminants into air, land or water
- planting within water bodies.

In brief, the Regional Council deals with discharges, the management of water resources, and the Coastal Marine Area (CMA), while the City Council deals with most land use matters, including subdivision.

There are some areas where the functions of the Regional Council overlap with those of the City Council eg natural hazards and hazardous substances, but in most cases there is a reasonably clear distinction between the functions of the two organisations. The geographical boundaries referred to in the Act are not always easily defined in practice eg the boundary of the CMA, and cross-boundary issues arise which need to be dealt with by both Councils.

Discussions between staff of the two Councils have resolved many of the potential overlaps for Christchurch and these may be further reduced by proposed amendments to the Resource Management Act.

In terms of its responsibilities under the RM Act and other Acts, the Regional Council produces a number of planning documents which affect the city either directly or indirectly and the Council has an opportunity to prepare submissions on these documents after they have been publicly notified. Below is a current list of these documents.

REGIONAL PLANNING DOCUMENTS AFFECTING CHRISTCHURCH CITY (AS AT JANUARY 1999)

Document	What stage is it at?
1. Regional Policy Statement	Operative (June '98). <i>overall policy document with which Regional Plans and District Plans should not be inconsistent</i>
2. Waimakariri River Floodplain Regional Plan	Withdrawn. <i>flood mitigation measures to be incorporated into the City Plan through a proposed Variation</i>
3. Waimakariri River Regional Plan	Hearings on submissions scheduled for early 1999. <i>management of rivers, lakes and groundwater within the Waimakariri Catchment</i>
4. Heathcote River Floodplain Management Strategy	Prepared jointly by CRC and CCC. Completed and adopted by both CRC and CCC in August 1998. <i>flood mitigation for the Heathcote Catchment</i>
5. Avon River Floodplain Management Strategy	Prepared jointly by CRC and CCC. Submissions have been sought on Issues & Options document. Report and a draft strategy is currently being prepared. <i>flood mitigation for the Avon Catchment</i>
6. Styx River Floodplain Management Strategy	Completed. <i>flood mitigation for the Styx Catchment</i>
7. Regional Coastal Environment Plan	Decisions released on parts of the Plan following hearing of submissions and Variations prepared for Coastal Water Quality and Activities and Occupation in the Coastal Marine Area. <i>covers Coastal Marine Area (below Mean High Water Springs) and some areas landward of this for hazard mitigation purposes</i>
8. Harbour Bylaws 1996	Operative. <i>dealing with safety and navigation issues in estuary and Sumner</i>
9. Earthquake Hazard & Risk Assessment Strategy	Technical investigations underway.
10. Regional Pest Management Strategy	Operative (July 1998). <i>noxious plants, rabbits, rooks, possums etc. (Biosecurity Act)</i>

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| 11. | Land and Vegetation Regional Plan - Part I: Port Hills | Operative (September 1997)
<i>replaces Sec.34, vegetation clearance and earthworks</i> |
| 12. | Natural Resources Regional Plan - Land | Consultative Draft for public comment being prepared for notification in 1999. |
| | Natural Resources Regional Plan- Air | Draft Plan released for public comment in June 1998. |
| | Natural Resources Regional Plan- Water | Issues and Options document to be released for public comment in the 1998/99 financial year.
<i>a chapter on Lake Ellesmere and catchment to be prepared later</i> |
| | Natural Resources Regional Plan- Natural Hazards | Consultative Draft for public comment being prepared for notification in 1999.
<i>involves a joint strategy with district councils of the region</i> |
| 13. | Energy Strategy (Regional) | Consultative Draft to be prepared and released in the 1998/99 financial year. |
| 14. | Regional Land Transport Strategy | Review of the present document in the 1998/99 financial year. CCC involved in city parts. |
| 15. | Regional Passenger Transport Plan | Draft Plan being prepared for public consultation.
<i>operative plan setting out conditions for passenger services</i> |
| 16. | Christchurch Passenger Transport Strategy | Prepared jointly by CRC and CCC.
Discussion document produced "Two Futures One Choice". Final strategy agreed in August 1998. |
| 17. | Transitional Regional Plan - Plan Change 2 | Appealed (Environment Court).
<i>negotiations with oil companies re: underground and above ground storage tanks</i> |
| 18. | Urban Development Strategy | Early stages jointly with CCC, SDC, HDC, WDC & BPDC re: a draft strategy. |

Source: Canterbury Regional Council Annual Plan and staff and CCC Records.

Recommendation: The information be received and made available to members of joint CCC/CRC Committee.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.