

4.5 Methods to implement policies

This section contains the methods for implementing the policies set out in sections 4.1 to 4.4. It is divided into two main groups of methods: regulatory methods that implement the policies in sections 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3; and non-regulatory methods that implement the policies in section 4.4 or support the delivery of the other policies.

The non-regulatory methods are subdivided into four types:

- information and/or guidance
- integrating management
- identification and investigation
- providing support.

Under each non-regulatory method the key organisations who may implement the methods are indicated. An asterisk * indicates the lead authority responsible for implementation, if this is designated. The delivery and timing of methods is subject to long term council community planning and annual plan schedules.

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4.5.1 Regulatory methods

Method 1: District plan implementation

The process to amend district plans to implement policies 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 14, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 33 will commence on, or before, the date on which the relevant council commences the review of its district plan pursuant to section 79 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Policies 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 14, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 & 33

District and city councils may implement these policies earlier by plan change, and in the case of a 'rolling review' the policies must be implemented at the time of commencing the review of the relevant part(s) of the plan.

District and city councils that will implement method 1 are:

- Wellington City Council
- Porirua City Council
- Kapiti Coast District Council
- Hutt City Council
- Upper Hutt City Council
- South Wairarapa District Council
- Carterton District Council
- Masterton District Council
- Tararua District Council for land within the Wellington region.

Policies 3 and 4 with respect to the coastal environment do not apply to Upper Hutt City Council.

Policies 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 14, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 33 do not apply to Tararua District Council.

Method 2: Regional plan implementation

The process to amend regional plans to implement policies 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27 will commence on, or before, the date on which Wellington Regional Council commences the review of its regional plans pursuant to section 79 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Policies 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 & 27

Method 3: Wellington Regional Land Transport Strategy implementation

The process to amend the Wellington Regional Land Transport Strategy to implement policies 8, 9 and 32 will commence on, or before, the date on which Wellington Regional Council commences the review pursuant to section 176 of the Land Transport Act 1998.

Policies 8, 9 & 32

Method 4: Resource consents, notices of requirement and when changing, varying or replacing plans

Policies 34 to 60 will be implemented when considering a resource consent, notice of requirement, or when changing, varying or replacing a district or regional plan.

Policies 34 – 60

Local authorities that will implement method 4 are:

- Wellington Regional Council
- Wellington City Council
- Porirua City Council
- Kapiti Coast District Council
- Hutt City Council
- Upper Hutt City Council
- South Wairarapa District Council
- Carterton District Council

- *Masterton District Council*
- *Tararua District Council where a proposal relates to land within the Wellington region.*

Policies 60, 61 & 62

Method 5: Allocation of responsibilities

Local authorities are responsible for the land use control for biological diversity, natural hazards and hazardous substances, as described in policies 61, 62 and 63.

Local authorities that will implement method 5 are:

- *Wellington Regional Council*
- *Wellington City Council*
- *Porirua City Council*
- *Kapiti Coast District Council*
- *Hutt City Council*
- *Upper Hutt City Council*
- *South Wairarapa District Council*
- *Carterton District Council*
- *Masterton District Council*
- *Tararua District Council for land within the Wellington region.*

4.5.2 Non-regulatory methods – information and guidance

Policies 1 & 2

Method 6: Information about reducing air pollution

Prepare and disseminate information to promote:

- best practice techniques to reduce discharges of odour, smoke and dust;
- understanding the causes of air pollution and the steps people can take to reduce it; and
- homeowners adopting cleaner forms of heating and insulation for their houses.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils

Policy 3, 34 & 35

Method 7: Information about high natural character in the coastal environment

Disseminate information held by Wellington Regional Council about places, site and areas with high natural character in the coastal environment.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council

Policies 64

Method 8: Information to assist with restoration and enhancement of degraded water bodies and the natural character of the coastal environment

Prepare and disseminate information about the restoration and enhancement of degraded water bodies and the natural character of the coastal environment, including about eco-sourcing.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils

Policy 9

Method 9: Information about travel demand management

Prepare and disseminate information about how travel demand management mechanisms can be encouraged through district plans.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils*

Policy 10

Method 10: Information about energy efficient subdivision, design and building development

Prepare and disseminate information about how to carry out energy efficient subdivision design and building development.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils

* lead authority responsible for implementation

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| <p>Method 11: Information about water conservation and efficient use Prepare and disseminate information about water conservation and the efficient use of water.</p> <p><i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils</i></p> | <p>Policy 64</p> |
| <p>Method 12: Information about techniques to maintain and enhance indigenous ecosystems Prepare and disseminate information about the maintenance, restoration and enhancement of indigenous ecosystems and habitats.</p> <p><i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils</i></p> | <p>Policy 64</p> |
| <p>Method 13: Information about best practice for earthworks to protect Maori archaeological sites, other significant sites and koiwi Prepare and disseminate information about best practice, in consultation with iwi authorities, for resource consent holders, applicants and others undertaking earthworks, to ensure Maori archaeological sites and other significant sites and koiwi (human bones) are appropriately protected.</p> <p><i>Implementation: Iwi authorities, Wellington Regional Council, and city and district councils</i></p> | <p>Policy 48</p> |
| <p>Method 14: Information about natural hazard and climate change effects Prepare and disseminate information about natural hazards and climate change effects in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) guide local authority decision-making; and (b) raise awareness and understanding of natural hazards <p><i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council*, city and district councils, and Civil Defence Emergency Management Group</i></p> | <p>Policies 28, 50 & 51</p> |
| <p>Method 15: Information about sustainable land management practices Prepare and disseminate information about sustainable land management practices, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) soil capability in terms of its limitations; (b) soil conservation methods and techniques, including the retirement of erosion prone land from pastoral farming; (c) causes of poor soil health, and practices and techniques to improve degraded soil health and ecological function; and (d) best practice techniques to prevent soil erosion and sediment run-off from vegetation clearance and earthworks. <p><i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council</i></p> | <p>Policies 68 & 69</p> |
| <p>Method 16: Information about locations with good access to the strategic public transport network Prepare and disseminate information to support the identification of locations with good access to the strategic public transport network.</p> <p><i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council* and city and district councils</i></p> | <p>Policy 30</p> |
| <p>Method 17: Information about waste management Prepare and disseminate information about how to reduce, reuse or recycle waste.</p> <p><i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils*</i></p> | <p>Policy 65</p> |

* lead authority responsible for implementation

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| Policy 54 | <p>Method 18: Regional structure planning guide Prepare a structure planning guide about integrating land use with infrastructure and for delivering high quality urban design.</p> <p><i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council* and city and district councils</i></p> |
| Policy 47 | <p>Method 19: Information to assist with the application of the Treaty of Waitangi principles in the region Prepare and disseminate information, for resource management decision-making, on the meaning and application of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi in the Wellington region.</p> <p><i>Implementation: Iwi authorities*, Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils</i></p> |
| Policy 20 | <p>Method 20: Information to assist with the identification of places, sites and areas with significant historic heritage values Prepare information to assist with interpretation of the criteria set out in policy 20, which requires the identification of places, sites and areas with significant historic heritage values.</p> <p><i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council* and city and district councils</i></p> |
| Policy 22 | <p>Method 21: Information to assist with the identification of indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant biodiversity values Prepare and disseminate information to assist with the interpretation of the criteria set out in policy 22, which requires the identification of indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values.</p> <p><i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council* and city and district councils</i></p> |
| Policies 28 & 50 | <p>Method 22: Information about areas at high risk from natural hazards Prepare and disseminate information about how to identify areas at high risk from natural hazards, as relevant to the development of hazard management strategies to guide decision-making.</p> <p><i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council * and city and district councils</i></p> |
| Policy 51 | <p>Method 23: Information about natural features to protect property from natural hazards Prepare and disseminate information about how to identify features in the natural environment that can offer natural protection to property from the effects of erosion and inundation.</p> <p><i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council * and city and district councils</i></p> |
| Policy 33 | <p>Method 24: Database of sites at risk of contamination Maintain a database of sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) with a history of storing, using or manufacturing hazardous substances; (b) where major spills involving hazardous substances have occurred; and (c) where analysis of soil or water samples has confirmed that the site is contaminated. <p><i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council</i></p> |
| Policy 56 | <p>Method 25: Information about the provision of walking, cycling and public transport for development Prepare and disseminate information about how to provide for walking, cycling and public transport.</p> <p><i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council</i></p> |

* lead authority responsible for implementation

4.5.3 Non-regulatory methods – integrating management

Method 26: Prepare airshed action plans

Policy 2

Prepare airshed action plans, where needed, to determine how levels of fine particulate matter will be reduced.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council

Method 27: Integrate management across mean high water springs

Policy 64

Clarify local authority management across mean high water springs by:

- (a) reviewing memoranda of understanding between local authorities for matters that cross mean high water springs; and
- (b) developing other non-statutory plans, where necessary, for areas and issues that impact on the coastal environment.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils*

Method 28: Prepare a coastal and marine ecosystems action plan

Policy 64

Identify degraded indigenous habitats and ecosystems in the coastal environment that warrant restoration or enhancement programmes, and prepare a coastal and marine ecosystem action plan.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council

Method 29: Take a whole of catchment approach to works, operations and services

Policies 16, 42, 64, 68 & 69

Take a whole of catchment approach that recognises the inter-relationships between the values of natural resources when undertaking and planning works, operations and services.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils*

Method 30: Protocol for management of earthworks and air quality between local authorities

Policies 1, 2, 14 & 40

Prepare protocols to guide changes to district and regional plans to avoid gaps and unnecessary overlaps in the regulation of:

- (a) earthworks, including vegetation disturbance; and
- (b) management of odour, smoke and dust.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils*

Method 31: Engagement with tangata whenua and the community in identifying and protecting significant values

Policies 4, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 35, 64 & 66

Involve iwi, hapu, marae or whanau and the community in the:

- (a) identification and protection of significant places, sites and areas with significant historic heritage values;
- (b) identification and protection of outstanding natural features, landscape, and significant amenity landscapes values;
- (c) identification and protection indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant biodiversity values; and
- (d) protection of the values associated with the rivers and lakes identified in Appendix 1.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils

Method 32: Identify sustainable energy programmes

Policy 65

Identify sustainable energy programmes, to improve energy efficiency and conservation, reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and minimise the region's vulnerability to energy supply disruptions or shortages.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils*

* lead authority responsible for implementation

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| Policy 11, 13, 18 & 65 | <p>Method 33: Prepare a regional water strategy Prepare a regional water strategy to guide local authorities on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) sustainable water use; (b) demand management and security of supply; and (c) rural and urban water quality. <p><i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council* and city and district councils</i></p> |
| Policy 5, 11, 13, 14, 39 & 41 | <p>Method 34: Prepare a regional stormwater action plan Prepare a regional stormwater action plan that is developed and agreed to by the region's local authorities.</p> <p><i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council* and city and district councils</i></p> |
| Policies 5, 11,14, 15, 39, 40 & 68 | <p>Method 35: Support industry-led environmental accords and codes of practice Support industry-led environmental accords and codes of practice – such as the Dairying and Clean Streams Accord and the New Zealand Environmental Code of Practice for Plantation Forestry – where these will lead to the achievement of objectives in this Regional Policy Statement.</p> <p><i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils</i></p> |
| Policy 66 | <p>Method 36: Involve tangata whenua in resource management decision making In consultation with iwi authorities, appoint representatives with current accreditation in the Ministry for the Environment 'Making Good Decisions Programme' to committees that hear applications for resource consents, notices of requirement and changes, variations or replacements to district or regional plans or the Regional Policy Statement that affect matters of significance to tangata whenua.</p> <p><i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils</i></p> |
| Policy 48 | <p>Method 37: Iwi authorities prepare planning documents Prepare planning documents, where iwi authorities wish to do so, to support the implementation of policy 48 and identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) sites and resources where there has been a loss of mauri and the priorities for restoration; (b) values associated with water bodies, including water bodies that should be managed for customary purposes, and criteria for their management; (c) mahinga kai (customary food gathering areas) and areas of natural resources used for customary purposes and priorities for their protection and restoration; (d) places, areas and sites with significant spiritual or cultural historic heritage values, and appropriate behaviours in relation to those places, sites and areas; and/or (e) areas that should be monitored and the indicators to be used to measure the state of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) mauri of natural resources; (ii) water bodies managed for cultural purposes; (iii) mahinga kai and areas of natural resources used for customary purposes; and (iv) places, areas and sites with significant spiritual or cultural historic heritage value. <p><i>Implementation: Iwi authorities*, Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils</i></p> |
| Policy 48 | <p>Method 38: Prepare protocols for tangata whenua access to mahinga kai and natural resources used for customary purposes on public land Prepare protocols to define where and how tangata whenua can access significant mahinga kai and areas of natural resources used for customary purposes, on public land managed by local authorities.</p> <p><i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council, iwi authorities and city and district councils</i></p> <p>* lead authority responsible for implementation</p> |

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| Method 39: Sign the New Zealand Urban Design Protocol | Policy 67 |
| Become a signatory to the New Zealand Urban Design Protocol and develop a joint local authority urban design action plan. | |
| <i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils</i> | |
| Method 40: Integrate public open space | Policy 67 |
| Identify gaps and opportunities to improve integration of public open space and develop a regionally agreed action plan. | |
| <i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Strategy</i> | |
| Method 41: Develop visions for the regionally significant centres | Policy 29 |
| Develop a vision for each regionally significant centre identified in policy 29, and formulate a statement about the role that each plays in contributing to an overall vision for the region. | |
| <i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Strategy</i> | |
| Method 42: Develop principles for retail activities | Policy 29 |
| Develop regional principles to manage the location of retail activities. | |
| <i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Strategy</i> | |
| Method 43: Analyse industrial employment locations | Policy 31 |
| Analyse factors and trends affecting supply and demand of industrial based employment locations. | |
| <i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Strategy</i> | |
| Method 44: Develop principles for rural-residential use and development | Policy 67 |
| Develop regional principles to guide the identification of areas suitable for rural-residential development and promote best practice rural-residential use and design. | |
| <i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Strategy</i> | |
| Method 45: Develop planning for each Regional Focus Area | Policy 58 |
| Develop growth and/or development frameworks or strategies for each Regional Focus Area. | |
| <i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Strategy</i> | |
| Method 46: Analyse the range and affordability of housing in the region | Policy 67 |
| Complete a regional analysis of housing, including range and affordability, and explore with private sector developers innovative housing design and/or developments that increase the range of types and affordability in the region. | |
| <i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Strategy</i> | |
| 4.5.4 Non-regulatory methods – identification and investigation | |
| Method 47: Investigate the use of transferable water permits | Policy 65 |
| Investigate whether allowing water permits to be transferred will provide a more equitable use of allocated water. | |
| <i>Implementation: Wellington Regional Council</i> | |
| Method 48: Investigate use of Maori names for rivers, lakes and places of cultural significance in the region | Policy 48 |
| Investigate ways in which Maori names for rivers, lakes and places of cultural significance in the Wellington region can be used. | |
| <i>Implementation: Iwi authorities, Wellington Regional Council, and city and district councils</i> | |

* lead authority responsible for implementation

Policy 3, 4, 24 & 26

Method 49: Prepare a regional landscape character description

Develop and disseminate a regional landscape character description that describes and categorises the region's landscapes to assist with identifying outstanding natural features and landscapes, and significant amenity landscapes.

Note: The description will not identify outstanding natural features and landscapes, and significant amenity landscapes. It will provide an agreed methodology to consistently define and describe the region's landscapes and natural features.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils*

Policy 52

Method 50: Identify areas for improved public access

Identify areas of the coast, lakes and rivers where public access should be improved.

*Implementation: Wellington Regional Council * and city and district councils*

Policy 60

Method 51: Identify the region's significant mineral resources.

Identify the location of significant mineral resources in the region

*Implementation: Wellington Regional Council * and city and district councils*

4.5.5 Non-regulatory methods – providing support

Policy 64

Method 52: Support community restoration initiatives for the coastal environment, rivers, lakes and wetlands

Provide practical support for community restoration initiatives for the coastal environment, rivers, lakes and wetlands.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils

Policy 64

Method 53: Assist landowners to maintain, enhance and restore indigenous ecosystems

Assist landowners to maintain, enhance and/or restore indigenous ecosystems including by, but not limited to:

- (a) assisting with the costs of legally protecting indigenous ecosystems by way of open space covenants with Queen Elizabeth the Second National Trust (QEII);
- (b) assisting with the costs of controlling pest plants and animals; and
- (c) supporting landowners to restore significant indigenous ecosystems by fencing and planting.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils

Policy 68

Method 54: Assist landowners to protect erosion prone land

Assist landowners to protect erosion prone land through soil conservation planting.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council

Policy 65

Method 55: Assist the community to reduce waste, and use water and energy efficiently

Assist the community to adopt sustainable practices to:

- (a) reduce, reuse or recycle waste;
- (b) use water and energy efficiently; and
- (c) conserve water and energy.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils

* lead authority responsible for implementation