

Summary of Plan Change 1E – Rural Indigenous Biodiversity Incentives

Draft Plan Change 1E to the Operative Kapiti Coast District Plan 2021 (District Plan) responds to the Council's review of current Development Incentive provisions within the District Plan.

These draft changes are a result of Council considering:

- how these provisions have been implemented to date
- current legislative and statutory planning frameworks; and
- contemporary planning practice.

The review included preparation of an issues and options document in mid-2022. This review identified a number of issues with the Development Incentive provisions which the draft changes seek to resolve.

Draft Plan Change 1E includes amendments to the District Plan designed to:

- refocus the Development Incentives provisions to provide for bonus allotments for subdivision in the Rural Zones only
- improve indigenous biological diversity and ecological resilience in its Rural Zones, by creating the opportunity for bonus allotments in specified circumstances
- provide greater certainty for landowners and developers on when they can be eligible for the creation of bonus allotments on subdivision
- ensure that any existing ecological sites that are restored or new areas of indigenous planting are legally and physically protected in perpetuity
- recognise any notices of intention that were formally accepted before notification of the plan change
- avoid bonus allotments being created in areas where these would potentially undermine s6 RMA matters of national importance and the productive potential of land within the District; and
- ensure any bonus allotments are consistent with the underlying zone and do not compromise activities on adjacent sites.

The National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land (NPS-HPL) was publicly released in September 2022 and has informed the preparation of this draft plan change. However, the issues and options document prepared for this plan change predates the release of this national direction.

Please note that a draft plan change is not Council policy and has no legal effect.