

Chapter 12 - How to use and interpret the rules

12.1 Introduction to rules

- (a) Section C of the district plan contains the rules. Rules are one of the methods of achieving the objectives and implementing the policies set out in Section B of the district plan.
- (b) Rules describe activities (land use and subdivision), the activity status and the conditions that must be complied with to meet the specified activity status. These terms are explained in this chapter.
- (c) The rules in Section C that are highlighted in green have immediate legal effect in accordance with s86B of the Resource Management Act 1991.
- (d) Chapter 13 contains all the definitions that are used in the rules within Section C. The definitions form part of the rules and are identified by underlining and are also hyperlinked in ePlan.
- (e) Chapter 14: Infrastructure and Energy and Chapter 15: Natural Hazards and Climate Change (Stage 2 of the district plan review) apply across the whole district.
- (f) There is a chapter of rules for each zone (Chapters 16 – 28). The order of text in each chapter is:
 - (i) Introduction (for some zones only);
 - (ii) Land Use – Activities Rules;
 - (iii) Land Use – Effects Rules;
 - (iv) Land Use – Building Rules; and
 - (v) Subdivision Rules.
- (g) The spatial area of each zone is shown on the planning maps. As well as zones, there are various policy areas (such as Landscape Policy Area), sites/features (such as Historic Heritage buildings) and designations marked on the planning maps. These are referred to where relevant in the rules in each zone chapter. Every part of the district (except for roads) is in one zone and the zones do not overlap.
- (h) Roads appear white on the planning maps and are not zoned. Rules relating to activities occurring in the road corridor are set out Chapter 14: Infrastructure and Energy.
- (i) Lakes and rivers appear with a blue shading to assist users with orientation. Although the rivers and lakes are not given a zone shading, they are in a zone. All waterbodies are zoned Rural, except for Lake Hakanoa and Lake Puketirini, both of which are zoned Reserve and have reserve management plans applying to them.
- (j) The district plan regulates activities on the surface of rivers, lakes and other waterbodies. Activities are subject to the zone rules that apply. The Waikato Regional Plan regulates any structures in, on, under or over the beds of lakes and rivers, and may also be required to obtain resource consent under the Waikato Regional Plan.
- (k) The district plan identifies heritage items, notable trees and Maori sites and areas of significance on the planning maps. Archaeological sites, both recorded (identified by the New Zealand Archaeological Association) and unrecorded, are protected under the

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014. Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga must be contacted regarding development on or in proximity to these sites and the need to undertake an archaeological assessment to determine the need for an archaeological authority.