

**PROPOSED KAIPARA DISTRICT PLAN**  
**Memorandum 1 of the Hearing Panel**  
**New and amended national directions**  
**24 February 2026**

1. Ten new or amended national direction instruments under the Resource Management Act (RMA) came into effect on 15 January 2026. The new national direction instruments can be found on the [Ministry for the Environment website](#).
2. The new and amended national directions included:
  - Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Detached Minor Residential Units) Regulations 2025
  - National Policy Statement for Natural Hazards 2025
  - National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land Amendment 2025
  - New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement Amendment 2025
  - National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity Amendment 2025
  - National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management Amendment 2025
  - Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Amendment Regulations 2025
  - National Policy Statement for Infrastructure 2025
  - National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation Amendment 2025
  - National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks Amendment 2025
3. The Hearing Panel requests that each Council Reporting Officer in their respective Section 42A reports addresses the new or amended national directions that are relevant to their topic. This will assist in making submitters aware of these recent changes. The Hearings Panel acknowledges that Section 75(3) of the RMA requires district plans to give effect to any national policy statement and the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement, while Section 43B of the RMA sets out the relationship of district plan rules with national environmental standards. The Hearings Panel recognise that this is a matter that each Section 42A report is likely to address anyway given the requirements of the RMA, but request that new / amended national direction is explicitly discussed.

4. The Hearings Panel recognises that some changes to the Proposed District Plan in response to the new / amended national directions may not be able to be made unless there are submissions which provide sufficient scope to do so.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Farnsworth', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mark C Farnsworth MNZM

Panel Chair