

15 April 2026

SUBMITTERS AND COUNCIL OFFICERS

NOTICE OF HEARING – PROPOSED KAIPARA DISTRICT PLAN

Kaipara District Council advises that the Hearing Panel consisting of Commissioner Mark Farnsworth (Chair), Commissioner Gordon Lambeth and Commissioner Richard Blakey will hear and consider submissions and further submissions on the following topic for the Council's Proposed District Plan.

Hearing Number: 13
This hearing relates to submissions and further submissions on: NATURAL OPEN SPACE ZONE

1. The details for the hearing are:

Date: Tuesday 19 May 2026

Time: 10.30am

Venue: 1C Molesworth Drive, Mangawhai (directly across the road from the Kaipara District Council offices)

Key Dates for this hearing (for more information see below)		
Council planner's (s42A) report due	13 April 2026	25 working days before hearing starts before
Submitter expert evidence due	28 April 2026 by 12 noon	15 working days before hearing starts
Submitter rebuttal evidence due	5 May 2026 by 12 noon	10 working days before hearing starts
Appearance at hearing confirmation due	5 May 2026 by 12 noon	10 working days before hearing starts
Indicative timetable for hearing online	12 May 2026	5 working days before hearing starts
Legal submissions due	14 May by 12 noon	3 working days before hearing starts

2. As a submitter and/or further submitter, you are invited to attend the hearing where the Hearing Commissioners will consider the submissions in support of/ or opposing the Proposed District Plan Provisions.
3. A list of submissions being considered for Hearing 13 is provided in Table 1, attached to this Hearing Notice.

Procedure for Hearing of Submissions

4. This letter sets out matters relating to the hearing. Further details are available in [Direction 5](#) and [Direction 6](#) from the Hearing Panel.

Pre-Circulation of Evidence

5. The Hearing Panel requires the Council to provide its Section 42A Report and any other Council evidence at least **25** working days prior to the hearing.
6. Submitters and further submitters are required to provide all expert evidence to the Hearings Administrator at least **15** working days before the hearing. An expert is a professional such as a planner, traffic engineer or similar. Submitters may provide non-expert evidence (i.e. personal submissions) at the hearing. The required delivery dates for evidence are set out at the start of this letter.
7. Providers of expert evidence are referred to paragraphs 18 and 19, [Direction 3: Hearing Requirements](#). The evidence should clearly outline any changes in Plan wording proposed (along with the rationale for these changes) together with an assessment pursuant to S32AA of the RMA. All evidence is expected to be provided electronically. Evidence must be emailed to the Hearings Administrator mwalters@kaipara.govt.nz by **12 noon on 28 April 2026**
8. If you wish to speak at the hearing, please email Meagan Walters (Hearings Administrator) mwalters@kaipara.govt.nz with your hearing timetable response by **12 noon on 5 May 2026**. Your email should be titled "Hearing 13 – Timetable Response", and needs to provide the following information:
 - Your daytime phone number.
 - Your submission number(s).
 - The name(s) of who will be speaking to your submission (including any expert witnesses). An indication of how much time you and each of your representatives require to speak. **Due to pre-circulation of evidence, the Commissioners expect each expert witness to require no more than 15 minutes to present their evidence.**
 - Whether you will attend the hearing in-person or are making a request to appear online using the "TEAMS" platform. If making a request to appear online, please include an outline of reasons for the request.
 - Whether you will do a digital presentation (e.g. PowerPoint).
 - Whether you intend to present evidence in sign language or Te Reo Māori (requiring an interpreter).
9. Please note the following:
 - We do not automatically assign people with speaking slots. If you wish to be heard,

- you need to provide the above information by the specified date.
- Any submitter who has been allocated additional hearing time is required to advise the Hearings Administrator if additional time is no longer necessary.
 - The safety and wellbeing of our team members and communities is important to us. If you are sick or have COVID-19 symptoms, please do not attend the hearing in person. You will still be able to participate in the hearing online. If you are presenting, please advise the Hearings Administrator.
10. The Hearings Administrator will prepare an indicative hearing schedule and post it on the website at least one week (5 working days) prior to the hearing commencing. The Hearings Administrator will email all hearing parties a link to the schedule as soon as it is confirmed.
 11. If you have any additional written material to present at the hearing, please bring ten (10) copies to the hearing and supply an electronic copy to the Hearings Administrator within two (2) working days of completing your presentation. The Hearing Commissioners have received a copy of all submissions. You do not need to provide additional copies.
 12. Council intends to make all information for the Hearings available via the Council's website <https://www.kaipara.govt.nz/kaipara-district-plan-review/kaipara-district-plan-review/PDPHearings>. However, hard copies of documents can be provided to submitters on request.
 13. Video recordings of the hearing will be posted to the Council's website as soon as practical after each hearing session.
 14. If you have any questions in relation to the hearing, please contact the Hearings Administrator, Meagan Walters on 0800 727 059 or at mwalters@kaipara.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi

District Planning Team
Kaipara District Council

**Table 1 Submissions with submission points being considered as part of
Hearing 13: Natural Open Space Zone
(FS = Further Submission)**

Submission Number	Submitter
26	Chorus New Zealand Ltd, Connexa Ltd, Spark NZ Trading Ltd, Fortysouth Group LP and One NZ
146	New Zealand Agricultural Aviation Association
147	New Zealand Helicopter Association
149	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Incorporated (Forest & Bird)
222	Kaipara District Council (KDC)
267	Northland Fish and Game Council - (Fish and Game)
304	Director General of Conservation (DoC)
FS93	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of NZ (Forest & Bird)