

Part 13 Monitoring and Information

The district council is required to monitor the state of Franklin's environment, on an ongoing basis, to determine whether resource management objectives, policies and methods are suitable and, in practice, effective. This includes monitoring how resource consents are being exercised. The Council is also required to provide a range of public information, including the results of its monitoring programme and current issues relating to Franklin's environment.

This involves the continual collection and analysis of data on all aspects of the environment, including the dynamics and implications of the use, development or protection of natural and physical resources. The Council must understand the competing pressures on resources in order to effectively manage them. Different people and groups attach different values to different resources within the district.

At any point in time the Council's information bases will be incomplete. During the term of this first district plan the Council will continue to improve both the quantity and quality of information so that it can perform its resource management role more effectively.

When there is insufficient information available regarding particular resources, the Council will take a conservative approach in managing the use, development or protection of those resources.

Policies on monitoring are included in other parts of the plan where appropriate, and this part must be read in conjunction with those.

13.1 Objectives, Policies and Methods

13.1.1 Objective - Environmental Monitoring

To monitor the state of the district's environment.

13.1.2 Objective - Plan Monitoring

To monitor the suitability and effectiveness of resource management objectives, policies and methods.

Policies:

1. That the Council develops an environmental monitoring strategy.
2. That funds be requested through the Council's annual plan process to develop and give effect to the monitoring strategy.
3. That information bases be established and maintained, containing information on the type, location, significance, vulnerability, condition and protection status of natural and physical resources, and related social, economic, and demographic information; that these information bases be updated on an ongoing basis with exchanges of information between agencies and the inclusion of results from the environmental monitoring programme.
4. That where appropriate, the district council works in partnership with tangata whenua, regional councils, central government organisations and community groups in carrying out monitoring.

Methods of Implementation of Policies:

Within two years of the date of notification of the plan, the Council will prepare a draft monitoring strategy through the annual plan process. In the meantime a range of information will continue to be recorded and computerised for ease of future application. The Council has already prepared or partly

funded a range of information bases: See [Schedule 13.A](#).

The Council notes the forestry industries' interest in self monitoring and where appropriate will consult with representatives of the forestry industries to ensure co-ordination in any monitoring programmes.

Reasons and Explanation for Objective and Policies:

Monitoring is a requirement under the Act.

Financial constraints limit the extent to which the Council can monitor the state of the environment. It is therefore necessary to prepare a targeted monitoring programme which will deliver the best value for money. This may involve using outside organisations.

The information bases described in [Schedule 13.A](#) serve as starting points for any monitoring strategy.

Anticipated Results:

- A cost-effective monitoring strategy, and timely changes to this plan where such action is found to be necessary.

13.1.3 Objective - Compliance

To monitor compliance with the provisions of this district plan and resource consent conditions.

Policies:

1. That a public register of resource consents granted by the Council be maintained.
2. That applicants be required to provide such information or carry out such work as is necessary to facilitate the future monitoring of compliance with conditions of resource consents.
3. That applicants be required, where applicable, to meet the costs of monitoring conditions of resource consents.
4. That a public register be established summarising written complaints received by the Council concerning alleged breaches of the Resource Management Act or the provisions of the district plan and that the register contain information on how the Council dealt with each complaint.

Methods of Implementation of Policies:

1. The register contains information on the type and location of consents granted, conditions imposed and information relevant to the ongoing compliance with conditions of consent.
- 2, 3. These policies will apply to resource consents where appropriate.
4. Self-explanatory.

Reasons and Explanation for Objective and Policies:

The Act requires that public registers are provided and maintained.

Anticipated Results:

- Compliance with the Resource Management Act 1991, and an informed public.

13.1.4 Objective - Information

To provide public information on the administration of policy statements and plans, the monitoring of resource consents, natural and physical resources and current issues relating to the district's environment.

Policies:

1. That relevant information from the environmental monitoring programme be published in the Council's annual reports.
2. That community newspapers and newsletters, information leaflets and information kits be used as appropriate to disseminate information on policy statements and plans, natural and physical resources, and current issues relating to the district's environment.
3. That the information bases established by the Council be made available to the public except where this would prejudice the conservation or preservation of resources or conflict with Maaori cultural and spiritual values.

Methods of Implementation of Policies:

These policies are largely self-explanatory. They will need funds to be carried out effectively.

Reasons and Explanation for Objective and Policies:

Information empowers the community, and enables concerned parties and persons to participate effectively in resource management processes.

Anticipated Results:

- An informed public.

Schedule 13.A: Information Bases

SCHEDULE 13.A: INFORMATION BASES

The district council has developed the following information bases which will be updated in consultation with other agencies:

1. In conjunction with the former Auckland Regional Council, a cultural heritage inventory for the former Franklin District that includes:
 - a map showing areas of completed archaeological site surveys and the location of recorded archaeological sites, and
 - a map showing the location of known sites, buildings, places, and areas of historic interest.
2. A hazard register that includes:
 - a map showing known natural hazards, and
 - a bibliography of reference sources.
3. A booklet titled "General Information on the District of Franklin" that contains information on the following aspects of the district:
 - Demographics and Economy;
 - Geography;
 - History, and
 - Topography and Natural Features.
4. In conjunction with the Department of Conservation and the Regional Councils, a Conservation Information Base that contains information on the type, location, significance, vulnerability, condition and legal protection status of:
 - Sites of Special Wildlife Interest;
 - Sites identified in the Protected Natural Areas programme;
 - Geological sites and landforms;
 - Wetlands identified under the RAMSAR Convention; and
 - Remnant native forest and other natural features.
5. A Reserves Inventory that shows the type and location of all reserves owned by Council. (These are generally in the Recreation Zone.)
6. In conjunction with the New Zealand Mining and Exploration Association, the Geological Society of New Zealand, the Aggregates Association of New Zealand, the former Auckland Regional Council and industry groups, a Minerals Information Base that contains information on the type, location and scale of mineral resources within the district, their current utilisation and the feasibility of future commercial utilisation.