

Decision of Independent Commissioner

**PROPOSED PLAN CHANGE I - MINOR AMENDMENTS
TO THE MANAWATŪ DISTRICT PLAN**

**Decision Report and Decision of the Independent Commissioner
appointed by the Manawatū District Council
pursuant to section 34A of the Resource Management Act 1991**

14 February 2025

Proposal Description:

The purpose of Proposed Plan Change I – Minor Amendments is set out in section 2 of the section 42A report prepared by Ms Star Wilson-Jennings dated 13 February 2025. I rely on that description.

Hearing Panel:

Gina Sweetman - Independent RMA Hearing Commissioner

No hearing was held pursuant to Clause 8C of Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the RMA

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report sets out my decision on Proposed Plan Change I – Minor Amendments (PPCI) to the operative Manawatū District Plan 2002.
- 1.2 I was appointed by the Council to hear submissions made on PPCI and to consider and make a decision under delegated authority of the Council under section 34A of the Resource Management Act 1991 as to whether PPCI should be declined, approved or approved with amendments.
- 1.3 The hearing of PPCI was vacated on 12 February 2025 when the submitter who had sought to be heard confirmed that they no longer wished to do so. I am therefore considering the two submissions received on PPCI and the section 42A report prepared by Ms Star Wilson-Jennings on the “papers”, pursuant to Clause 8C of Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the RMA.

2. EVALUATION

- 2.1 I have carefully reviewed the two submissions and the section 42A report. Having done so, I am satisfied that all relevant matters under the RMA have been considered appropriately. I also have reviewed Ms Star Wilson-Jennings’ evaluation of the submissions and her recommendations. I accept and adopt her advice and find that PPCI, as amended in response to submissions, to be the most appropriate means of achieving the objectives of the District Plan and the purpose of the Act. I also find it to be consistent with the Council’s statutory functions under s31 of the RMA.

3. DECISION

- 3.1 For the reasons outlined in this decision, I, on behalf of the Council:
 - (a) Pursuant to s32(2)(a) of the RMA, adopt the evaluation of PPCI contained within the s42A report and confirmed in this decision, including the conclusion that PPCI is the most appropriate means of achieving the objectives of the District Plan, and in doing so, achieving the overall purpose of the RMA.
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- (b) Pursuant to Clause 10 of Schedule 1 of the RMA, approve PPCI, subject to the amendments outlined in Appendix 1 of the s42A report.
 - (c) Accept and accept in part the submissions for the reasons outlined in the s42A report and endorsed by this decision.



Gina Sweetman, Independent Commissioner
Dated this 14 February 2025