

# What is a further submission and who can make one?

Waikato Regional Council has prepared a *Summary of Decisions Requested* from submissions received on the Proposed Waikato Regional Coastal Plan. The further submissions period for the proposed plan is from 27 March to 29 April 2024.

The Proposed Waikato Regional Coastal Plan (the proposed plan) was notified for public submissions on 18 August 2023 and the period for making submissions on the proposed plan closed on 14 November 2023. There were 1359 submissions received of which 1252 were proforma submissions.

The proposed plan can be viewed on the council website, [waikatoregion.govt.nz/proposed-rcp](https://waikatoregion.govt.nz/proposed-rcp) or at Waikato Regional Council offices in Hamilton, Paeroa, Taupō and Whitianga.

## Summary of Decisions Requested now available

Under Schedule 1 (Part 1, Clause 8) of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), we are required to provide a summary of the decisions requested in submissions received on the proposed plan. This summary is referred to as the '*Summary of Decisions Requested*' document. The summary document collates all submitters' submission points into one uniform table. Each submitter and subsequent submission points are allocated a unique reference number. These reference numbers are to assist you when making a further submission, and will also help the Hearings Panel when considering submissions.

The *Summary of Decisions Requested* from submissions received is available online: [waikatoregion.govt.nz/proposed-rcp](https://waikatoregion.govt.nz/proposed-rcp)

Copies are also available to view at offices in Hamilton, Paeroa, Taupō and Whitianga.

There are two versions of the *Summary of Decisions Requested* document. Both contain the same information but in different formats:

- Summary of submissions requested – by order of submitter
- Summary of submissions requested – by order of provision.

**Please note:** This is a summary document, created to assist the proposed plan process. It sets out the decisions requested by submission point, and includes the submission made and/or reasons on that provision, which may be in summary form. Before making a further submission, you should first read the original submission (see [waikatoregion.govt.nz/proposed-rcp](https://waikatoregion.govt.nz/proposed-rcp)).

## What is a further submission?

A further submission is a submission in support of, or in opposition to, a submission already made, and may only be made by any person who:

- Represents a relevant aspect of the public interest; or
- Has an interest in the proposal that is greater than the interest of the general public, (an explanation for the reasoning behind why you qualify for either of these categories must also be provided); or
- The local authority itself.

**Further submissions open  
Wednesday 27 March 2024 and close  
at 5.00pm on Monday 29 April 2024.**

## Further submission form requirements:

Your further submission must:

- Give your name and contact details
- Identify the grounds for your further submission
- Be in response to an original submission. You must identify:
  - The submitter you are further submitting on
  - The submission point you are further submitting on
  - Whether you support or oppose the submission point
  - Your reasons for supporting or opposing the submission point
  - The decision you seek – whether the submission point should be allowed or disallowed
- Whether you wish to be heard in support of your submission.

If you require more space than the table in the form provides, you can attach additional pages as required.

Please note that your submission (or part of your submission) may be struck out if the authority is satisfied that at least one of the following applies to the submission (or part of the submission):

- it is frivolous or vexatious:
- it discloses no reasonable or relevant case:
- it would be an abuse of the hearing process to allow the submission (or the part) to be taken further:
- it contains offensive language:
- it is supported only by material that purports to be independent expert evidence but has been prepared by a person who is not independent or who does not have sufficient specialised knowledge or skill to give expert advice on the matter.

## Lodging your further submission

You must send your further submission form to us by one of the below methods:

- emailing it to [submissions@waikatoregion.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@waikatoregion.govt.nz)
- delivering it to Council offices in Hamilton, Paeroa, Taupō and Whitianga.
- posting it to  
Freepost 172189  
Waikato Regional Council  
Private Bag 3038  
Waikato Mail Centre  
Hamilton 3240  
Attn: Waikato Regional Coastal Plan Further Submission.

Due to delays in postal services and the timeframe for making further submissions, we highly recommend that an electronic copy of your further submission is provided by the closing date.

### You must also send a copy of your further submission to the original submitter.

Any person making a further submission must serve a copy of that submission on the original submitter no later than five working days after the submission has been provided to Waikato Regional Council.

Each submitter has an address for service available on our website. If you have made a further submission on several original submissions, then copies of your further submission will need to be served with each original submitter.

## Public information

Under the RMA, all submissions and accompanying data must be made available for public inspection. To achieve that, we will publish all further submissions and accompanying data on our website. We have made an effort to redact any unnecessary personal information (excluding any address for service) that is provided in a submission before we publish it. However, if you have unnecessary personal information viewable in your submission online, please let us know and we will remove it if possible.

## Questions on the further submissions process

If you have any questions regarding the further submissions process or any questions about the Proposed Waikato Regional Coastal Plan, please email [submissions@waikatoregion.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@waikatoregion.govt.nz)

## What happens next?

- A Hearings Panel will consider all submissions and give submitters the opportunity to present their submissions, including further submissions.
- Hearings will be held late 2024/early 2025.
- In advance of these hearings, documents are released to help inform the Hearings Panel and submitters. These include Council officers' recommendations on submissions (section 42A reports), legal and technical evidence.
- During the hearings, the Hearings Panel is likely to release a Chair's minute requesting any outstanding questions for Council officers to address or follow up matters for submitters.
- The Hearings Panel will then deliberate on the decisions requested by submitters and consider all the information they have received during the hearings. The Hearings Panel will then make their recommendations on submissions to Council.