

**IN THE MATTER OF
AND
IN THE MATTER OF**

the Resource Management Act 1991

Plan Change 4 (PC4) - Urban
Development, Hāwera Structure Plans,
Financial Contributions to the
South Taranaki District Council District
Plan: Urban Development, Hāwera
Structure Plans, Financial Contributions

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991 DIRECTION #2

INTRODUCTION

1. The South Taranaki District Council ("STDC") notified Plan Change 4: Urban Development, Hāwera Structure Plans and Financial Contributions (Plan Change 4) on the 10 June 2025, with the submission period closed on the 22 July 2025. The Council received 19 original submissions in total, which includes 3 late submissions.
2. The Summary of Decisions requested was notified on 12 August 2025 and closed on 26 August 2025. There were 6 further submissions received.
3. Two of the late original submissions (#17 and #18) were received prior to the notification of the Summary of Decisions requested. These were included in the Summary and made available for further submissions. A third late original submission (#19) was received after the notification of the Summary and was received in conjunction with a further submission.
4. The 3 submissions received after submissions closed at 5pm on the 22 July 2025 were:
 - Submitter 17 - Te Whatu ora / Health New Zealand – Received on 24 July 2025.
 - Submitter 18 - Te Korowai o Ngāruahine Trust – Received on 25 July 2025.
 - Submitter 19 – Shane Rowe – Received on 26 August 2025.

THE STATUTORY PROCESS

5. Clause 1 of Schedule 1 of the RMA states that where any time limit is set in this Schedule, a local authority may extend it under section 37 of the RMA. Sections 37 and 37A deal with the power and requirements of a waiver and extension of time limits.
6. This minute deals with late submissions received. The consideration of late submissions relates to a waiver of compliance with a time limit, as opposed to the extension of a time limit. There is no maximum time period specified in the RMA for submissions, rather the RMA specifies that the closing date for submissions on a proposed plan shall be at least 40 working days after public notification. As such, the restriction in section 37A(2) does not apply.

FINDINGS ON LATE SUBMISSIONS

Submissions #17 and #18:

7. These submissions were received within 1 week of the closing date 22 July 2025, but before the summary of decisions requested was published. Accordingly, they were included in the notified summary of decisions requested and have been viewed by those submitters

considering making further submissions.

8. I find the lateness of up to one week to be acceptable in these circumstances. I am satisfied that the inclusion of these late submissions in the summary of decisions requested would not have unduly prejudiced any other submitter seeking to lodge further submissions.

Submissions #19:

9. This submission was received over a month after the submission period closed, which means that the submission was not included in the summary of decisions requested and has not been the subject of the further submissions process.
10. The submitter was unaware that STDC's Assets Teams were going to make a submission seeking an indicative walkway and easement are put through the submitter's property. I agree that there are no specific interests of any other person who may be directly affected by the waiver of compliance with a time limit.
11. I note that STDC is applying for an exemption to continue work of Plan Change 4 and the further submission addendum could run alongside this process. I agree that accepting this late submission would not cause undue delay to Plan Change 4 process.
12. I accept the late submission for Submitter 19 into the Plan Change 4 process and recommended Council officers prepare and notify an addendum to the Summary of Decisions Requested. This would include the late submission only and seek further submissions on this addendum. This notification of the addendum would occur concurrently with the Council applying for an exemption to continue Plan Change 4 to not cause undue delay to the process.

DETERMINATION ON LATE SUBMISSIONS

13. On 5 September I accepted the two late submissions for Submitter 17 and Submitter 18 into the Plan Change 4 process with no further action required.
14. I also accepted the late submission for Submitter 19 into the Plan Change 4 process and I recommended that the Council officers prepare and notify an addendum to the Summary of Decisions Requested for this submission and seek further submissions on this addendum.



Councillor Andy Beccard (Chairperson)
On behalf of Hearing Panel

10 September 2025