

8 - Point Checklist notes

The 8 points are a checklist of the questions that should be asked by decision-makers before making decisions on local authority plans, policies, and infrastructure planning.

The following are some considerations with respect to each of these eight criteria.

SEA CHANGE CHECKLIST	HOW DO WE EXPECT THIS TO BE DONE
<p>1. COLLABORATION</p> <p>(has strong links to NATURE, LEADERSHIP, SIDE EFFECTS, TREATY PRINCIPLES)</p>	<p>Collaboration needs to be build into the design of a process for any project or plan development from the start.</p> <p>There are better long term results where the views and needs of hāpu/whānau, communities, future generations and of nature are considered from the start of a project or development of a plan.</p> <p>Time spent early on collaborating on a project avoids the lengthy delays that can occur if interested parties are not involved until the consenting or approval stage.</p> <p>Issues that need to be addressed to ensure effective and early collaboration include adequate resourcing for volunteers (time, out of pocket expenses), recognising the true value of voluntary effort, providing good access to independent technical advice, research capability, and being clear on the scope and timeframe of the project or plan being collaborated on.</p> <p>The limited requirements for public participation set out in the Local Government Act (special consultative procedures) and Resource Management Act are insufficient, in terms of providing a voice for hāpu/whānau, communities, future generations and of nature, and achieving good results.</p> <p>However, councils must maintain and improve opportunities for Māori to contribute to local government decision-making processes; see section 4, Local Government Act 2002.</p> <p>Some examples of effective collaborative processes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -participatory budgeting (local communities empowered on certain issues to take responsibility for how state money is spent); - citizen assemblies (team of a jury of co-opted citizens tasked with making a decision on a particular local issue); - working groups with broad membership, good technical support, and a clear terms of reference and timetable.

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<p>2. GREENHOUSE GASES</p> <p>(has strong links to RESILIENCE)</p>	<p>All reports requiring decisions should include an assessment of the impact of agreeing to the decision on the emission of greenhouse gases, in order to ensure that we follow an overall greenhouse gas emission reduction path.</p> <p>Council should also include greenhouse gas accounting and mitigation criteria in all consent and licence applications.</p> <p>Greenhouse gas accounting should include the passive CO2 content of materials, construction process, and waste construction materials, as well as estimated operating emissions for the life & dismantling of projects.</p> <p>The data gathered from reports and applications on greenhouse gases could assist councils prepare greenhouse gas stocktakes for the district or region, as the case may be.</p> <p>More information on measurement systems for greenhouse gases can be found at the Carbon Neutral Trust website https://www.carbonneutraltrust.org.nz/; the Enviro mark website https://www.enviro-mark.com, and the Ekos Trust website www.ekos.org.nz</p>
<p>3. RESILIENCE</p> <p>(has strong links to GREENHOUSE GASES, SIDE EFFECTS)</p>	<p>There are many examples of infrastructure and public facilities that are vulnerable to climate change impacts and lack resilience. For example, wastewater pump stations beside the sea, buildings on flood plains.</p> <p>Information on natural hazard and climate change risks can be found in historical records and recent reports such as https://www.deepsouthchallenge.co.nz/projects/national-flood-risks-climate-change</p> <p>Resilience also includes resilience of communities and local economies.</p>
<p>4. NATURE</p> <p>(has strong links to GREENHOUSE GASES, RESILIENCE, SIDE EFFECTS, TREATY PRINCIPLES)</p>	<p>The actual and potential impacts on nature and natural systems should be assessed.</p> <p>In part this is recognition that a healthy society depends on a healthy natural system.</p>
<p>5. LOCAL PRODUCTION & LOCAL EMPLOYMENT</p> <p>(has strong links to RESILIENCE, LEADERSHIP, TREATY PRINCIPLES)</p>	<p>There are clear benefits to ensuring our communities support local businesses and employment. There is a role for local authorities in this through their purchasing of services such as road maintenance, office cleaning, and park maintenance.</p> <p>New public procurement rules have recently been introduced which could readily be adapted to local government purchasing to encourage local production and employment. https://www.procurement.govt.nz/procurement/principles-and-rules/government-procurement-charter/</p>

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<p>6. LEADERSHIP</p> <p>(has strong links to COLLABORATION, TREATY PRINCIPLES)</p>	<p>Local authorities should set a good example; that is leadership.</p> <p>Leadership also means ensuring that councils work for people and communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • council resources are used effectively and efficiently; • there is an effective management structure in place; • competent people are employed; • council staff interact with people and communities with respect and understanding. <p>An example is that the Far North District Council advocates the eco-star programme for waste reduction.</p> <p>Leadership would mean that the District Council getting the eco-star certification for its own offices and activities, and employing a waste minimisation officer to advocate for zero waste within the District Council and the wider community. This has yet to be done.</p> <p>Another example of leadership is from overseas: 'The <u>Better Reykjavik</u> project, for example, does this by providing an online platform for city residents to suggest and vote on ideas to improve their city. Each month, the City Council processes and votes on the most popular 10-15 ideas, and any rejections must be accompanied by a very detailed justification. To date, <u>nearly two-thirds of Reykjavik's population have participated</u> and the city is increasingly designed for its people, by its people.'</p>
<p>7. SIDE EFFECTS</p> <p>(has strong links to GREENHOUSE GASES, RESILIENCE, NATURE)</p>	<p>Side effects and unintended consequences of decisions are often ignored until a serious problem arises.</p> <p>Asking what are the potential side effects, and whether those side effects would be desirable, and what can be done to avoid or reduce unwanted side effects needs to become a routine part of decision making.</p> <p>Note that the full range of potential side effects – social, economic, cultural and environmental – should be considered.</p>
<p>8. TREATY PRINCIPLES</p> <p>(has strong links to COLLABORATION, LEADERSHIP)</p>	<p>The Local Government Act requires local authorities to facilitate Māori participation in local authority decision making in order to recognise and respect the Crown's responsibility to take appropriate account of the principle of Te Tiriti o Waitangi (see section 4 of the Local Government Act 2002).</p> <p>Part of facilitating Māori participation in decision making is considering whether decisions are consistent with, and give effect to, the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.</p>