

DISTRICT PLAN

REVIEW UPDATE



Connected, Vibrant and Thriving Manawatū – The Best Lifestyle In New Zealand.

Draft Plan Change 64 Boarding, Breeding and Training Kennels

As part of the ongoing District Plan Review, the Council is reviewing the rules that determine when a resource consent is required to keep dogs on a property.

Dog ownership is common in the Manawatū, reflecting the rurally-focused nature of our District. However, Council has received noise complaints about dog kennels and associated activities. As a result, Council is initiating early consultation on changes to the approach for how kennels are managed in the District, to ensure that any adverse effects on the environment are appropriately managed.

As part of this review, the Council is proposing to remove the current District Plan rule which requires any person having more than two dogs (excluding farm working dogs and puppies) on a property to obtain a resource consent for a discretionary activity.

Purpose of Draft Plan Change 64

The purpose of Draft Plan Change 64 is to:

- Identify the Rural Zone as the most appropriate zone for boarding, breeding and training kennels;
- Provide clear assessment criteria for consent applications for boarding, breeding and training kennels at the restricted discretionary consent level in the Rural Zone;
- Reduce uncertainty between the Dog Control Bylaw (2014) and the District Plan and refocus the District Plan to boarding, breeding and training kennels for dogs.
- Address an enforcement issue for the Council, where there are high rates of non-compliance with the current District Plan provisions for properties having dogs and dog kennels;
- Enable the Council to better fulfil its obligations under the Resource Management Act 1991 by developing a more appropriate and reasonable policy framework to manage the activities which

have the potential to create environmental effects.

The Council's Dog Control Bylaw (2014) will continue to regulate the keeping and control of dogs as required under the Dog Control Act (1996), while Plan Change 64 focuses on boarding, breeding and training of dogs for a fee.

What are the proposed changes?

- Remove the existing definition of kennels and insert a new definition for Boarding, Breeding and Training Kennels as:

"means the use of any land and/or buildings for boarding, breeding or training of dogs for a fee, and also includes rehoming kennels where shelter is provided for stray or unwanted dogs. The keeping of dogs for farming or domestic purposes is excluded."
- Inclusion of a new planning framework to manage the consenting of boarding, breeding and training kennels operating within the District
- Different thresholds of dog numbers are proposed to determine when a resource consent is required to establish and operate boarding, breeding and training kennels. These thresholds acknowledge the different character and levels of amenity expected in our land use zones.

How will this work in different zones?

Rural Zones and Nodal Areas: Boarding, breeding and training kennels in the Rural Zone or Nodal Areas which cater for five dogs or less are categorised as **permitted activities** subject to meeting existing permitted activity standards in the District Plan, and a new performance standard for kennels to be located 100 metres from noise sensitive activities not located on the same site.

Boarding, breeding and training kennels in the **Rural Zone** catering for six or more dogs will require a resource consent for a **restricted discretionary activity**, and be assessed against matters including:

- Dog numbers and management approach
- Building design, site design and layout
- Noise
- Traffic generation, parking, site access, on-site manoeuvring,
- Nuisance issues, such as waste management and disposal, odour, dust, glare
- Signage
- Hours of operation

Boarding, breeding and training kennels in [Nodal Areas](#) catering for six or more dogs will require a resource consent for a **discretionary activity**.

Flood Channel Zones: Boarding, breeding and training kennels in the Flood Channel Zone which cater for five dogs or less are categorised as **controlled activities**. Boarding, breeding and training kennels for six or more dogs will require a resource consent for a **restricted discretionary activity** similar to the Rural Zone.

Other zones: Boarding, breeding and training kennels for three or more dogs in the Residential and Village zones would require a resource consent for a **non-complying activity**, which maintains the status quo.

Possible questions to guide your feedback:

Your feedback will help Council ensure that Draft Plan Change 64 provides an appropriate and reasonable approach to managing kennels in the Manawatu District. Some starting questions for your feedback could include:

- Is the number of dogs that are permitted set at an appropriate level for each zone?

- What sorts of kennels and associated activities should be included?
- Are there any other issues that need to be addressed?

Would you like to know more?

Our consultation website www.haveyoursay.kiwi.nz has further information and feedback forms.

We need your feedback by:

Friday 18 January 2019

[Email: districtplanreview@mdc.govt.nz](mailto:districtplanreview@mdc.govt.nz)

Mail: Private Bag 10 001, Feilding 4743

To discuss how Draft Plan Change 64 – Boarding, Breeding and Training Kennels may affect you, please contact:

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What happens next?

Once we have gathered and analysed feedback, Council will prepare a formal District Plan change that will propose the amendments to the District Plan. The proposed plan change will then be publicly notified, and you can make a formal submission, and then present your submission to the Council's Hearings Committee, before a decision is made. It is only once there has been a decision by Council's Hearing Committee that the plan change would have any legal effect (i.e. it would need to be complied with).