

# Historical and Cultural Values

We are reviewing and updating our current District Plan – looking ahead to the next 10 to 15 years. The Kaipara District Plan is essentially the ‘rule book’, which is applied to manage development, activities and the environment within the district.

The District Plan influences the future shape and feel of our district, which is why it’s important for Kaipara communities to be informed and get involved. Its purpose is to protect our environment, historic locations and cultural tāonga for future generations, through sustainable management of our resources, while supporting our communities to develop and grow.

We’re seeking input on our initial draft ahead of the statutory process, scheduled to commence in mid-2023. This Draft District Plan does not have any ‘legal weight’ and the Operative District Plan must continue to be relied upon.

## How much is changing?



NOT  
MUCH

A LOT

## Historical heritage is the natural and physical resources that contribute to an understanding and appreciation of New Zealand’s history, cultures and includes:

- historic sites, structures, places and areas
- archaeological sites
- sites of significance to Māori, including wāhi tapu; and
- surroundings associated with the natural and physical resources.



The Resource Management Act 1991 and Northland Regional Policy Statement require policies and methods to promote the protection of historical heritage.

Historical heritage provides the community with a sense of time and identity, of where we have been and where we are now and are a reminder or social link to the past that is important to the community. The Kaipara district is steeped in history, being one of the first areas settled by Māori and the focus of early European exploration.

Our district contains many historic buildings, structures and sites which remain from the early settlement days along with its more recent history. It is important that historic heritage is protected from activities that will compromise heritage values.

### What are we proposing?

Provisions in the Operative Kaipara District Plan 2013 are out of date and not in line with current best practice standards. These policies and rules do not provide enough direction for anyone that owns a heritage item and wishes to undertake work on their item, i.e. repairs or additions. The proposed provisions are clearer and show a strong desire by Kaipara District Council to protect their historic heritage. Policies and rules have been drafted to provide owners the flexibility of maintaining their item while providing guidelines under which this can occur.

Demolition or removal of a heritage item is not encouraged and all other methods of protecting the item should be considered before this step is taken. The setting within which a heritage item is sited is important to protect the values for which the item is significant are not lost and the proposed rules reflect this important part of a heritage item.

The current schedule in the Operative Kaipara District Plan 2013 has been reviewed and reassessed under updated criteria. The majority are proposed to remain on the schedule while some items have been removed and several more added. The schedule includes buildings which are both private and publicly owned.



### Can I still nominate an item?

Yes, this is a chance for our communities to get on board and nominate new buildings or provide information to assist with the protection of the district's valued heritage.

### What if my building is registered, can I object?

Yes, through this consultation process, we are looking for your feedback. While your opinion is important and will be considered, Council is regulated under the RMA to protect heritage, however your concerns will be taken into account in line with these requirements.



### Who pays for the upkeep of heritage items?

While there are some contestable funds available through external sources, heritage resources are maintained by the owner. Contestable funding will also require the heritage resource is either scheduled within the District Plan or on the HNZPT (Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga) listing.

### Do the rules stop me maintaining my heritage item?

There are two levels of rules, general maintenance and works within the item's setting which are permitted under the guidelines. Alterations and additions or earthquake strengthening will generally result in changes to the item and will require resource consent to ensure that the changes are in keeping with the item. Demolition of a heritage item is not encouraged. If you have any concerns on how your item may be affected, contact Council.

### Why are there two categories of registration?

Category A are items which are important in the wider context of Kaipara and New Zealand while Category B are important within the local area and Kaipara in general.

## Summary

- Kaipara district is steeped in history, and it is important that our heritage is protected for future generations.
- Provisions have been updated to be in line with best practice guidelines.
- Rules for permitted activities and activities that require resource consent provide guidance for owners on what can occur under each category.
- The Heritage Schedule has been updated and additional items included while some items have been removed.