

THE DRAFT WHAKAMAHERE WHAKATŪ NELSON PLAN KEY INFORMATION

The Draft Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan combines the current resource management plans for Nelson into one combined Plan that reflects Central Government requirements and direction, current best practice, and the latest research and local information. Once notified, the Nelson Plan will guide how we use our natural resources, where and how we develop land, and how we protect our environment.

PORT NOISE MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

What is the Port Noise topic about?

This topic is about the management of the noise produced within the Port zone.

The Port zone is located landward of Nelson Haven and includes the Port activities on the seaward side of Wakefield Quay, Haven Road and Queen Elizabeth II Drive. In addition, the zone includes the land portion of the Nelson Marina located between Akersten and Vickerman Street. The proposed zone provides for Port-related industrial and commercial activities.

What do Port Noise provisions try to achieve?

Port Nelson is recognised as being regionally significant infrastructure for the Nelson/Tasman area. It provides valuable economic and social benefits to Whakatū Nelson and the wider region. Other regionally significant infrastructure includes Nelson Hospital and Nelson Airport.

Port-related industrial and commercial growth and development of the zone would generally be encouraged. The Port itself and many of the associated activities have a functional or operational need to locate within the Port zone and cannot be accommodated in other locations.

The Port activities inevitably produce noise, and this can occur at any time of the day or night. This timing is driven by shipping schedules and the tidal nature of the Port.

Noise is regularly experienced in some residential homes due to the close proximity of the Port to the Port Hills residential area and to apartment developments along State Highway 6. Noise can result in general disturbance, loss of amenity and sleep disruption.

Port noise provisions in the current Nelson Resource Management Plan (NRMP) require the Port to manage the noise it produces and to mitigate the effects of noise on the neighbouring community. The provisions are also there to ensure the Port can continue to operate and to recognise that noise will inevitably be produced.

Why are these provisions being reviewed?

The current Port noise provisions in the NRMP were notified in 2007, and become operative in 2012 after decisions were made and appeals resolved. These provisions include:

- A continuing obligation on the Port Operator to reduce noise at its source.
- A requirement for the Port Operator to assist with acoustically insulating, and in some cases purchasing, existing houses identified as being affected by Port noise.
- A requirement for property owners to acoustically insulate houses when undertaking new builds or alterations, and noise-mitigation requirements on subdivision.

As part of the development of the Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan these provisions are being reviewed to determine if they are still fit for purpose, or if changes are required to improve their performance. In addition, there have been an increase in complaints received in relation to noise generated by Port Nelson.



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What options are being considered?

After reviewing the current situation, the options being considered for the management of Port noise and its effects are:

- **OPTION 1 – Status Quo:**

Retaining the existing provisions featuring:

- Developing and operating in accordance with a noise management plan and a noise mitigation plan which are overseen by the Port Noise Liaison Committee.
- The Port undertaking measures to manage and minimise their noise production.
- The Port being required, at various levels, to acoustically insulate and in some cases purchase existing housing in parts of the Port Effects Control Overlay.
- Restrictions on subdivision and requirements for acoustic insulation of new/alterd dwellings in the Port Effects Control Overlay.

- **OPTION 2 – Changes to the existing provisions:**

Retain the current regime and refine the provisions which would:

- Set regular reviews of the management and mitigation plans.
- Set maximum terms for members of the Port Noise Liaison Committee.
- Increase reporting, noise management decisions and monitoring requirements.
- Improve communication and availability of information.
- Improve certainty of the role of the Council in requiring compliance with the management and mitigation plans, including changes to those plans.
- Confirm the requirement for continued research, trialling and implementation of noise management and minimising actions at the Port.
- Improve the wording of the objectives, policies, rules and definitions in the Nelson Plan for clarity and enforceability.

- **OPTION 3 – Building on the existing provisions:**

Retain and build on the existing provisions using the NZ Standard 6809:1999 Acoustics – Port Noise Management and Land Use Planning, which would:

- Identify land that may be impacted by current and future Port noise predicted over the next 10 years, including rule requirements for properties that would fall in that area. This may increase the area that falls within the Port Effects Control Overlay which extends to the 55dB L_{dn} contour.
- Establish specific noise limits (measured in adjacent zones) that the Port must operate within.
- Require new or altered 'noise sensitive activities' (residential activities, schools, visitor accommodation etc) to obtain resource consent in areas above 65dB L_{dn}.
- Require new or altered 'noise sensitive activities' between the 55 and 65dB L_{dn} to be acoustically insulated.
- Incorporate the changes proposed from Option 2.

- **OPTION 4 – Hybrid of Option 2 and aspects of Option 3:**

This option would be a combination of Option 2 and Option 3 c) and d) (i.e. it would exclude Option 3 a) and b) due to the difficulty of predicting future noise when technological and operational improvements will continue to occur, and given the inflexibility and impracticability of monitoring and enforcing specified levels).

How do these Port Noise management options differ from the current NRMP?

Option 1 retains consistency with the existing provisions.

Option 2 changes to the existing NRMP provisions by increasing enforceability when compared to the current provisions.

Option 3 potentially expands the Port Effects Control Overlay to cater for future predicted noise and introduces noise limits applying to the Ports operation. It also introduces requirements for new and altered noise sensitive activities where the current provisions only manage residential uses.

Option 4 incorporates the changes set out in Option 2 but also includes aspects of Option 3 that relate to noise sensitive activities.



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Further information on the Nelson Plan

This key information sheet is a summary of the options being considered for the management of Port noise. It has been prepared for the purpose of engagement and should not be used as a definitive representation of content of the Draft Nelson Plan. For further information on the options please contact the Nelson City Council Planning Team.

How can I give feedback?

We encourage you to provide feedback:

Online: shape.nelson.govt.nz/nelson-plan

Email: nelsonplan@ncc.govt.nz

Post: 110 Trafalgar St, PO Box 645, Nelson 7040

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