

Council: **Matamata Piako District**
Res Population: **29,403**
Urban/Rural Mix: **56% Urban 44% Rural (Population)**



Status of RMA Policy/Plans

- Matamata-Piako District Council District Plan – operative July 2005

RMA Monitoring Approach

Monitoring strategy/framework(date, diagram, etc)

Matamata-Piako District Council Environmental Monitoring Strategy 1999
Pressure State Response Indicator Model

Links between policy/plan, SoE, resource consent and complaints monitoring

- District Plan identifies key issues, objectives and policy (desired state)
- Environmental Monitoring Strategy identifies Indicators for monitoring the desired state
- Indicators require information from resource consent process
- Indicators require information from Complaints system (Quetzal), eg Number of complaints received regarding adverse effects on noise, odour, dust, etc

RMA Policy/Plan Monitoring approach

Policy/plan monitoring capacity (dedicated staff, budget, etc)

- Integrated management – links to Regional and National Indicator Programs
- Committed through links to Annual Plan process
- Working smarter – budget reduced to less than half next financial year as strategy in place
- Dedicated staff with a “can do” attitude

Approach to policy and plan implementation/suitability/effectiveness monitoring

- An integrated monitoring programme that incorporates all monitoring as required by Section 35 of the RMA for efficiency and cost effective methods of collecting info, analysing and reporting info for decision making, communication and education.

Key Issues/Provisions Monitored

Monitoring priorities

- Solid waste (including Hazardous Substances)
- Heritage
- Natural Environment
- Residential Growth
- Natural Hazards
- Rural Area Development
- Riparian Management
- Tangata Whenua
- Incompatible Activities
- Works and Network Utilities

- Amenity
- Transportation

How key issues/provisions prioritised

- Key issues identified from our Proposed District Plan
- Alignment to Regional and National Indicators (eg solid waste)

Information management/capture systems

- Indicators, systems, responsibilities, etc being logged through Environmental Metadata for Social/Economic, Waste and Biodiversity as part of Partnership Trial with Environment Waikato and MFE. It is anticipated that all indicators will then be identified through the metadata to align with a Quality System to match with Councils other quality systems.

Costs and Benefits of Policy/Plan Monitoring

Costs

- Actual cost of developing strategy
- Actual cost of putting strategy in place (staff time)

Benefits

- Efficiency - Reduced costs of gathering information for policy review
- Effectiveness - Meaningful and Quality information
- Information collected can be provided to the Community
- Information used for other purposes within organisation – integrated management
- Integrated management with Environment Waikato, and Others

Hot Tips for Policy/Plan Monitoring Success

- Know what, how, who and when you want to collect information
- Work with your Regional Council and Others in developing the strategy
- Establish effective links and commitment across your organisation to implement
- Establish effective links for sharing of resources, and info outside your organisation
- Effective reporting provides info for decision makers, interest groups and the community

Key Lessons Learnt and Pitfalls to Avoid

- Develop a Strategy that is meaningful and achievable
- Data collected must be meaningful and robust
- Get commitment from all players
- Cost effective and efficient
- Look after your customer, our customers are also Regional / National Customers
- A living document

Future Needs

- A full web site strategy and Environmental Metadata Electronic Database to post information collected for use world-wide

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