

Rārangi Take Kaunihera
Whanokē

Extraordinary Council Agenda

To deliberate on the Freedom Camping Bylaw

Wednesday 25 September 2024, 9.00 am
Council Chamber, Albion Street, Hāwera



Ngā Mema o te Komiti / Committee Members



Phil Nixon
Mayor



Andy Beccard
Councillor



Mark Bellringer
Councillor



Celine Filbee
Councillor



Te Aroha Hohaia
Councillor



Robert Northcott
Deputy Mayor



Leanne Horo
Councillor



Aaron Langton
Councillor



Steffy Mackay
Councillor



Tuteri Rangihaeata
Councillor



Bryan Roach
Councillor



Brian Rook
Councillor



Diana Reid
Councillor



Racquel Cleaver-Pittams
Councillor

Apatono / Delegations

The Full Council's role is to carry out responsibilities under the Local Government Act 2002. It is the final decision-making authority within the Council and generally ratifies recommendations made by other committees.

It is made up of all Councillors and the Mayor.

Powers that cannot be delegated

The powers that cannot be delegated by the Council are:

- (a) the power to make a rate
- (b) the power to make a bylaw
- (c) the power to borrow money, or purchase or

dispose of assets, other than in accordance with the long-term plan

(d) the power to adopt a long-term plan, annual plan or annual report

(e) the power to appoint a chief executive

(f) the power to adopt policies required to be adopted and consulted on under the Local Government Act 2002 in association with the long-term plan or developed for the purpose of the Local Governance Statement.

(g) the power to adopt a remuneration and employment policy

Huinga Tāngata / Attendance Register

Date	18/03/24	03/04/24	13/05/24	20/05/24	22/05/24	04/06/24	12/06/24	24/06/24	08/07/24	05/08/24	02/09/24	04/09/24	04/09/24	16/09/24
Meeting	E	O	O	E	E	E	E	O	E	O	E	E	E	O
Andy Beccard	√	√	√	√	√	√	A	√	√	√	A	AO	AO	A
Mark Bellringer	A	A	√	√	√	√	A	A	√	√	√	√	√	√
Celine Filbee	√	√	√	A	A	√	√	√	A	√	√	√	√	√
Te Aroha Hohaia	√	A	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Leanne Horo	√	A	√	√	AO	√	A	√	√	√	√	A	A	A
Aarun Langton	√	√	√	A	A	A	√	√	A	√	A	A	A	√
Steffy Mackay	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Phil Nixon	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Robert Northcott	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	A	√	√	√	√	√
Tuteri Rangihaeata	√	X	X	√	X	X	√	A	√	√	X	A	A	√
Diana Reid	√	√	√	√	√	√	A	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Bryan Roach	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Brian Rook	√	X	√	√	√	√	√	A	√	√	√	√	√	√
Racquel Cleaver-Pittams	√	√	√	√	√	√	A	√	AO	√	√	√	√	√

Key

- √ Attended
- AO Attended Online
- Was not required to attend
- A Apology
- Y Attended but didn't have to attend
- X Did not attend - no apology

Types of Meetings

- I Inaugural
- O Ordinary Council Meeting
- E Extraordinary Council Meeting

He Karere Haumarū / Health and Safety Message

In the event of an emergency, please follow the instructions of Council staff.
If there is an earthquake – drop, cover and hold where possible. Please remain where you are until further instruction is given.

He Pānga Whakararu / Conflicts of Interest

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected member and any private or other external interest they might have.



Rārangi Agenda

Extraordinary Council

To deliberate on the Freedom Camping Bylaw
Wednesday 25 September 2024 at 9 am

1. **Karakia**
2. **Matakore / Apologies**
3. **Tauākī Whakarika / Declarations of Interest**
4. **Whakatakoto Kaupapa Whānui, Whakaaturanga hoki / Open Forum and Presentations**
5. **Pūrongo / Report**
 - 5.1 [Freedom Camping Bylaw deliberation](#)..... Page 9
6. **Karakia**



Karakia

1. Karakia

Ruruku Timata – Opening Prayer

(Kia ururu mai ā-hauora,
ā-haukaha, ā-hau māia)

Ki runga

Ki raro

Ki roto

Ki waho

Rire rire hau

Paimārire

*(Fill me with vitality)
strength and bravery)*

Above

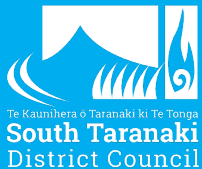
Below

Inwards

Outwards

The winds blow & bind us

Peace be with us.



Matakore Apologies

2. Matakore / Apologies

Leave of Absence: *The Board may grant a member leave of absence following an application from that member. Leave of absences will be held in the Public Excluded section of the meeting.*



Ngā Whakaputanga

Declarations of Interest

3. Tauākī Whakarika / Declarations of Interest

Notification from elected members of:

- a) Any interests that may create a conflict with their role as an elected member relating to the items of business for this meeting; and
- b) Any interests in items in which they have a direct or indirect pecuniary interest as provided for in the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968.

Declarations of Interest: Notification from elected members of: Any interests that may create a conflict with their role as an elected member relating to the items of business for this meeting; and Any interests in items in which they have a direct or indirect pecuniary interest as provided for in the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968

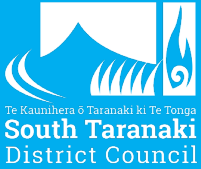


Whakatakoto Kaupapa Whānui, Whakaaturanga hoki **Open Forum and Presentations**

4

4. Whakatakoto Kaupapa Whānui Whakaaturanga hoki / Open Forum and Presentations

The Council has set aside time for members of the public to speak in the public forum at the commencement of each Council, Committee and Community Board meeting (up to 10 minutes per person/organisation) when these meetings are open to the public. Permission of the Mayor or Chairperson is required for any person wishing to speak at the public forum.



Pūrongo Report

To	Extraordinary Council
From	Kaitātari Mātāmua Kaupapa Here / Senior Policy Advisor, Anne Sattler
Date	25 September 2024
Subject	Freedom Camping Bylaw deliberation

(This report shall not be construed as policy until adopted by full Council)

Whakarāpopoto Kāhui Kahika / Executive Summary

1. This report provides information to assist Council in reviewing the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016 ([Appendix C](#)) and outlines the recommended changes to the Proposed Bylaw ([Appendix B](#)).
2. Information provided in this report includes the Statement of Proposal ([Appendix A](#)), an overview of submissions received during the Special Consultative Procedure (SCP), discussion raised during the hearing phase, the Officer's response to submission points raised, and any other amendments to the Bylaw suggested by the Officers.
3. Please note there are 21 recommendations in this report that fall under three subheadings; freedom camping sites, changes to proposed Bylaw, and adoption of the Bylaw.

Taunakitanga / Recommendation(s)

Freedom camping sites

THAT the Council;

- a) Approves the town boundary maps are included in the Freedom Camping Bylaw for Eltham, Kaponga, Hāwera, Manaia, Normanby, Ōpunakē, Pātea, and Waverley.
- b) Notes approval of recommendation 'a' will remove the need to have individual maps or descriptions of prohibited areas within the town boundaries.
- c) Approves the removal of the Eltham LibraryPlus carpark as a freedom camping area.
- d) Approves the removal of the Rukumoana Reserve, Eltham as a freedom camping area.
- e) Approves tents and non-self-contained vehicles at Waihi Beach Reserve, Hāwera.
- f) Notes the number of freedom camping vehicles will not increase at Waihi Beach Reserve, a maximum of 3 freedom camping vehicles is permitted and these will be a mix of self-contained and non-self-contained vehicles.

- g) Approves the removal of Tuke Street Reserve, Normanby as a freedom camping area.
- h) Approves the removal of the ability for people to camp in tents and non-self-contained vehicles at Halse Place, Ōpunakē.
- i) Approves the removal of the ability for people to camp in tents at Middleton Bay, Ōpunakē.
- j) Approves the removal of the ability for people to camp in non-self-contained vehicles at the western carpark of the Ōpunakē Recreation Grounds.
- k) Approves the removal of the Bedford/Egmont Street Reserve, Pātea as a freedom camping area.
- l) Approves the removal of the Stafford Street Pool Reserve, Pātea as a freedom camping area.
- m) Approves the increase of the number of vehicles that can freedom camp at the Wairoa Reserve, Waverley from 3 to 6 vehicles per night.
- n) Approves to continue to allow only self-contained vehicles to freedom camp at Wairoa Reserve, Waverley.
- o) Notes that the number of vehicles and tents permitted at each site has been updated in Schedule 1 of the Bylaw to make it easier for the public and staff to understand.

Changes to Proposed Bylaw

- p) Approves the interpretation of self-contained vehicle to align with the Freedom Camping Act.
- q) Approves the interpretations of a certificate and warrant for both the blue and green warrant system is added to the Bylaw.
- r) Approves the Bylaw is updated to include the General Conditions (section 7.1.1) that all vehicles must display a valid warrant while freedom camping and must produce a certificate of self-containment when requested by an Authorised Officer while freedom camping.
- s) Notes the blue and green warrant system are referenced in two different parts of legislation so both are noted in the Bylaw during this transitional phase.
- t) Approves the Bylaw is updated to include section 7.16 (General Conditions) that all vehicles and tents must not stay within 10m of public amenities and accessways, such as public toilets, picnic tables, playgrounds, roads, pathways, and footpaths.
- u) Approves the Bylaw is updated to include section 9.1 (Freedom campers must comply with any request to move on) 'not abiding by the General Conditions'.
- v) Approves the Bylaw is updated to include section 12.1 b) (Offences and penalties) to include displaying an invalid warrant, and to make it clear that it is an offence only while freedom camping.
- w) Notes that section 12.1 b) also references the blue and green warrant system.

Adopt the revised Bylaw

- x) Adopts the revised South Taranaki District Council Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016 in accordance with the Freedom Camping Act 2011 and Local Government Act 2002.
- y) Notes that the new Bylaw will come into force on 1 November 2024.

Kupu Whakamārama / Background

- 4. The Freedom Camping Bylaw (the Bylaw) first came into force on 4 July 2016 and was reviewed in December 2017. The Freedom Camping Act 2011 (the Act) was updated by the introduction of the Self-Contained Motor Vehicles Legislation Act 2023. The Bylaw is made under the authority of the Local Government Act 2002 and the Freedom Camping Act 2011 so it must be consistent with the changes that were introduced in 2023.
- 5. This review has focused on the key changes in the Act and how this has impacted the Bylaw. The proposed town boundary maps are in response to section 10 of the Act which now allows freedom camping in tents on all local authority land unless it is prohibited under a bylaw. As part of the Bylaw review all sites were assessed and recommendations made to remove or change some freedom camping areas.
- 6. A Statement of Proposal ([Appendix A](#)) and Proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw ([Appendix B](#)) were released for public consultation from Monday 8 July to Sunday 11 August. This report summarises the feedback received from that consultation, and the hearing held on Monday 2 September. The proposed Bylaw has been reviewed in response to the feedback and the recommendations cover the key changes to the current Bylaw.

Local Government Purpose

- 7. The purpose of local government is to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future.
- 8. The Council recognises the value that freedom campers bring to the South Taranaki district but are also aware of the need to protect significant cultural and environmental sites as well as continuing to provide access to open spaces for ratepayers. The economic cost of enforcing the Bylaw is a key consideration in the design of the Bylaw and ensuring it is easy to understand.

Ngā Kōwhiringa / Options – Identification and analysis

Consultation

9. The Statement of Proposal ([Appendix A](#)) contains the questions that went out to public consultation. Public consultation was held from Monday 8 July to Sunday 11 August 2024.
10. There was a total of 19 submissions made by 18 submitters, one person made two submissions with the identical answers. For the deliberation report and analysis 18 submissions will be analysed as the submission that was duplicated will not be counted twice.

Question 1 Town boundary maps

11. Of the 18 submissions received, 13 agreed with the introduction of town boundary maps, 5 did not answer the question.
12. Town boundary maps prohibit freedom camping within the town boundary except for the designated freedom camping spots. Under the Act, freedom camping means to camp using either a tent, a temporary structure, or a motor vehicle. Freedom camping does not include temporary and short-term parking of a motor vehicle, day-trip excursions, or resting or sleeping at the roadside in a motor vehicle to avoid driver fatigue. The Bylaw does not apply to the parking of a motor vehicle that is not being lived in/camped in.
13. The submission from the New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc (NZMCA) understood the rationale for the town boundary maps but highlighted that there are many responsible campers that want to freedom camp in urban areas or people may be visiting relatives and friends and need to camp overnight in their motorhome on the roadside. NZMCA states that Waitaki District Council's Freedom Camping Bylaw allows this... *'Freedom Camping in any Residential or Township zones (as defined in the Operative Waitaki District Plan) that is within a 50km/h zone can occur, provided it is not within the direct line of sight from a residential dwelling outside of which the vehicle is parked, complies with the conditions in Clause 6.2 of this bylaw, and the consent of the property owner or occupant has been obtained.'* [waitaki-district-responsible-freedom-camping-bylaw-amended.pdf](#)
14. A way to address this issue is under section 11.2 of the Proposed Bylaw. People can seek consent to freedom camp within the town boundary, e.g. freedom camp outside a friend's house. A waiver can be applied for, and approved waivers can be tracked which will assist staff and freedom camping ambassadors if complaints are raised. The Council currently has a system for freedom camping waivers for groups who hold events, so the waiver process for individuals would be an extension of this process.
15. An alternative option is to have a statement permitting freedom camping within the town boundary with certain conditions. If a statement was applied to the town boundary maps allowing freedom camping it would be generic so some freedom campers may still wish to apply for a waiver to cover the length of their stay.
16. Te Hāwera Community Board supported the town boundary maps and mentioned that it is important to designate areas and would dislike seeing freedom camping take place without monitoring.

17. Based on the consultation feedback this report recommends that town boundary maps are implemented in the Bylaw.

Question 2 Eltham LibraryPlus carpark

18. Of the 18 submissions received, 9 agreed with removing the Eltham LibraryPlus carpark as a freedom camping area, 2 disagreed, 7 did not answer the question.
19. One submitter who did not agree with removing the carpark as a freedom camping area was concerned that Tayler Street carpark will be overrun with freedom campers which had no toilets or bins and people will be urinating on the trees. The submitter was also concerned that Tayler Street carpark is next to a playground which should not be allowed.
20. The Eltham-Kaponga Community Board supported removing the Eltham LibraryPlus carpark as a freedom camping area.
21. Based on the consultation feedback received it is recommended to remove the Eltham LibraryPlus as a freedom camping area.

Question 3 Rukumoana Reserve (Eltham)

22. Of the 18 submissions received, 6 agreed with removing Rukumoana Reserve as a freedom camping area, 3 disagreed, 9 did not answer the question.
23. The Eltham-Kaponga Community Board supported removing the Rukumoana Reserve as a freedom camping area.
24. Based on the consultation feedback received it is recommended to remove the Rukumoana Reserve as a freedom camping area.

Question 4 Waihi Beach Reserve (Hāwera)

25. Of the 18 submissions received, 8 agreed with allowing tents and non-self-contained vehicles at the Waihi Beach Reserve, 5 disagreed, 5 did not answer the question.
26. The submitters who disagreed stated that it is a safety issue as the toilets struggle to keep up with demand, it can be an area that attracts anti-social behaviour, no cell phone coverage for emergencies, and that campers should support local campsites.
27. At the Waihi Beach Reserve there is a toilet-pod that contains two toilet pans. The pod is self-contained and holds a 2000L water tank, and a 2000L black water tank. The tanks have an alarm system attached to them so that when the water tank is nearly empty, or the black water tank is nearly full an alert is sent to Council staff.
28. Under section 7.0 of the proposed Bylaw a maximum of 3 tents and 3 vehicles will be permitted at the Waihi Beach Reserve.
29. Based on the consultation feedback received it is recommended to allow tents and non-self-contained vehicles at the Waihi Beach Reserve. Please note this amendment means the number of freedom camping vehicles will not increase, a maximum of 3 vehicles is permitted, however it is increasing the number of campers that could stay in the area. These will be a mix of self-contained, non-self-contained and tents.

Question 5 Tuke Street Reserve (Normanby)

30. Of the 18 submissions received, 7 agreed with removing Tuke Street Reserve as a freedom camping area, 4 disagreed, 7 did not answer the question.
31. Te Hāwera Community Board did not agree to removing Tuke Street Reserve as a freedom camping area, but also stated that the Normanby Domain is a better location for freedom campers.
32. Based on the consultation feedback received it is recommended to remove the Tuke Street Reserve as a freedom camping area. The site assessment report identified Tuke Street Reserve as an area that has no formed vehicle access and requires campers to drive over the kerb and because of its location on the corner of Tuke and Fitzroy Streets freedom campers may cause unintentional distraction for motorists.

Question 6 Halse Place (Ōpunakē)

33. Of the 18 submissions received, 8 agreed with removing the ability for people to camp in tents and non-self-contained vehicles at Halse Place, 1 disagreed, 9 did not answer the question.
34. Two submitters who agreed with the proposal also suggested that there should be designated parking spots for the allowable number of freedom campers, this would eliminate the issue of who turned up first and who must leave when the allowable limit is exceeded. Designated parking spots could also protect the public access to Middleton Bay.
35. The access to Middleton Bay was discussed at length in the hearing. There is no footpath to Middleton Bay alongside the road that leads down to that area, so the only safe pedestrian access is the staircase that connects Middleton Bay and Halse Place. Submitters said they find it intimidating when freedom campers park or loiter around the staircase at Halse Place so designated camping spots away from the staircase would be ideal. A suggestion was made that freedom campers should not stay within 10m of the staircase or anywhere that the public may wish to access such as the public toilets at Ōpunakē Lake, this was viewed as an agreeable solution.
36. A discussion was held with Council staff to determine if the freedom camping area at Halse Place can be sealed, but drainage could be an issue due to the runoff from the road and where the drains could be diverted to as they do not want to make the clifftop more unstable.
37. Based on the consultation feedback received it is recommended to remove the ability for people to freedom camp in tents and non-self-contained vehicles at Halse Place. It is also recommended to adjust section 7.16 to state vehicles and tents must not stay within 10m of public amenities and accessways, such as public toilets, picnic tables, playgrounds, roads, pathways and footpaths.

Question 7 Middleton Bay (Ōpunakē)

38. Of the 18 submissions received, 8 agreed with removing the ability for people to camp in tents at Middleton Bay, 1 disagreed, 9 did not answer the question.
39. One submitter in support of removing the ability for people to camp in tents stated it was not safe there.
40. Based on the consultation feedback received it is recommended to remove the ability for people to freedom camp in tents at Middleton Bay.

Question 8 Ōpunakē Recreation Grounds carpark

41. Of the 18 submissions received, 6 agreed with removing the ability for people to camp in non-self-contained vehicles at the western carpark of the Ōpunakē Recreation Grounds, 2 disagreed, 10 did not answer the question.
42. Based on the consultation feedback received it is recommended to remove the ability for people to freedom camp in non-self-contained vehicles at the western carpark of the Ōpunakē Recreation Grounds.

Question 9 Bedford/Egmont Street Reserve (Pātea)

43. Of the 18 submissions received, 10 agreed with removing the ability for people to camp at the Bedford/Egmont Street Reserve, 1 disagreed, 7 did not answer the question.
44. One submitter who agreed with removing this freedom camping site mentioned that it is an unsafe area as it is too close to the state highway traffic.
45. Based on the consultation feedback it is recommended to remove the Bedford/Egmont Street Reserve as a freedom camping area.

Question 10 Stafford Street Pool Reserve (Pātea)

46. Of the 18 submissions received, 10 agreed with removing the ability for people to camp at the Stafford Street Pool Reserve, 1 disagreed, 7 did not answer the question.
47. One submitter who agreed with removing this freedom camping site suggested this area should be improved to enable private housing to be developed, this may not be possible because it is the site of the old pool and is filled. The site may have other uses that will benefit the community.
48. Based on the consultation feedback it is recommended to remove the Bedford/Egmont Street Reserve as a freedom camping area.

Question 11 Wairoa Reserve (Waverley) – non-self-contained vehicles

49. Of the 18 submissions received, 4 agreed with allowing people to camp in non-self-contained vehicles at Wairoa Reserve, 5 disagreed, 9 did not answer the question.
50. Based on the consultation feedback it is recommended to retain status quo and not allow non-self-contained vehicles to freedom camp in this area.

Question 12 Wairoa Reserve (Waverley) – number of vehicles

51. Of the 18 submissions received, 7 agreed with increasing the number of vehicles that can freedom camp at Wairoa Reserve from 3 vehicles to 6 vehicles, 2 disagreed, 9 did not answer the question.
52. Based on the consultation feedback it is recommended that the number of vehicles that can freedom camp overnight at the Wairoa Reserve is increased from 3 to 6 vehicles per night.

TSB Hub Carpark (Hāwera)

53. Te Hāwera Community Board stated that the TSB Hub carpark area is an extremely busy area and is often difficult to get a park when an event is on, particularly on the Camberwell Road end. Te Hāwera Community Board queried with the campground so close, is it necessary to have this as a freedom camping area.
54. There is a significant amount of traffic due to the school and sporting events happening in the area. However, the freedom campers can only take up a maximum of 6 car parks. The TSB Hub carpark is close to town and recreation activities such as the Aquatic Centre and King Edward Park that may appeal to travellers.

Mana Bay (Pātea)

55. A submitter did not agree with freedom camping in tents at Mana Bay. The concerns raised were that the area is the walkway from the boat ramp to Mana Bay, and that the parking of vehicles in this area is destroying vegetation. The submitter also stated that the tenting area is quite a distance to the shower and toilets, and therefore people are unlikely to use the facilities when required. The submitter was also concerned about crime in the area and said that more lighting is needed, and bollards should be installed.
56. It is being proposed that freedom campers do not camp within 10m of a walkway, access route, or toilet facilities. This will assist in protecting the walkway which is along the boundary of the tenting area. The tenting area is a mowed area so it should be obvious to people where the tenting area is.
57. Based on past observations there were no tents recorded in the 2020-2021 or 2021-2022 season, there were 14 tents recorded in the 2022-2023 which ran from 1 November to 30 April. There are streetlights surrounding the tenting area.

Seaview Lookout (Pātea)

58. A request was made to extend the Seaview lookout so more than 3 vehicles can freedom camp overnight.
59. This request has been passed onto Council officers to investigate further. There may issues to investigate, such as resource consents and funding to extend this area. If the project is approved and the area is redeveloped the Bylaw can be reviewed at that time.

Number of freedom camping sites

- 60. A concern was raised about Ōpunakē having 6 freedom camping sites and Hāwera only having 3, and a question was raised about whether there was public consultation on this.
- 61. It is a requirement that public consultation is undertaken when developing or reviewing a bylaw.

Definition of a self-contained vehicle

- 62. The New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc (NZMCA) suggested to update the definition of self-contained vehicle to align with the Act. Based on this feedback the interpretation for a self-contained vehicle has been updated to accurately reflect the legislation.
- 63. The proposed Bylaw references warrants and certificate of self-containment so these interpretations have also be included in the Bylaw to remove the blue and green warrant system and replace with the new system.

Scoring system

- 64. The NZMCA mentioned the scoring system that is used in the Site Assessment Report (Appendix D). It was suggested that a score of 1 should not be used when there are no issues with a site as this feeds into the overall score which may mean that some sites become prohibited when no issues are highlighted.
- 65. The scoring system was developed in response to section 11(2)(a) of the Act which states:
 - (a) *The bylaw is necessary for 1 or more of the following purposes;*
 - (i) *To protect the area;*
 - (ii) *To protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area; and*
 - (iii) *To protect access to the area*
- 66. The Site Assessment Report examines public areas that may be suitable for freedom camping and assigns a score to each of the three areas stated in legislation.

Risk scoring	
1	No concerns regarding the site
2	Low concerns regarding the site
3	Some concerns regarding the site
4	Moderate concern regarding the site
5	High concerns regarding the site

- 67. An overall score of 9 means that the area should prohibit freedom camping. The submitter states that if an area has no issues, it should receive a score of 0 not 1 so it does not affect the overall score.
- 68. The legislation states that the bylaw may be necessary for one or more purposes not all three, so under the legislation if a site is tapu and/or has historical significance an assessment of the health and safety of people and access is not required. The same could be said for health and safety for those visiting an area, if the health and safety of people is

a risk, this alone is a reason to prohibit or restrict freedom camping without the need to assess protection of the area or access.

69. The Site Assessment Report was presented to the Policy and Strategy Committee and formed the basis of the Bylaw review.

Section 11 and 12

70. The NZMCA stated that they agree the Chief Executive (CE) should have the power to temporarily permit freedom camping in restricted or prohibited areas but not just the areas in schedule 3, but the whole district. This is covered under section 11.2 and waivers and modifications to the Bylaw comes under section 11.3.
71. A submitter stated that the CE should also have the authority to delegate the decision to approve waivers. This is an internal operational matter and does not need to be mentioned in the Bylaw.

Yellow warrant cards

72. The NZMCA issues yellow warrant cards to their members who cannot certify their vans under the Freedom Camping Act 2011. The yellow warrant cards allow people to remain members of the association and to visit private parks and events that require a certified self-contained vehicle. A concern raised was that people that had a yellow warrant would be fined under section 12.1 b) if they were parked in a public area during the day. It was requested that it is reworded to state that it is an offence to display a fraudulent green warrant.
73. The legislation currently allows blue and green warrant cards until 6 June 2025 and possibly beyond. In the proposed Bylaw the interpretation of freedom camp refers to section 5 of the Act which states freedom camping does not include temporary or short-term parking of a vehicle or day trip excursions. It is highly unlikely that a person would be issued an infringement for displaying a yellow warrant card unless they were parked in a public area with the intention of staying the night.
74. Based on the consultation feedback it is recommended to include in the interpretation section a definition of 'certificate of self-containment' and 'warrant card' to align with the Act. Section 7.0 general conditions states that, while freedom camping all self-contained vehicles must display a valid warrant card and present a certificate of self-containment when requested. Section 12.1 b) under offences and penalties has been updated to state 'Displays in a vehicle an altered or fraudulent warrant card while freedom camping or presents an altered or fraudulent certificate of self-containment to an Authorised Officer while freedom camping.'

Health NZ/ Te Whatu Ora submission

75. The submission received from Health New Zealand/Te Whatu Ora focused on protecting and promoting public health and offered suggestions relating to internal processes, signs, website information, and easy access to information via QR codes.

Changes to the proposed Bylaw

76. For clarity it was decided to update the numbers of allowable tents and vehicles at each site alongside the maps.
77. Under the current Bylaw the Glen nui campsite only allows tents. The proposed Bylaw stated that the site allowed tents, self-contained, and non-self-contained vehicles but this was not highlighted as a change in the Statement of Proposal. Therefore, it is recommended to leave Glen nui campsite as a camp that only allows tents.
78. Under the current Bylaw the parking area at Middleton Bay allows self-contained and non-self-contained vehicles. The proposed Bylaw stated that the site only allowed self-contained vehicles, but this was not highlighted as a change in the Statement of Proposal. Therefore, it is recommended to leave Middleton Bay carpark as an area that allows self-contained and non-self-contained vehicles.

Risks

79. The following points below analyse the risks involved in the review of the Bylaw.

a) Adverse effect on community

The Council is required to follow the requirements of legislation, and also balance the needs of the community alongside the needs of visitors to the District. The side effects of freedom camping have been highlighted to the Council by the community through the Bylaw review process. Where possible the needs of the community have been addressed and ongoing improvements, such as designated freedom camping parking spaces, will be investigated by Council staff.

b) Publicity/public perception

When reviewing the Bylaw, the Council should ensure consistency, transparency and fairness through the rules contained within the Bylaw for residents and visitors to the District.

A portion of the Site Assessment Report was concerned with managing freedom camper's expectations of sites that were listed as freedom camping areas. The sites that had issues with access, or posed an element of risk, were considered in the assessment of the site. As a Council we need to ensure that freedom campers are safe and free from harassment and the areas that they are staying in do not affect residents in the immediate area.

c) Political

Bylaws are to provide regulatory enforcement to local issues. The Council should consider the issues and apply appropriate levels of control (as per the Act) for particular activities to maintain public health and safety, protect the area and protect access to the area.

d) Legal

The Council must ensure that any amendments to the Bylaw are consistent with legislation and Council policy. The Bylaw must not be repugnant to general law and must not be inconsistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. The Bylaw must also provide certainty within its terms and must not place unreasonable controls on the public.

The proposed introduction of town boundary maps is something new for this Council, and they may be challenged. The legislation change that allows freedom camping in tents on all local authority land has forced us to think of innovative measures to ensure the Bylaw makes sense to our ratepayers and those visiting our District. The introduction of town boundary maps means a reduction in the number of signs that would otherwise have to be installed and maintained. Council Officers prefer to use an educational approach rather than an enforcement approach, but the enforcement tools are available should a situation arise where they need to be used.

Option(s) available

- 80. Option One: To approve all recommendations.
- 81. Option Two: To amend and approve all recommendations.
- 82. Option Three: To reject one or all recommendations and advise Council Officers of alternative action.

Whaiwhakaaro me ngā aromatawai / Considerations and Assessments

Assessment of Significance and Engagement

- 83. South Taranaki District Council's general approach to determining the level of "significance" will be to consider:

Criteria	Measure	Assessment
Degree	The number of residents and ratepayers affected and the degree to which they are affected by the decision or proposal.	HIGH, the Bylaw impacts a large proportion of the community.
LOS	The achievement of, or ability to achieve, the Council's stated levels of service as set out in the Long Term Plan.	LOW, there is no alternation of a service.
Decision	Whether this type of decision, proposal or issue has a history of generating wide public interest within South Taranaki.	MEDIUM, there is a moderate degree of public interest in the Bylaw and the decisions around it.
Financial	The impact of the decision or proposal on the Council's overall budget or included in an approved Long Term Plan and its ability to carry out its existing or proposed functions and activities now and in the future.	LOW, there is low financial impact of this Bylaw review.
Reversible	The degree to which the decision or proposal is reversible.	MEDIUM, the decisions made in the Bylaw are reversible but will require the consultation process to be held again.

Criteria	Measure	Assessment
Environment	The degree of impact the decision will have on the environment.	HIGH, the Bylaw assists in protecting significant environmental sites from the impact of freedom campers, and sets minimum standards for campers to adhere to when freedom camping.

84. In terms of the Council’s Significance and Engagement Policy this matter is of medium significance, however the LGA requires all bylaws to undergo consultation using the special consultative procedure which has been undertaken.

Legislative Considerations

85. The Act was updated by the introduction of the Self-Contained Motor Vehicles Legislation Act 2023. The Bylaw is made under the authority of the Act and the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) so it must be consistent with the changes that were introduced.
86. Under section 11 of the Act, the Council must use the SCP set out in section 83 and 86 of the LGA. Under section 157 of the LGA, Council must give public notice of any new or amended bylaws.

Financial/Budget Considerations

87. There are no additional financial costs related to the Bylaw review. Costs are met within existing operational budgets and will consist mostly of updating signage.

Consistency with Plans/Policies/Community Outcomes

88. Nothing in this report is inconsistent with any Council policy, plan, or strategy
89. This proposed Bylaw contributes to all of the Council’s community outcomes; Mana Mauri (Cultural well-being), Mana Tangata (Social well-being), Mana Oranga (Environmental well-being), and Mana Taiao (Environmental well-being).

Consideration for Iwi/Māori

90. Māori have a special connection to the land and have been consulted with as part of Freedom Camping Site Assessment Report through Te Kāhui Matauraura and Huinga-a-iwi.
91. Areas of land that are of high cultural significance have been assessed as prohibited areas. A clause has also been added to the Bylaw to state the Bylaw does not infringe on the rights of Iwi entitlements under settlement arrangements, such as camping licences or ūkaipō. This statement was added for clarity of understanding for readers of the Bylaw and enforcement staff.

Whakakapia / Conclusion

92. The recommendations in this report are the result of the consultation recently undertaken. If the recommendations are approved the revised Bylaw will be implemented on 1 November 2024 in time for the 2024/25 summer season.
93. It is a requirement to inform the public of the updated Bylaw and it is necessary to update the website, signs, and pamphlets related to freedom camping. The start date of 1 November gives Council officers time to complete this work.



Anne Sattler

**Kaitātari Mātāmua Kaupapa Here /
Senior Policy Advisor**



[Seen by]

Becky Wolland

**Pouhautū Rautaki me te Whaitikanga /
Head of Strategy and Governance**

Appendix A: Statement of Proposal

[Statement of Proposal - Freedom Camping - 2024 07 08.pdf](#)

Appendix B: Proposed Bylaw

[Proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw - consultation outcome - 2024 09 25.pdf](#)

Appendix C: Current Bylaw

[Freedom Camping Bylaw - current - adopted 2017-12-19 .pdf](#)

Appendix D: Site Assessment Report

[Site Assessment Report - 2024 review P&S - 2024 04 29.pdf](#)

Tūturu Hōpuni Kore
 Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016

Statement of Intent



Have your Say! Make a submission

The proposed review of the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016 is now open for public consultation from Monday 8 July to Sunday 11 August 2024. This is your chance to let the Council know your views about how we operate freedom camping in the District, so please take the time to have your say.

See pages 5 to 7 for the submission form.



www.southtaranaki.com/consultation

Tūtohu Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016

How to make a submission

Anyone can make a submission on the review of the Freedom Camping Bylaw, and we encourage you to let us know your views.

This feedback will be considered during the decision-making process, and we will inform you of the final bylaw.

You can let us know what you think about the proposed changes or anything else covered by the Freedom Camping Bylaw.

You can complete a submission form online at www.southtaranaki.com/consultations, or you can complete a paper copy of the submission form and drop it off at any Library Plus, Hāwera Administration Building, or post it to:
South Taranaki District Council
Private Bag 902,
Hāwera 4640

Please note that submissions, as part of the public consultation process, are a public record and will be included in a publicly available Council agenda and will remain on the Council's minute records.

Consultation Timeline

MONDAY 8 JULY

Consultation opens

SUNDAY 11 AUGUST

Consultation closes

MONDAY 2 SEPTEMBER

Council meeting to hear submissions

WEDNESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

Council meeting to deliberate on submissions

WEDNESDAY 30 OCTOBER

Council meeting to adopt new Bylaw

This Statement of Proposal is made for the purposes of section 83 and 86 of the Local Government Act 2002 and section 11B of the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

Background

The Freedom Camping Bylaw (the Bylaw) came into force on 4 July 2016. The introduction of the Self-Contained Motor Vehicles Legislation Act 2023 means that the Bylaw requires a review. It is an opportune time to do a full review and examine all the freedom camping sites and look into other improvements that could be made to the Bylaw.

Legislative Framework

The Freedom Camping Act 2011 (FCA) allows freedom camping in a local authority area in self-contained motor vehicles and tents except for the places where it is prohibited under a bylaw.

Determinations

In reviewing this Bylaw, Council determined that a bylaw made under the Freedom Camping Act 2011 is still the most appropriate way to manage issues relating to freedom camping.

The Council considers the proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw to be the most appropriate form of bylaw.

The Council has assessed the proposed Bylaw and it is not inconsistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. Any implications for rights under the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 will be reassessed before the final bylaw is made.

Tūtohu Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016

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Summary of proposed changes to the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016

Clause	What has changed	Why?
1.1	The inclusion of section 11A.	The Council wants to continue to allow non-self-contained vehicles to freedom camp. The Bylaw is made under section 11 and 11A of the FCA.
2.0	Wording of the reviews undertaken.	This clause needs to be updated to reflect the reviews undertaken to date and when the revised Bylaw will take effect.
5.0	Interpretations.	These have been updated to reflect the interpretations contained within the FCA, and to add new definitions for clarity when reading the Bylaw.
6.0	No person may freedom camp on any local authority area within town boundaries.	The FCA allows people to freedom camp in tents on any local authority area. The Council wants to control where people freedom camp, especially in tents. A cost-effective solution is to prohibit all areas rather than identifying each pocket of local authority land and installing and maintaining signage.
7.0	Removing clause 7.2 that states freedom camping in tents is only permitted in restricted areas identified.	Under the FCA we cannot ban freedom camping in tents across the district
8.0 and 9.0	Wording	Update wording to reference the new schedules.
10.00	The addition of 'Animals must be under the control of their owner at all times and not cause a nuisance to others.'	Dogs are covered by the Dog Control Bylaw and Policy. This statement ensures clarity that people must control all types of animals that they freedom camp with.
12.00	Replace 'Council' with 'Chief Executive'.	The Chief Executive has had this authority in the past, updating the wording provides clarity as to whether the Councillors or the Chief Executive makes the decision.
13.00	Addition of clause 13.1	The Act prohibits the use of non-self-contained vehicles unless they are permitted in an area under a bylaw. The additional clause allows non-self-contained vehicles to freedom camp during special events at the locations listed in Schedule 3.
	Replace 'Council' with 'Chief Executive'.	The Chief Executive has had this authority in the past, updating the wording provides clarity as to whether the Councillors or the Chief Executive makes the decision.
	The addition of 'Notes' to clauses.	This provides clarity for people as to the restrictions that can be waived or a modified through a request.
	Additional section. Relationship of Bylaw with Iwi settlement legislation.	This clause is for clarity. The right to camp under the Iwi settlement agreements is not to be overridden by any other legislation, including bylaws.

Tūtohu Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016

Changes to the Schedules

	Introduction of town boundary maps for Eltham, Kaponga, Hāwera, Manaia, Normanby, Ōpunakē, Pātea, and Waverley.	The FCA allows people to freedom camp in tents on any local authority land. This could be problematic for the District as we do not have public facilities available in all areas. Therefore, the most cost-effective option is to prohibit freedom camping in all townships except for the areas where it is permitted.
Eltham	Removal of Eltham LibraryPlus Car-park as a freedom camping site.	There have been instances of contamination at this site, and the site only has 8 carparks to service the library, which are needed for library users.
Eltham	Removal of Rukumoana Reserve as a freedom camping site.	This site is remote and overgrown, the access is a deep rutted track, and fires have been lit there recently. It is not a site we want to promote as a freedom camping site as campers' expectations may not be met. The site is better suited to the planting of trees as part of Council's Environment and Sustainability Plan.
Hāwera	Rearrange the freedom camping areas at Pukekino Landing.	This ensures the area is well utilised with easy access for freedom campers to enjoy.
Hāwera	Allow non-self-contained vehicles and tents at Waihi Beach Reserve and update the camping areas.	The site has a toilet facility so it can support tents and non-self-contained vehicles. We want to continue to maintain access for the general public, so freedom camping is restricted to a certain area of the Reserve.
Normanby	Removal of Tuke Street Reserve.	There is no formed access and no safety barriers to protect campers from passing traffic, the site is located within a residential area and is not suitable for freedom camping.
Ōpunakē	Only allow self-contained vehicles to freedom camp at Halse Place.	It is unlikely that people staying in tents and non-self-contained vehicles will go down a flight of 84 steps to use toilet facilities, therefore the Council is recommending only self-contained vehicles use this area.
Ōpunakē	Removal of the tenting area at Middleton Bay.	The area set aside for tents is eroding. To ensure the safety of campers it is recommended this area no longer permits camping. Non-self-contained and self-contained vehicles can continue to camp in the carpark area.
Ōpunakē	Only allow self-contained vehicles at the western carpark of the Ōpunakē Recreation Grounds.	The toilet facilities are more than 100m walking distance, it is unlikely that people will use the facilities when needed.
Ōpunakē	Remove the Southern Headland as a freedom camping area.	The land has been given back to Iwi, the portion that Council owns is landlocked and therefore unsuitable for freedom camping.
Ōpunakē	Remove Arawhata Road carpark.	Council does not own this portion of land and therefore it is not covered by the Bylaw.
Pātea	Remove Bedford/Egmont Street Reserve as a freedom camping area.	This area is in the centre of town on a bend next to the State Highway. People accessing the Reserve may cause traffic disruptions and there are no safety barriers in place to protect campers from traffic risks.
Pātea	Remove Stafford Street Pool Reserve as a freedom camping area.	The access to the Reserve is difficult, and the ground is uneven. The site is located within a residential area and is not suitable for freedom camping.
Waverley	Allow non-self-contained vehicles at the freedom camping area and increase the number of vehicles from 3 to 6 vehicles per night at the Wairoa Reserve.	The site has a toilet facility so the site can support non-self-contained vehicles. There is no suitable tenting area and there is a campground close by for people who prefer to stay in a tent. The site is popular and is large enough to support 6 vehicles overnight.
Cemeteries	The maps have been removed and a table has been included instead.	The location description and physical aspects of the site, mean that the maps are not necessary for the cemeteries.
Significant sites	The description and background of each site has been removed	These sites are significant because of their cultural and/or environmental importance. It was felt that because they are prohibited no further information was required.
Special events	This is a new section that has been added.	This section relates to clause 13.1 that allows non-self-contained vehicles to freedom camp in these areas for special events with the consent of the Chief Executive.



Puka Tāpaetanga Submission Form

Freedom Camping Bylaw

Your details

First name/Initials

.....

Last name

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Organisation (if applicable)

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Address

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Contact Phone

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Email

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Do you wish to speak in support of your submission?

(If no boxes are ticked, it will be considered that you do not wish to speak)

Yes

No

If yes, do you wish to speak:

In Person

Online (MSTeams)

Please tick your preferred option

1. Do you agree with the introduction of town boundary maps?

Yes No

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2. Do you agree with removing the Eltham LibraryPlus carpark as a freedom camping area?

Yes No

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3. Do you agree with removing the Rukumoana Reserve (Eltham) as a freedom camping area?

Yes No

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4. Do you agree with allowing tents and non-self-contained vehicles at the Waihi Beach Reserve (Hāwera)?

Yes No

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Puka Tāpaetanga Submission Form

Freedom Camping Bylaw

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Please tick your preferred option

5. Do you agree with removing the Tuke Street Reserve (Normanby) as a freedom camping area?

Yes No

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6. Do you agree with removing the ability for people to camp in tents and non-self-contained vehicles at Halse Place (Ōpunakē)?

Yes No

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7. Do you agree with removing the ability for people to camp in tents at Middleton Bay (Ōpunakē)?

Yes No

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8. Do you agree with removing the ability for people to camp in non-self-contained vehicles at the western carpark of the Ōpunakē Recreation Grounds?

Yes No

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9. Do you agree with removing the Bedford/Egmont Street Reserve (Pātea) as a freedom camping area?

Yes No

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10. Do you agree with removing the Stafford Street Pool Reserve (Pātea) as a freedom camping area?

Yes No

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11. Do you agree with allowing people to camp in non-self-contained vehicles at the Wairoa Reserve (Waverley)?

Yes No

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12. Do you agree with increasing the number of vehicles that can freedom camp at the Wairoa Reserve (Waverley) from 3 to 6 vehicles per night?

Yes No

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Please note any further comments on the next page



Puka Tāpaetanga Submission Form

Freedom Camping Bylaw

Any other comments

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(Please continue on a separate page if required)

Submissions close Sunday 11 August 2024

Privacy Statement

We collect personal information from you, including your name and contact details. We collect your personal information in order to contact you throughout the Freedom Camping Bylaw consultation process.

Besides our staff, we share this information with the public as part of the consultation process to assist with our decision-making on the Freedom Camping Bylaw. Providing some information is optional. If you choose not to enter contact details, we'll be unable to contact you with regard to the process, for example, for points of clarification in your submission and the outcomes.

You have the right to ask for a copy of any personal information we hold about you, and to ask for it to be corrected if you think it is wrong. If you'd like to ask for a copy of your information, or to have it corrected, please contact us by email PrivacyOfficer@stdc.govt.nz, or phone 0800 111 323.



www.southtaranaki.com

~~Tūtohu~~ Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture- ā-Rohe

~~Proposed~~ Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016

Person Responsible: Operations Manager – Property
and Facilities

Date Adopted:
Status: Draft

Date Last Reviewed: 11/12/2017
Next Review Date: 24/06/2034
Review Period: 10 years
Revision Number: V3

www.southtaranaki.com



Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

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1.0 Title

- 1.1 This Bylaw is made under section 11 and 11A of the Freedom Camping Act 2011; and shall be known as the South Taranaki District Council Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016.

2.0 Commencement

- 2.1 This Bylaw came into force on 4 July 2016, it was reviewed in September 2024. The amendments from this review will come into force on 1 November 2024.

3.0 Scope

- 3.1 This Bylaw relates to Council owned or Council managed land within the South Taranaki District.

Note: Land which is owned by the Council and is under any lease or agreement managed by other legislation, is not considered as freely available public land which can be utilised for freedom camping purposes.

- 3.2 Compliance with this Bylaw does not remove the requirement to comply with all other Acts, Regulations, Bylaw and rules. This includes parking or other traffic restrictions, littering, lighting of fires, excessive noise, and the compliance with the directions of the Enforcement Officers.

4.0 Purpose of the Bylaw

- 4.1 The purpose of this Bylaw is to control freedom camping in the South Taranaki District by identifying local authority controlled and managed areas where freedom camping is permitted and the restrictions that apply in those areas; and to
- a) Protect local authority areas;
 - b) Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the local authority areas; or
 - c) Protect access to local authority areas.

5.0 Interpretation

- 5.1 In this Bylaw –

Act means the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

Authorised Officer means any person appointed by the Chief Executive of the Council for purposes of acting as an Authorised Officer under this Bylaw.



Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

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Certificate of self-containment means a certificate of self-containment issued under section 87U of the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 2006.

Chief Executive means the chief executive appointed by the Council under section 42 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Council means the South Taranaki District Council.

District means the South Taranaki District.

Freedom camp has the same meaning as in section 5 of the Act.

Iwi means the four Iwi of the South Taranaki District being Ngā Rauru, Ngā Ruahine, Ngāti Ruanui, and Taranaki.

Local authority area means an area of land, or any part of any area of land that is within the South Taranaki District and is controlled or managed by the Council under any enactment, as per section 6 of the Act.

Motor vehicle means each of the following:

- a). a motor vehicle within the meaning of section 2(1) of the Land Transport Act 1998;
- b). a unit used for camping that is not itself a vehicle but is capable of being –
 - i). transported by means of being loaded onto a vehicle; and
 - ii). Used for camping whether or not it is loaded onto a vehicle.

Non-self-contained vehicle means a motor vehicle which does not have a valid certificate or warrant of self-containment.

Permitted means freedom camping in a particular area is allowed with or without conditions.

Person/s includes a natural person and also any corporation sole and also a body of persons whether corporate or non-corporate.

Prohibited means freedom camping in a particular area is not allowed.

Restricted means the Council has placed conditions on freedom camping in a particular area.

Road has the same meaning as defined under the Land Transport Act 1998 and encompasses all land lying between the boundaries of a road including footpaths and berms.

Self-contained vehicle means a motor vehicle that has a valid certificate of self-containment issued in accordance with section 87U(3)(d) of the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and



Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

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Drainlayers Act 2006—Up to and including the 6 June 2025 blue warrants will be accepted as proof of self-containment. (but see subpart 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 1AA for the meaning of self-contained during the transitional period).

Self-containment certificate and self-containment warrant means a certificate and warrant that is used during the transitional period and was issued under clause 15 of the New Zealand Standard 5465:2001 Self containment of motor caravans and caravans.

Tent means a collapsible shelter used for camping or sheltering outdoors.

Warrant card means the warrant card referred to in section 87X(1)(b) of the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 2006.

Waste means any kind of waste, including human waste.

6.0 Freedom camping areas

6.1 Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles and tents is permitted within the local authority area unless it is prohibited or restricted as detailed in Schedule 1 and 2 of this Bylaw.

6.2 Freedom camping in non-self-contained vehicles is permitted at restricted areas identified in Schedule 1 of this Bylaw.

7.0 General conditions

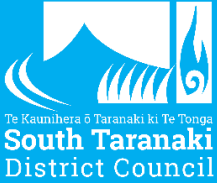
7.1 Freedom camping at any site (permitted or restricted) may only occur as follows:

7.1.1 All self-contained vehicles must display a valid warrant card or self-containment warrant while freedom camping. A person who is freedom camping must produce a certificate of self-containment, or a self-containment certificate when requested by an Authorised Officer.

7.1.2 No person may freedom camp for more than three (3) consecutive nights in any calendar month, at any one site.

7.1.~~32~~ A maximum of three (3) vehicles may be parked in any one area on any one night, unless expressly identified in Schedule 1 or provided for through signage at the site.

7.1.~~43~~ There must be no more than three (3) tents (in any one area as listed and permitted under Schedule 1 of the Bylaw) at any one time, unless expressly provided for through signage at the site.



Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

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7.1.~~54~~ All vehicles must park within existing defined car parking areas, where they exist. If parking at the site contains designated freedom camping parking spaces, freedom campers must use those parking spaces for their vehicles.

7.1.~~65~~ All vehicles must be legally parked.

7.1.~~76~~ All vehicles and tents must not stay within 10m of public amenities and accessways, such as public toilets, picnic tables, playgrounds, ~~block accessways, such as~~ roads, pathways, and footpaths.

7.1.~~87~~ No person may light any fire in a local authority area except:
a) in a place specifically provided by the Council for that purpose; or
b) with the prior written permission of the Council.

7.1.~~98~~ All waste must be removed from the site and disposed of, at or in, a Council approved disposal facility.

7.1.~~109~~ Any occupant of a vehicle or tent must use the serviceable public toilet facilities available at the designated sites, if no self-contained facilities are available.

7.1.~~110~~ The site must be left in a clean and tidy state.

7.1.~~121~~ No vegetation shall be damaged or removed from the site.

7.1.~~132~~ All conditions stipulated on any signage at the site must be complied with.

8.0 Animals

8.1 Animals or pets are permitted at local authority areas, unless specifically prohibited within this Bylaw, other Council Bylaws or any other enactment. Animals must be under the control of their owner at all times and not cause a nuisance to others.

9.0 Freedom campers must comply with any request to move on

9.1 An Authorised Officer may require a person, who he or she believes is not abiding by the general conditions or committing or has committed an offence to leave the local authority area concerned, within a specified timeframe.

10.0 Council may temporarily prohibit freedom camping

10.1 The Chief Executive may, by providing 24 hours' notice, impose temporary prohibitions on freedom camping in any local authority area due to the following:
a) Maintenance of the area or facilities at the area;



Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

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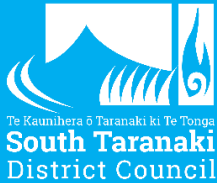
- b) Local events being held at an area; or
- c) Health and safety issues or emergency situations.

11.0 Council consent to freedom camp

- 11.1 Consent must be sought from the Chief Executive to freedom camp in the areas listed in Schedule 3, which may be granted with or without conditions. The areas listed in Schedule 3 allow non-self-contained vehicles, self-contained vehicles, and tents to freedom camp during organised special events.
- 11.2 Consent must be sought from the Chief Executive to freedom camp in a prohibited area in Schedule 1, which may be granted with or without conditions. Note: Under this clause freedom camping can only be permitted in self-contained vehicles and tents.
- 11.3 Consent must be sought from the Chief Executive for a waiver or modification to freedom camping restrictions in an area listed in Schedule 1, which may be granted with or without conditions. Note: Under this clause freedom camping waivers or modifications can only apply to types of camping already permitted, if the site does not allow non-self-contained vehicles this cannot be modified.
- 11.4 A request must be applied for, in writing, to the Chief Executive at least five working days prior to the date of the planned event, waiver, or modification.
- 11.5 If an Authorised Officer believes that the person(s) to whom consent has been granted, in accordance with this section, has:
 - a) Damaged or is likely to cause damage to the site; and/or
 - b) Breached any conditions of the consent,
 the Chief Executive may immediately revoke the consent.

12.0 Offences and penalties

- 12.1 Every person commits an offence who:
 - a) Freedom camps or makes preparation to freedom camp in the District in breach of any prohibition or restriction in this Bylaw;
 - b) Displays in a vehicle an invalid, altered or fraudulent warrant card or self-containment warrant -while freedom camping. ~~or~~ ~~or~~ Presents an invalid, altered or fraudulent certificate of self-containment or self-containment certificate –to an Authorised Officer while freedom camping;
 - c) Freedom camps in the District in a self-contained vehicle with more people than what the vehicle is certified for;



Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

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- d) Interferes with or damages the area, its flora or fauna or any structure in the area;
 - e) Deposits waste on the land;
 - f) Discharges a substance which is likely to be noxious, dangerous, offensive or objectionable to the extent that it has or is likely to have a significant adverse effect on the environment; or has caused, or is likely to cause, significant concern to the community or users of the area or land;
 - g) Obstructs, hinders, impedes, assaults, threatens or behaves in a threatening manner or intimidates an Authorised Officer, or incites others to do so, in the performance of any duty or exercise of any power conferred upon the Authorised Officer under this Bylaw;
 - h) Fails or refuses to leave a local authority area when required to do so by an Authorised Officer; or
 - i) Refuses to give information when required to do so by an Authorised Officer in accordance with clause 12.2 below or gives false or misleading information.
- 12.2 Where an Authorised Officer believes on reasonable grounds that a person has committed or is committing an offence, the Authorised Officer may direct the person to give:
- a) Their full name, date of birth, full address, telephone number, and occupation; and
 - b) The whereabouts of any person connected in any way with the alleged offence.
- 12.3 A person who commits an offence against this Bylaw is liable to:
- a) An infringement fee of the amount prescribed by regulations made under section 20E of the Act for the offence; or
 - b) \$400.00, if no fee is prescribed for the offence.

13.0 Relationship of Bylaw with settlement legislation

- 13.1 This Bylaw does not limit or affect the rights of Iwi entitlements under their relevant settlement legislation.

This Bylaw was made by the South Taranaki District Council on 4 July 2016.

This Bylaw was renewed by the South Taranaki District Council on 11 December 2017, and 25 September 2024.



Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe Freedom Camping Bylaw

THE COMMON SEAL of the SOUTH)
TARANAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL was)
hereto affixed by resolution)
of the said Council in the)
presence of:

.....

Mayor

.....

Chief Executive

Schedule One

ELTHAM

All freedom camping within the red town boundary is prohibited on council owned or managed land, except for the areas where it is permitted at Bridger Park Carpark and Tayler Street Carpark.





Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

Bridger Park Carpark

Freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. A maximum of 3 self-contained vehicles can stay at this site overnight.



Taylor Street Carpark

This carpark is located at 36 Taylor Street. The carpark is connected to Taylor Park, which is an off-leash dog park.

Freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. A maximum of 3 self-contained vehicles can stay at this site overnight.



ELTHAM - Surrounding area

Glen nui campground

This campground is located 25km east of Eltham on Glen Nui Road.

The campground has toilet facilities. Freedom camping is permitted in tents, ~~non-self-contained vehicles, and self-contained vehicles.~~ A maximum of 3 tents can stay at this site overnight.



Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve

Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve is located 15km east of Eltham on Sangster Road. No animals are allowed within the Reserve.

All freedom camping within the Reserve is prohibited except for the areas highlighted in the map below.

- A = A maximum of 3 self-contained vehicles can stay overnight. Three vehicles per night.
- B = A maximum of 3 Non-self-contained vehicles can stay overnight. Three vehicles per night.
- C = A maximum of 3 Tents can stay overnight.



Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

KAPONGA

All freedom camping within the red town boundary is prohibited on Council owned or managed land, except for the areas where it is permitted at Thoumine Park Carpark and Victoria Park Carpark.



Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

Thoumine Park Carpark

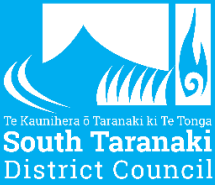
Freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. A maximum of 3 self-contained vehicles can stay at this site overnight.



Victoria Park Carpark

Freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. A maximum of 3 self-contained vehicles can stay at this site overnight.





Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

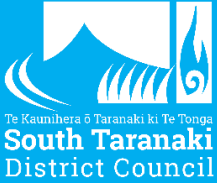
Freedom Camping Bylaw

HĀWERA

All freedom camping within the red town boundary is prohibited on council owned or managed land, except for the areas where it is permitted at Turuturu Road Soccer Grounds Carpark, TSB Hun Carpark, and Albion Street Carpark.

The Hāwera Holiday Park is located by the TSB Hub on Waihi Road, people can camp there for a fee.





Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

Turuturu Road Soccer Grounds Carpark

Freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. A maximum of 3 self-contained vehicles can stay at this site overnight.



TSB Hub Carpark

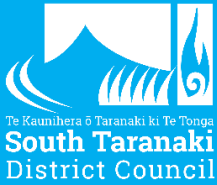
Freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. A maximum of 6 self-contained vehicles can stay at this site overnight. Six vehicles can stay per night in total. Three vehicles in the Waihi Road carpark, and three vehicles in the Camberwell Road carpark.



Albion Street Carpark

Freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles and non-self-contained vehicles. A maximum of 3 vehicles can stay at this site overnight.





Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

HĀWERA - Surrounding area

Pukekino Landing

Pukekino Landing is located at the end of Tangahoe Valley Road, 29km (1¼ hr drive) north-east of Hāwera.

Freedom Camping is prohibited in the area shown in the map except for the areas highlighted.

A = Self-contained motor vehicles.

B = Tents and non-self-contained vehicles.

A maximum of 3 tents and 3 vehicles can stay at this area overnight.



Waihi Beach Reserve

Waihi Beach Reserve is located at the end of Denby Road, 5km south of Hāwera.

Freedom Camping is prohibited in the area shown in the map except for the areas highlighted.

A = Tents and non-self-contained vehicles.

B = Self-contained vehicles.

A maximum of 3 tents and 3 vehicles can stay at this area overnight.





Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

MANAIA

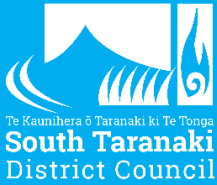
All freedom camping within the red town boundary is prohibited on council owned or managed land, except for the area where it is permitted at the Manaia Domain Carpark.



Manaia Domain Carpark

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. A maximum of 3 vehicles can stay at this site overnight.





Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

NORMANBY

All freedom camping within the red town boundary is prohibited on council owned or managed land, except for the area where it is permitted at the Normanby Domain Carpark.



Normanby Domain Carpark

Freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. A maximum of 3 vehicles can stay at this site overnight.



Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

ŌPUNAKĒ

All freedom camping within the red town boundary is prohibited on council owned or managed land, except for the areas where it is permitted at the Ōpunakē Recreation Grounds Carpark, Halse Place, Middleton Bay Carpark, Northern Headland Carpark, Hurst Park Railway Reserve, and Ōpunakē Lake.

The Ōpunakē Beach Holiday Park is located on Beach Road, people can camp there for a fee.



Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

Ōpunakē Recreation Grounds Carpark

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. A maximum of 3 vehicles can stay at this site overnight.



Halse Place

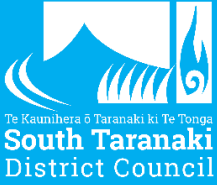
Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. A maximum of 12 vehicles can stay at this site overnight.



Middleton Bay Carpark

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained and non-self-contained vehicles. A maximum of 3 vehicles can stay at this site overnight.





Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

Northern Headland Carpark

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. A maximum of 3 vehicles can stay at this site overnight.



Hurst Park Railway Reserve

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. A maximum of 3 vehicles can stay at this site overnight.



Ōpunakē Lake Carpark

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles and tents. A maximum of 6 vehicles and 3 tents can stay at this site overnight.



Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

PĀTEA

All freedom camping within the red town boundary is prohibited on council owned or managed land, except for the areas where it is permitted at the York Street Picnic Area, Seaview Lookout, and Mana Bay.

The Pātea Beach Holiday Park is located on Beach Road, people can camp here for a fee.



Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

York Street Picnic Area

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. A maximum of 3 vehicles can stay at this site overnight.



Seaview Lookout

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. A maximum of 3 vehicles can stay at this site overnight.



Mana Bay

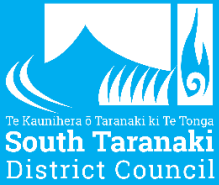
Freedom Camping is permitted in the areas highlighted.

A = A maximum of 3 Tents can stay overnight.

B = Non-self-contained vehicles and self-contained. A maximum of 6 Six vehicles can stay per night overnight.

C = Non-self-contained vehicles and self-contained vehicles. A maximum of 2 Two vehicles can stay overnight. per night.



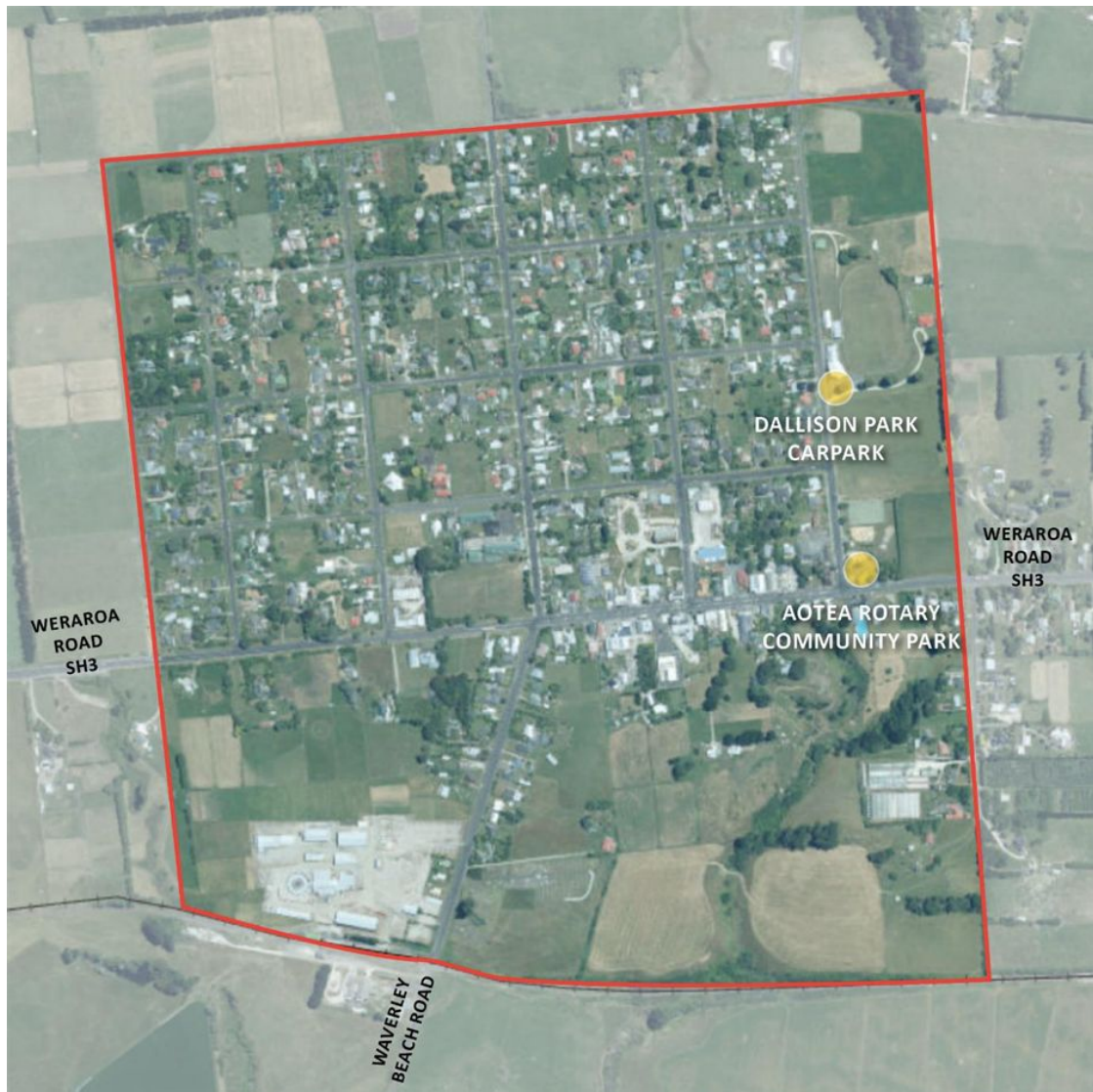


Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

WAVERLEY

All freedom camping within the red town boundary is prohibited on council owned or managed land, except for the areas where it is permitted at the Dallison Park Carpark and Aotea Rotary Community Park Carpark.





Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe Freedom Camping Bylaw

Dallison Park Carpark

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. A maximum of 3 vehicles can stay at this site overnight.



Aotea Rotary Community Park

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles, and tents. A maximum of 3 tents and 3 vehicles can stay at this site overnight.



WAVERLEY – Surrounding Area

Wairoa Reserve

Wairoa Reserve is located 9km south of Waverley in the Waverley Beach settlement.

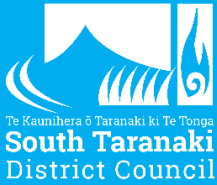
Freedom Camping is prohibited in the area shown in the map except for the areas highlighted. A maximum of 6Six self-contained vehicles can stay overnight. per night.

A = Self-contained vehicles

B = Non-self-contained vehicles and self-contained vehicles.

NOTE: There is a campground above this area where people can camp for a fee.





Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

Schedule Two – Prohibited areas

Cemeteries

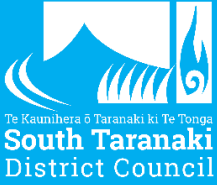
All cemeteries in the South Taranaki District are considered to have a high level of historical and cultural significance. All cemeteries prohibit freedom camping.

Cemetery	Location
Eltham Cemetery	206 Anderson Road, Eltham. Located on the corner of Anderson and Rāwhitiroa Roads.
Kaponga Cemetery	39 Park Lane, Kaponga
Hāwera Cemetery	66 Gladstone Street, Hāwera. Entrances on Gladstone Street and High Road.
Manaia Cemetery	Cemetery Road, (off Hassard Street) Manaia
Ōhawe Cemetery	Hoka Street, Ōhawe (access off Kepa Street, Ōhawe)
Ōkaiawa Cemetery	Tito Road, Ōkaiawa. Located at the southern end of Tito Road.
Ōpunakē Cemetery	Wilson Road, Ōpunakē. Located on the corner of Wilson Road and Halse Place.
Otakeho Cemetery	Surf Highway 45, Otakeho
Pātea Cemetery	Scotland Street, Pātea
Waihi Cemetery	Pikitūroa Road, Normanby.

Significant sites

These sites prohibit freedom camping.





Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe Freedom Camping Bylaw



PAORA ROAD



RĀWHITIROA SWIMMING POOL AND RESERVE



OKIWA TERRACE RESERVE. NOTE: THERE IS A CAMPGROUND OFF NUKUMARU PARADE, PEOPLE CAN CAMP THERE FOR A FEE.



ŌAONUI RESERVE, TAI ROAD



KAŪPOKONUI BEACH RESERVE. NOTE: THERE IS A CAMPGROUND WITHIN THE RESERVE PEOPLE CAN CAMP AT FOR A FEE.



Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

Schedule 3 – Special events

The Chief Executive can allow non-self-contained vehicles, self-contained vehicles, and tents to freedom camp in these areas for organised special events.

Approval must be sort prior to the event, the approval will come with conditions including where within these areas freedom camping is permitted.

Town	Area	Location
Eltham	Taumata Park	Located at the northern end of Preston Street in Eltham.
Hāwera	Hicks Park	Located between Waihi Road and Camberwell Road, beside the TSB Hub building and carparking areas. The Park has entrances off Pacey Avenue and Reid Avenue.
	Turuturu Road Soccer Grounds	Located on Turuturu Road opposite the southern end of Kamahi Avenue and Fantham Street.
Kaponga	Victoria Park	Is bordered by Victoria Street, Fitzgerald Avenue and Park Lane.
Manaia	Manaia Domain	Located at the eastern end of Karaka Street, bordered by Hassard Street and Bennet Drive.
Normanby	Normanby Domain	Located at the northern end of Ketemarae Road.
Ōpunakē	Ōpunakē Recreation Grounds	Is bordered by Tasman Street, Heaphy Road, Halse Place and Longfellow Road.
Pātea	Pātea Domain	Is located at the south-eastern end of Surrey Street and is bordered by Egmont Street.
Waverley	Dallison Park	Is located on Chester Street at the eastern end of Hussey Street.





Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016

South Taranaki District Council



South Taranaki
Alive with opportunity



FREEDOM CAMPING BYLAW 2016 SOUTH TARANAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL

1.0 Title

1.1 This Bylaw is made under section 11 of the Freedom Camping Act 2011; and shall be known as the South Taranaki District Council Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016.

2.0 Commencement

2.1 This Bylaw shall come into force on 4 July 2016. This Bylaw was reviewed on 11 December and the amendments shall come into force on 21 December 2017.

3.0 Scope

3.1 This Bylaw relates to Council owned or Council managed land within the South Taranaki District.

Note: Land which is owned by the Council and is under any lease or agreement managed by other legislation, is not considered as freely available public land which can be utilised for freedom camping purposes.

3.2 Compliance with this Bylaw does not remove the requirement to comply with all other Acts, Regulations, Bylaw and rules. This includes parking or other traffic restrictions, littering, lighting of fires, excessive noise, and the compliance with the directions of Enforcement Officers.

4.0 Purpose of the Bylaw

4.1 The purpose of this Bylaw is to control freedom camping in the South Taranaki District by identifying local authority controlled and managed areas where freedom camping is permitted and the restrictions that apply in those areas; and to

- a) Protect local authority areas;
- b) Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the local authority areas; or
- c) Protect access to local authority areas.

5.0 Interpretation

5.1 In this Bylaw –

Act means the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

Authorised Officer means any person appointed by the Chief Executive of the Council for purposes of acting as an Authorised Officer under this Bylaw.

Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....



Council means the South Taranaki District Council.

District means the South Taranaki District.

Freedom camping means to camp (other than at a camping ground) within 200 metres of a motor vehicle accessible area or the mean low-water springs line of any sea or harbour, or on or within 200 metres of a formed road, using one or more of the following:

- a) A tent or other temporary structure;
- b) A caravan; or
- c) A car, campervan, camper trailer, house truck, or other motor vehicle.

Note: Freedom camping does not include the following activities:

- a) Temporary and short-term parking of a motor vehicle;
- b) Recreational activities commonly known as day-trip excursions;
- c) Resting or sleeping at the roadside in a caravan or motor vehicle to avoid driver fatigue.

Local authority area (area) means an area of land, or any part of any area of land that is within the South Taranaki District and is controlled or managed by the Council under any enactment, as per section 6 of the Act.

Motor vehicle includes a campervan and motorhome.

Non-self-contained vehicle means a vehicle which does not have any built-in on-board ablutionary or sanitary facilities.

Permitted means freedom camping in a particular area is allowed.

Person/s includes a natural person and also any corporation sole and also a body of persons whether corporate or non-corporate.

Prohibited means freedom camping in a particular area is not allowed.

Restricted means the Council has placed conditions on freedom camping in a particular area.

Road has the same meaning as defined under the Land Transport Act 1998, and encompasses all land lying between the boundaries of a road including footpaths and berms.

Self-contained vehicle means a vehicle designed and built for the purpose of camping which has the capability of meeting the ablutionary and sanitary needs of occupants of that vehicle for a minimum of three days without requiring any external services or discharging any waste and complies with New Zealand Standard 5465:2001, as evidenced by the display of a current self-containment warrant issued under New Zealand Standard Self-Containment of Motor Caravans and Caravans, NZS 5465:2001.

Tent/tenting means a temporary portable structure made of cloth, supported by one or more poles and stretched tight by cords or loops attached to pegs and driven into the ground.

Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....



Vehicle has the same meaning as defined under the Land Transport Act 1998.

Waste means any kind of waste, including human waste.

6.0 Freedom Camping Prohibited Areas

6.1 No person may freedom camp in any local authority area identified in Schedule One of this Bylaw.

7.0 Freedom Camping Restricted Areas

7.1 Freedom camping in non-self-contained vehicles is only permitted in restricted areas identified in Schedule Two of this Bylaw.

7.2 Freedom camping in tents is only permitted in restricted areas identified in Schedule Three of this Bylaw.

8.0 Freedom Camping Permitted Areas

8.1 Generally freedom camping is permitted in any vehicle accessible area within the local authority area; however, this is restricted to self-contained vehicles only, unless it is a restricted or prohibited area as detailed within Schedules One, Two or Three of this Bylaw.

9.0 General Conditions

9.1 Following the designations mentioned in section 7.0 and 8.0 of this Bylaw, freedom camping at any site (permitted or restricted) may only occur as follows:

9.1.1 No person may freedom camp for more than three (3) consecutive nights in any calendar month, at any one site.

9.1.2 A maximum of three (3) vehicles may be parked in any one area on any one night, unless expressly provided for through signage at the site.

9.1.3 There must be no more than three (3) tents (in any one area as listed and permitted under Schedule Three of the Bylaw) at any one time, unless expressly provided for through signage at the site.

9.1.4 All vehicles must park within existing defined car parking areas, where they exist. If parking at the site contains designated freedom camping parking spaces, freedom campers must use those parking spaces for their vehicles.

9.1.5 All vehicles must be legally parked.

9.1.6 No person may light any fire in a local authority area except:
a) in a place specifically provided by the Council for that purpose; or
b) with the prior written permission of the Council.

Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....



- 9.1.7 All waste must be removed from the site and disposed of, at or in, a Council approved disposal facility.
- 9.1.8 Any occupant of a vehicle must use the serviceable public toilet facilities available at the designated sites, if no self-contained facilities are available on-board their vehicle.
- 9.1.9 The site must be left in a clean and tidy state.
- 9.1.10 No vegetation shall be damaged or removed from the site.
- 9.1.11 All conditions stipulated on any signage at the site must be complied with.

10.0 Animals

- 10.1 Animals or pets are permitted at local authority areas, unless specifically prohibited within this Bylaw, other Council Bylaws or any other enactment.

11.0 Freedom Campers must comply with any request to move on

- 11.1 An Authorised Officer may require a person, who he or she believes is committing or has committed an offence to leave the local authority area concerned, within a specified timeframe.

12.0 Council may temporarily prohibit freedom camping

- 12.1 Council may, by providing 24 hours' notice, impose temporary prohibitions on freedom camping in any local authority area due to the following:
 - a) Maintenance of the area or facilities at the area;
 - b) Local events being held at an area; or
 - c) Health and safety issues or emergency situations.

13.0 Council consent to freedom camp

- 13.1 Consent must be sought from the Council to freedom camp on a site listed in Schedule One: Prohibited Areas for Freedom Camping, which may be granted with or without conditions.
- 13.2 A request must be sought from the Council for a waiver or modification to freedom camping restrictions on a site listed in Schedule Two or Schedule Three, which the Council may grant with or without conditions.
- 13.3 A request must be applied for, in writing, to the Council at least five working days prior to the date of the planned waiver, modification or prohibition.
- 13.5 If an Authorised Officer believes that the person(s) to whom consent has been granted, in accordance with this section, has:
 - a) Damaged or is likely to cause damage to the site; and/or
 - b) Breached any conditions of the consent,the Council may immediately revoke the consent.

Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....



14.0 Offences and Penalties

- 14.1 Every person commits an offence who:
 - a) Freedom camps or makes preparation to freedom camp in the District in breach of any prohibition or restriction in this Bylaw;
 - b) Interferes with or damages the area, its flora or fauna or any structure in the area;
 - c) Deposits waste on the land;
 - d) Discharges a substance which is likely to be noxious, dangerous, offensive or objectionable to the extent that it has or is likely to have a significant adverse effect on the environment; or has caused, or is likely to cause, significant concern to the community or users of the area or land under section 20 (2) of the Act;
 - e) Obstructs, hinders, impedes, assaults, threatens or behaves in a threatening manner or intimidates an Authorised Officer, or incites others to do so, in the performance of any duty or exercise of any power conferred upon the Authorised Officer under this Bylaw;
 - f) Fails or refuses to leave a local authority area when required to do so by an Authorised Officer; or
 - g) Refuses to give information when required to do so by an Authorised Officer in accordance with clause 14.2 below or gives false or misleading information.

- 14.2 Where an Authorised Officer believes on reasonable grounds that a person has committed or is committing an offence, the Authorised Officer may direct the person to give:
 - a) Their full name, date of birth, full address, telephone number, and occupation; and
 - b) The whereabouts of any person connected in any way with the alleged offence.

- 14.3 A person who commits an offence against this Bylaw is liable to:
 - a) An infringement fee of the amount prescribed by regulations made under section 43 of the Act for the offence; or
 - b) \$200.00, if no fee is prescribed for the offence.

This Bylaw was made by the South Taranaki District Council on 4 July 2016.
This Bylaw was renewed by the South Taranaki District Council on 11 December 2017.

THE COMMON SEAL of the SOUTH TARANAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL was hereto affixed by resolution of the said Council in the presence of:

Ross Diloy
.....

Mayor

Louisa Greenhill
.....

Acting Chief Executive

Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....



Summary of Schedules (including maps)

Schedule 1

schedule pages 3 - 51

Prohibited areas for freedom camping:

- 1.1 Manaia
- 1.2 Opunake
- 1.3 Surf Highway 45
- 1.4 Eltham
- 1.5 Kaponga
- 1.6 Hawera
- 1.7 Normanby
- 1.8 Patea
- 1.9 Waverley

Schedule 2

schedule pages 52 - 82

Restricted areas for freedom camping:

- 2.1 Manaia
- 2.2 Opunake
- 2.3 Surf Highway 45
- 2.4 Eltham
- 2.5 Kaponga
- 2.6 Hawera
- 2.7 Normanby
- 2.8 Patea
- 2.9 Waverley

Schedule 3

schedule pages 83 - 91

Restricted areas for freedom camping (tenting only):

- 3.1 Opunake
- 3.2 Surf Highway 45
- 3.3 Eltham
- 3.4 Hawera
- 3.5 Patea
- 3.6 Waverley

Schedule 4

schedule pages 92 - 97

Wastewater Dump Stations:

- 4.1 Opunake
- 4.2 Hawera
- 4.3 Normanby
- 4.4 Waverley
- 4.5 Waitotara



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

Schedule Page | 1

SOUTH TARANAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL
Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016

Summary of Schedules

Schedule 5

schedule pages 98 - 103

Holiday Parks:

- 5.1 Opunake
- 5.2 Hawera
- 5.3 Patea
- 5.4 Waverley
- 5.5 Waitotara

Key for the following Schedules



- Red shading – Freedom Camping Prohibited Area



- Orange shading – Freedom Camping Restricted Area



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

Schedule Page | 2

Schedule 1 – Prohibited areas for freedom camping

1.1 Manaia

1.1.1 Manaia Cemetery

Description of the Site:

The Manaia Cemetery is located on the south eastern side of the Manaia Township. It is located on Cemetery Road, next to the Manaia Transfer Station.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Manaia Cemetery.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

Schedule Page | 3

1.1.2 Manaia Domain

Description of the Site:

The Manaia Domain is located on the north eastern side of the Manaia Township. The site is accessed from Hassard Street and Bennett Drive. The Manaia Domain adjoins the Manaia Golf Course and forms part of the Manaia Walkway.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited on all parts of the Manaia Domain, as highlighted in the map below.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

Schedule Page | 4

1.1.3 Manaia Skatepark

Description of the Site:

The Manaia Skatepark is located in centre of the Manaia Township, on South Road, on the eastern side of the roundabout.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Manaia Skatepark.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

Schedule Page | 5

1.2 Opunake

1.2.1 Opunake Cemetery

Description of the Site:

The Opunake Cemetery is located on the south western side of the Opunake Township, on the corner of Wilson Road and Halse Place.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Opunake Cemetery.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

Schedule Page | 6

1.2.2 Opunake Recreation Grounds

Description of the Site:

The Opunake Recreation Grounds are located on the western side of the Opunake Township. The site is bordered by Tasman Street, Heaphy Road, Longfellow Road and Halse Place.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited on the Recreation Grounds (sports fields).



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

Schedule Page | 7

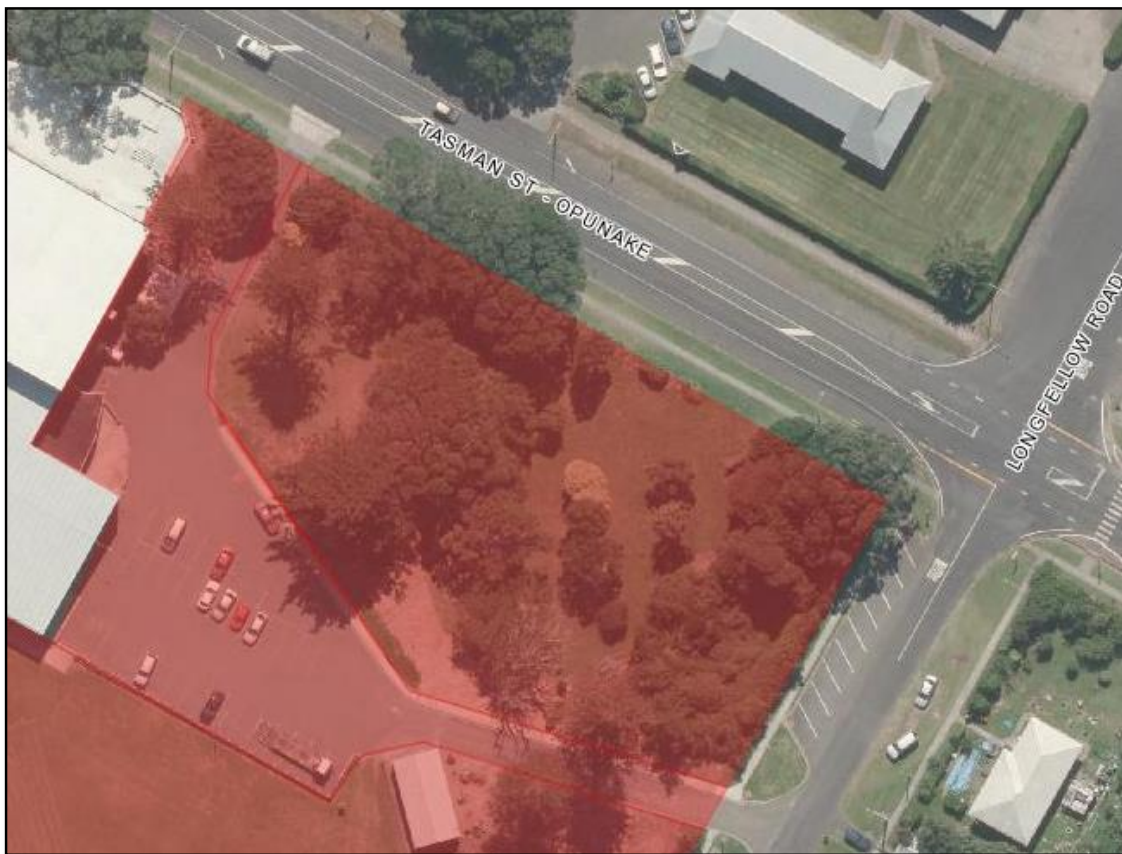
1.2.3 Opunake Recreation Grounds ‘Picnic Spot’ and eastern carpark

Description of the Site:

The Opunake Recreation Grounds ‘Picnic Spot’ and eastern carpark is located on the western side of the Opunake Township, on the corner of Tasman Street and Longfellow Road. The site forms part of the Opunake Recreation Grounds.

Restrictions:

- Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Picnic Spot, as highlighted in the map below.
- Freedom camping is prohibited at the eastern carpark area via Tasman Street and Longfellow Road, as highlighted in the map below.



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1.2.4 Middleton Bay Carpark, Opunake

Description of the Site:

The Middleton Bay Carpark is located on the south western side of the Opunake Township. The site is accessed via Heaphy Road at the corner of Halse Place and adjoins onto part of the Opunake walkway. The Opunake Boat Club and boat ramp is located at the southern end of the carpark.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited at the southern end of the carpark, as highlighted in the map below.



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1.2.5 Halse Place (northern end), Opunake

Description of the Site

Halse Place is located on the south western side of the Opunake Township, at the intersection of Heaphy Road and Halse Place. The site is part of the entrance to Middleton Bay and forms part of the Opunake Walkway, which runs parallel to the coastline.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited at the northern end of Halse Place, as highlighted in the map below.



1.2.6 Southern Headland, Opunake

Description of the Site:

The Opunake Southern Headland is located on the south eastern side of the Opunake Township.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Southern Headland.



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1.2.7 Opunake Beach Recreation Reserve

Description of the Site:

The Opunake Beach Recreation Reserve is located on the southern side of the Opunake Township. The site is accessed from Beach Road, next to the Opunake Beach Holiday Park.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Opunake Beach Recreation Reserve.



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1.2.8 Hurst Park (Railway Reserve), Opunake

Description of the Site:

Hurst Park Railway Reserve is situated on the northern side of the Opunake Township, on Gisborne Terrace between Havelock and Napier Streets. It is the site of the former railway station.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited on the railway reserve, as highlighted in the map below.



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1.2.9 Opunake BMX Track Site

Description of the Site:

The Opunake BMX Track site is located on the southern side of the Opunake Township. The site is accessed from Dieffenbach Street at the end of Allison Street, and adjoins onto part of the Opunake walkway.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Opunake BMX Track site.



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1.3 Surf Highway 45

1.3.1 Otakeho Cemetery

Description of the Site:

The Otakeho Cemetery is located on the southern side of South Road, State Highway 45 in the rural settlement of Otakeho. The site is located next to the old Otakeho Primary School and is accessed through a gate and over pasture land.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Otakeho Cemetery.



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1.3.2 Ohawe Cemetery

Description of the Site:

The Ohawe Cemetery is located on the north eastern side of the coastal settlement of Ohawe. The site is accessed via Kapa Street over pasture land.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Ohawe Cemetery.



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1.3.3 Stent Road, off Surf Highway 45

Description of the Site:

Stent Road is accessed off State Highway 45, in a north western direction from the Township of Rahoitu, close to the rural settlement of Warea. The site is located at the end of Stent Road on the right hand side and follows an unsealed road along the coast. The site provides a parking area for surfers and is located directly in front of beachside properties.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in the area of Stent Road highlighted in the map below.



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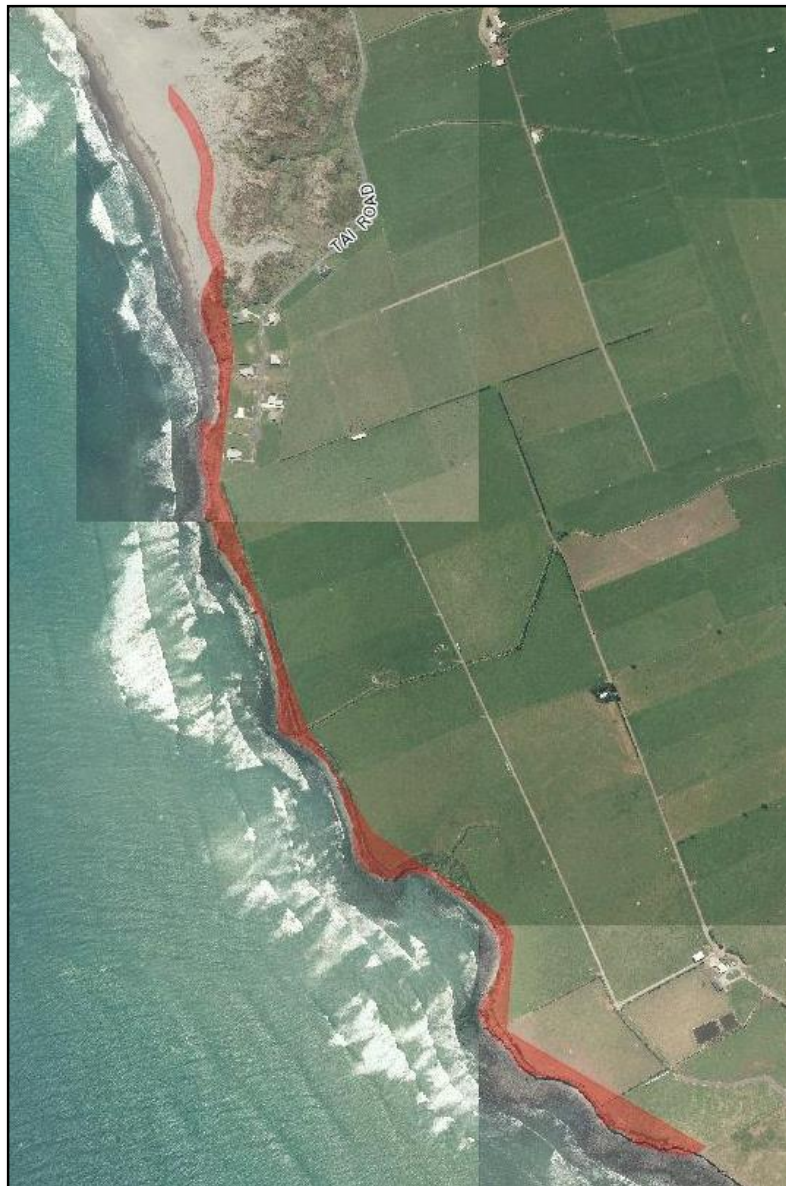
1.3.4 Oaonui Reserve, Tai Road

Description of the Site:

Oaonui Reserve is accessed via Tai Road from State Highway 45, in a northerly direction from the Opunake Township. The site is located at the end of Tai Road. The site forms a narrow reserve between a small coastal settlement and the coastline.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in the area of Oaonui Reserve, Tai Road as highlighted in the map below.



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1.3.5 Cape Egmont Boat Club and Historic Lighthouse, off Surf Highway 45

Description of the Site:

The Cape Egmont Boat Club and Historic Lighthouse are accessed off State Highway 45, in a north western direction from the Township of Rahotu, close to the rural settlement of Warea. The site is located at the end of Bayly Road, on Coast Road. The site forms part of the Coast Road and access to the Cape Egmont Boat Club and Historic Lighthouse.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in the area of the Cape Egmont Boat Club and Historic Lighthouse as highlighted in the map below.



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1.3.6 Paora Road,

Description of the Site:

Paora Road is accessed off State Highway 45, in a north western direction from the Township of Rahotu, north to the rural settlement of Warea. The site is located at the end of Paora Road and follows a dirt road along the coast. The site provides a parking area for surfers and is located directly in front of beachside properties.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited at Paora Road, as highlighted in the map below.



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1.3.7 Kaupokonui Beach Reserve, off Surf Highway 45

Description of the Site:

The Kaupokonui Beach Reserve is located off State Highway 45, in a north western direction from the Manaia Township. The site is accessed from Kaupokonui Heads Road via Lower Glenn Road.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in the lower section of the Kaupokonui Beach Reserve as highlighted in the map below, which is closest to the Kaupokonui Stream.



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1.4 Eltham

1.4.1 Eltham Cemetery

Description of the Site:

The Eltham Cemetery is located on the north eastern side of the Eltham Township in a rural setting, on the corner of Anderson Road and Rawhitiroa Road.

Restriction:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Eltham Cemetery.



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1.4.2 Stark Park, Eltham

Description of the Site:

Stark Park is located in the Eltham Central Business District, on the western side of High Street between King Edward Street and Bridge Street. The site forms a walkway between High Street and the Bridge Street carpark.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of Stark Park.



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1.4.3 Taumata Park, Eltham

Description of the Site:

Taumata Park is located on the western side of the Eltham Township. The site is accessed via Preston Street (from Bridge Street) or via a walkway connected to Collingwood Street. Taumata Park is adjacent to Saunders Park.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of Taumata Park.



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1.4.4 Saunders Park, Eltham

Description of the Site:

Saunders Park is located on the western side of the Eltham Township. The site is accessed via Collingwood Street. The site is adjacent to Taumata Park and access can be gained via Preston Street.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of Saunders Park.



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1.4.5 Soldiers Memorial Park, Eltham

Description of the Site:

Soldiers Memorial Park is located on the south western side of the Eltham Township. The site is accessed from Conway Road via High Street.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of Soldiers Memorial Park.



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1.4.6 Rawhitiroa Swimming Pool and Reserve, Eltham

Description of the Site:

Rawhitiroa Swimming Pool and Reserve is located north east of the Eltham Township. The site is accessed via Horoi Road from Rawhitiroa Road. The site is adjacent to the Rawhitiroa School.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Rawhitiroa Swimming Pool and Reserve.



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1.4.7 Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve, Eltham

Description of the Site:

Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve is located at the end of Sangster Road, via Rawhitiroa Road in an easterly direction from Eltham. The Reserve is fully enclosed in a pest proof fence and there is a double gate system at the entrance.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited directly outside the information centre and toilet block, as highlighted in the map below.



Because of the high conservation values within the Reserve, there is a strict rule of no dogs, no pets or other animals (pests) in a vehicle entering the reserve – no exceptions.



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1.5 Kaponga

1.5.1 Kaponga Cemetery

Description of the Site:

The Kaponga Cemetery is located on the south eastern side of the Kaponga Township, on the corner of Fitzgerald Avenue and Park Lane. The site is accessed via Cemetery Lane.

Restriction:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Kaponga Cemetery.



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1.5.2 War Memorial Hall Carpark, Kaponga

Description of the Site:

The War Memorial Hall Carpark is located in the centre of the Kaponga Township, on Victoria Street. The site provides a parking area for the War Memorial Hall and Victoria Park.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the War Memorial Hall Carpark.



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1.5.3 Victoria Park, Kaponga

Description of the Site:

Victoria Park is located on the eastern side of the Kaponga Township. The site is accessed from Victoria Street, Fitzgerald Avenue and Park Lane. The site is adjacent to the War Memorial Hall Carpark.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the sports fields and tennis courts of Victoria Park.



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1.5.4 Grace Avenue Reserve, Kaponga

Description of the Site:

Grace Avenue Reserve is located on the western side of the Kaponga Township. The site is accessed via Grace Avenue from Lorne Street. The site is adjacent to the Swiss Club and the Kaponga Swimming Pool.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of Grace Avenue Reserve.



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1.6 Hawera

1.6.1 Hawera Cemetery

Description of the Site:

The Hawera Cemetery is located on the western side of the Hawera Township, adjoining Naumai Park. The site is accessed from High Street or Gladstone Street.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Hawera Cemetery.



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1.6.2 Charles Major Place Reserve, Hawera

Description of the Site:

Charles Major Place Reserve is located on the southern side of the Hawera Township. The site is accessed via Charles Major Place and Ramanui Avenue from Manawapou Road. The site contains a children's playground.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of Charles Major Place Reserve.



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1.6.3 King Edward Park (including sports fields), Hawera

Description of the Site:

King Edward Park is located on the western side of the Hawera Township. The site is accessed via Waihi Road, High Street and Camberwell Road. The site is adjacent to the TSB Hub, Hicks Park and Hawera High School.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of King Edward Park.



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1.6.4 Hicks Park, Hawera

Description of the Site:

Hicks Park is located on the western side of the Hawera Township. The site is accessed via Waihi Road and Camberwell Road. The site is adjacent to King Edward Park, the TSB Hub and Hawera High School.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of Hicks Park.



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1.6.5 McGuire Street Reserve, Hawera

Description of the Site:

McGuire Street Reserve is located on the south eastern side of the Hawera Township. The site is accessed via McGuire Street from Manawapou Road. The site is located in an urban area and consists of a children's playground.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of McGuire Street Reserve.



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1.6.6 Hawera Water Tower Grounds and Skate park

Description of the Site:

The Hawera Water Tower Grounds and Skate park are located in the centre of the Hawera Township on the corner of High Street and Albion Street. The site includes the Water Tower, I-Site, Skate park and public toilets.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Hawera Water Tower Grounds and Skate park.



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1.6.7 Turuturu Road Soccer Grounds, Hawera

Description of the Site:

Turuturu Road Soccer Grounds are located on the northern side of the Hawera Township. The site is accessed via Turuturu Road via Glover Road. The site includes the Turuturu Soccer Club rooms and sports fields.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited on all parts of the Turuturu Road Soccer grounds sports fields.



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1.6.8 Beech Place Reserve, Hawera

Description of the Site:

Beech Place Reserve is located on the north western side of the Hawera Township. The site is accessed via Tawa Street, Beech Place and Kamahi Avenue. The site is a leash free dog area.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of Beech Place Reserve.



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1.7 Normanby

1.7.1 Waihi Cemetery and Scenic Reserve, Normanby

Site: The Waihi Cemetery and Scenic Reserve is located on the north western side of the Normanby Township, on Pikituroa Road via Ketemarae Road.

Restrictions: Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Waihi Cemetery and Scenic Reserve.



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1.7.2 Normanby Domain

Description of the Site:

The Normanby Domain is located on the north western side of the Normanby Township. The site is accessed via Ketemarae Road from Waihi Road. The site consists of sports fields, a children’s playground and Normanby Hall.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Normanby Domain sports fields and children’s playground.



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1.7.3 Evans Park, Normanby

Description of the Site:

Evans Park is located on the eastern side of the Normanby Township. The site is accessed via Browne Street or Hobson Street. The site contains a children's playground.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of Evans Park.



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1.8 Patea

1.8.1 Patea Cemetery

Description of the Site:

The Patea Cemetery is located on the north western side of the Patea Township. The site is accessed from Scotland Street via Egmont Street.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Patea Cemetery.



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1.8.2 Patea Memorial Gardens

Description of the Site:

Patea Memorial Gardens are located on the north western side of the Patea Township. The site is accessed via Egmont Street and Chester Street. The site is across the road from the Patea Library.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Patea Memorial Gardens.



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1.8.3 Garden of Tutunui (Bedford Street), Patea

Description of the Site:

The Garden of Tutunui is located on the eastern side of the Patea Township. The site is accessed via Egmont Street. The site contains the Garden of Tutunui sculpture.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Garden of Tutunui.



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1.8.4 Patea Domain

Description of the Site:

Patea Domain is located on the south western side of the Patea Township. The site is accessed via Egmont Street and Surrey Street. The site is adjacent to the Patea Golf Club.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Patea Domain and sports fields.



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1.8.5 Mana Bay, Patea Beach

Description of the Site:

Mana Bay is located on the southern side of the Patea Township at Patea Beach and runs along the banks of the Patea River mouth. The site is accessed from Beach Road, via Egmont Street.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in the areas of Mana Bay as highlighted in the map below.



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1.9 Waverley

1.9.1 Dallison Park Recreation Grounds, Waverley

Description of the Site:

Dallison Park Recreation Grounds are located on the north eastern side of the Waverley Township. The site is accessed via Chester Street from Weraroa Road. The site consists of sports fields and recreation centre.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Dallison Park Recreation Grounds sports fields.



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1.9.2 Gully Park, Waverley

Description of the Site:

Gully Park is located on the southern side of the Waverley Township. The site is accessed via Weraroa Road. The site consists of a sculpture and seating.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of Gully Park.



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1.9.3 Okiwa Terrace Reserve, Wai-inu Beach, Waitotara

Description of the Site:

Okiwa Terrace Reserve is located in the coastal settlement of Wai-inu Beach, Waitotara. The site is accessed via Okiwa Terrace, Pingao Place and Nukumarū Parade.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping is prohibited in all parts of the Okiwa Terrace Reserve.



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Schedule 2 – Restricted areas for freedom camping

2.1 Manaia

2.1.1 Manaia Domain Carpark

Description of the Site:

The Manaia Domain Carpark is located on the north eastern side of Manaia on the intersection of Hassard Street and Bennett Drive which leads to the Manaia Domain.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles is permitted in the areas highlighted in the map below.



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2.2 Opunake

2.2.1 Opunake Recreation Ground Carpark

Description of the Site:

The Opunake Recreation Ground Carpark is located on the western side of the Opunake Township. The site is bordered by Tasman Street, Heaphy Road, Longfellow Road and Halse Place.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in vehicles is permitted in the western carpark area via Heaphy Road, as highlighted in the map below.



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2.2.2 Middleton Bay Carpark, Opunake

Description of the Site:

The Middleton Bay Carpark is located on the south western side of the Opunake Township. The site is accessed via Heaphy Road at the corner of Halse Place and adjoins onto part of the Opunake walkway. The Opunake Boat Club and boat ramp is located at the southern end of the carpark

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in vehicles is permitted at the northern end of the carpark, as highlighted in the map below. Freedom campers are required to use the three designated parking spaces provided at the site.



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2.2.3 Hurst Park (Railway Reserve), Opunake

Description of the Site:

Hurst Park Railway Reserve is situated on the northern side of the Opunake Township, on Gisborne Terrace between Havelock and Napier Streets. It is the site of the former railway station entranceway

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles is permitted in the old railway entrance (accessible from Gisborne Terrace) as highlighted in the map below.



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2.2.4 Halse Place, Opunake

Description of the Site:

Halse Place is located on the south western side of the Opunake Township, at the intersection of Heaphy Road and Halse Place. The site is part of the entrance to Middleton Bay and forms part of the Opunake Walkway, which runs parallel to the coastline.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in vehicles is permitted at the southern end of Halse Place, as highlighted in the map below.

Exclusion: A maximum of 12 vehicles are permitted at this site.



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2.2.5 Opunake Lake (Layard Street) Carpark and play area

Description of the Site:

Opunake Lake Carpark is located on the eastern side of the Opunake Township. The site runs along the banks of the Opunake Lake and is accessed from Layard Street, via Bowen Crescent or Tasman Street.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in vehicles is permitted at the Opunake Lake Carpark, as highlighted in the map below.

Exclusion: A maximum of six vehicles are permitted at this site.



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2.2.6 Northern Headland Carpark, Opunake

Description of the Site:

The Opunake Northern Headland Carpark is located on the south western side of the Opunake Township. The site is accessed via Wharf Road from Hector Place and forms part of the Opunake walkway.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles is permitted in all areas of the Opunake Northern Headland Carpark, as highlighted in the map below.



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2.3 Surf Highway 45

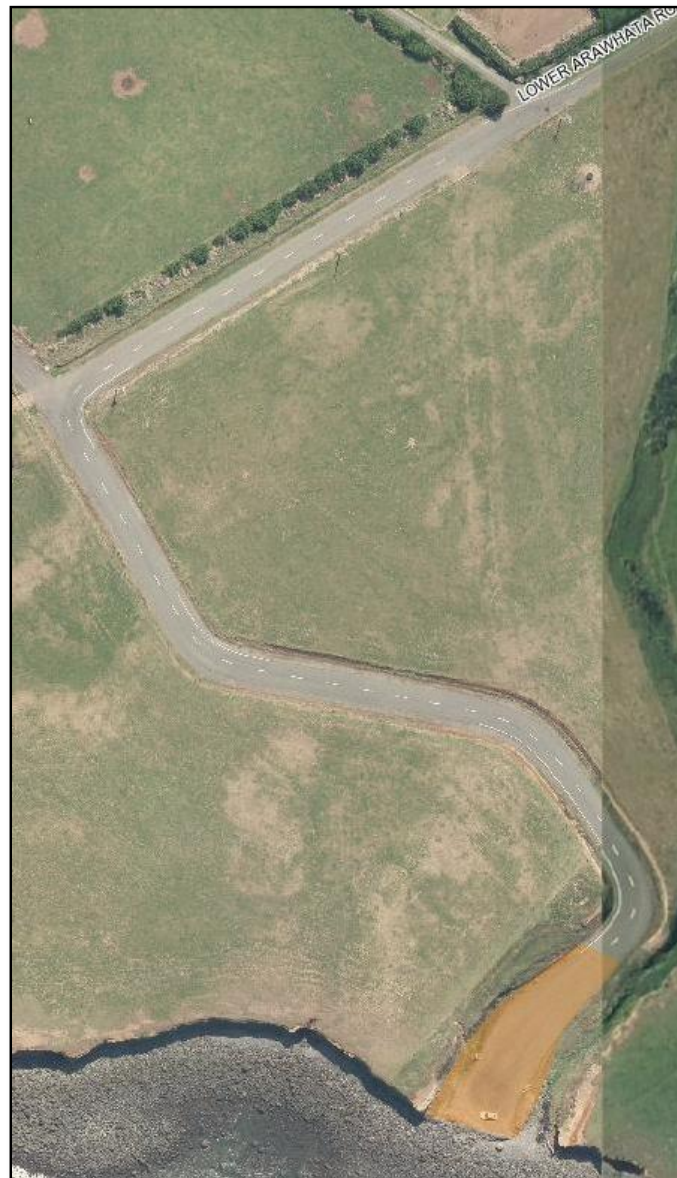
2.3.1 Arawhata Road Carpark, off State Highway 45

Description of the Site:

The Arawhata Road Carpark is located north of the Opunake Township. The site is accessed via Arawhata Road from State Highway 45.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles is permitted in all areas of the Arawhata Road Carpark, as highlighted in the map below.



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2.4 Eltham

2.4.1 Bridger Park Carpark, Eltham

Description of the Site:

Bridger Park Carpark is located in the Central Business District of the Eltham Township. The site is accessed through a lane via High Street (SH3) and a single lane road off Bridge Street.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles is permitted in all areas of Bridger Park Carpark, as highlighted in the map below.



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2.4.2 Eltham Library Carpark

Description of the Site:

The Eltham Library Carpark is situated at the northern end of the Central Business District of the Eltham Township. The site is located on the corner of Bath Street and King Edward Street (via SH3).

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles is permitted in all areas of the Eltham Library Carpark, as highlighted in the map below.



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2.4.3 Taylor Park Carpark, Eltham

Description of the Site:

Taylor Park Carpark is located on the eastern side of the Eltham Township. The site is accessed via Taylor Street from Bedford Street.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles is permitted in all areas of Taylor Park Carpark, as highlighted in the map below.



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2.4.4 Rukumoana Reserve, Eltham

Description of the Site:

Rukumoana Reserve is situated on the banks of Lake Rotorangi off Rawhitiroa Road, immediately after crossing the concrete one-way bridge.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles is permitted in all areas of the Rukumoana Reserve, as highlighted in the map below. Caution should be taken during winter months, as the ground can be soft and is not suitable for heavy vehicles.



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2.4.5 Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve, Eltham

Description of the Site:

Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve is located at the end of Sangster Road, via Rawhitiroa Road in an easterly direction from Eltham. The Reserve is fully enclosed in a pest proof fence and there is a double gate system at the entrance.

Restrictions:

- Area a - Up to three self-contained vehicles may freedom camp in the area directly in front of the estuary area, as highlighted in the map below.
- Area b - Up to three non-self-contained vehicles may freedom camp in the area directly outside the public toilets and information centre, as highlighted in the map below.



Because of the high conservation values within the Reserve, there is a strict rule of no dogs, no pets or other animals (pests) in a vehicle entering the reserve – no exceptions.



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2.5 Kaponga

2.5.1 Thoumine Park Carpark, Kaponga

Description of the Site:

Thoumine Park Carpark is located on the western side of the Kaponga Township, on the corner of Victoria Street and Riverside Drive.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles is permitted in the carpark area of Thoumine Park, as highlighted in the map below.



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2.5.2 Victoria Park Carpark, Kaponga

Description of the Site:

Victoria Park Carpark is located in the centre of the Kaponga Township, on Park Lane. The site provides a parking area for Victoria Park.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in vehicles is permitted in the carpark area of Victoria Park, as highlighted in the map below.



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2.6 Hawera

2.6.1 TSB Hub Carpark, Hawera

Description of the Site:

The TSB Hub Carpark is located on the western side of the Hawera Township, and can be accessed from Waihi Road and Camberwell Road. The site provides a parking area for the TSB Hub, Hicks Park, King Edward Park and Hawera High School.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained-vehicles is permitted in the carpark area of the TSB Hub, as highlighted in the map below.

Exclusion: there is carparking at either side of the TSB Hub.

- Three self-contained vehicles may park in the Waihi Carpark; and
- Three self-contained vehicles may park in the Camberwell Carpark at any one time.



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2.6.2 Albion Street Carpark, Hawera

Description of the Site:

The Albion Street Carpark is located on the eastern end of the Hawera CBD, on the corner of High Street and Albion Street. The site provides parking for the Community Centre and businesses close by. The site is directly opposite the South Taranaki I-Site Visitors Centre and Hawera Water Tower Grounds.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in vehicles is permitted in the carpark area of the Albion Street carpark, as highlighted in the map below.



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2.6.3 Turuturu Road Soccer Grounds Carpark, Hawera

Description of the Site:

The Turuturu Road Soccer Grounds Carpark is located on the north western side of the Hawera Township, on Turuturu Road. The site provides a parking area for the Turuturu Soccer Club.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained-vehicles is permitted in the carpark area of the Turuturu Road Soccer Grounds, as highlighted in the map below.



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2.6.4 Waihi Beach Reserve, Hawera

Description of the Site:

Waihi Beach Reserve is located on the south western side of the Hawera Township, at the end of Denby Road via South Road (SH45). The site provides a parking area for the people accessing the beach.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles is permitted in the Waihi Beach Reserve, as highlighted in the map below.



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2.6.5 Pukekino Landing, Lake Rotorangi (Tangahoe Valley)

Description of the Site:

Pukekino Landing is located in a north easterly direction from the Hawera Township in the rural area of the Tangahoe Valley. The site runs along the banks of Lake Rotorangi and is accessed from Tangahoe Valley Road, via Ararata Road, Hawera.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in vehicles is permitted at Pukekino Landing, as highlighted in the map below.



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2.7 Normanby

2.7.1 Normanby Domain Carpark

Description of the Site:

The Normanby Domain Carpark is located on the north western side of the Normanby Township. The site is accessed via Ketemarae Road from Waihi Road (SH3). The site provides a carpark area for the Normanby Recreation Facility, Domain and children's playground.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles is permitted in the Normanby Domain Carpark, as highlighted in the map below.



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2.7.2 Tuke Street Reserve, Normanby

Description of the Site:

Tuke Street Reserve is located on the western side of the Normanby Township. The site is accessed via Fitzroy Street or Tuke Street.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles is permitted at the Tuke Street Reserve, as highlighted in the map below.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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2.8 Patea

2.8.1 York Street Picnic Area, Patea

Description of the Site:

The York Street picnic area is located on the eastern side of the Patea Township. The site runs along the banks of the Patea River and is accessed from York Street, via Bedford Street (SH3).

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles is permitted at the York Street picnic area, as highlighted in the map below.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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2.8.2 Stafford Street Pool Reserve, Patea

Description of the Site:

Stafford Street Pool Reserve is located on the northern side of the Patea Township. The site previously contained the Patea Swimming Pool; however it is now a reserve with a large grassed area.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles is permitted at the Stafford Street Pool Reserve, as highlighted in the map below.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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2.8.3 Bedford Street/Egmont Street Reserve, Patea

Description of the Site:

The Bedford Street/Egmont Street Reserve is located in the centre of the Patea Township. The site is accessed from Egmont Street.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in vehicles is permitted at the Bedford Street/Egmont Street Reserve, as highlighted in the map below.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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2.8.4 Bourke's Lookout, Patea Beach

Description of the Site:

Bourke's Lookout is located on the southern side of the Patea Township, towards Patea Beach and Mana Bay. The site is accessed via Egmont Street.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles is permitted at Bourke's Lookout, as highlighted in the map below.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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2.8.5 Mana Bay, Patea Beach

Description of the Site:

Mana Bay is located on the southern side of the Patea Township at Patea Beach and runs along the banks of the Patea River mouth. The site is accessed from Beach Road, via Egmont Street.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in vehicles is permitted at Mana Bay within the designated car parking areas, as defined in the map below.

Exclusion:

- Area a - A maximum of two vehicles are permitted at the southern carpark area, which faces the beach and Patea River mouth, as shown in the map below.
- Area b - A maximum of six vehicles are permitted at the northern carpark area, which faces the Patea River, as shown in the map below.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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2.9 Waverley

2.9.1 Wairoa Reserve - Long Beach/Cave Beach Access, Waverley

Description of the Site:

Wairoa Reserve is located at the coastal settlement of Waverley Beach. The site runs along the cliffs of Waverley Beach and provides access to Long Beach and Cave Beach. The site is accessed from Waverley Beach Road, via Waipipi Road.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles is permitted at Wairoa Reserve, as highlighted in the map below.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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2.9.2 Dallison Park Carpark, Waverley

Description of the Site:

The Dallison Park Carpark is located on the north eastern side of the Waverley Township. The site is accessed from Chester Street, via Weraroa Road (SH3).

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles is permitted at the Dallison Park Carpark, as highlighted in the map below.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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2.9.3 Aotea Rotary Community Park, Waverley

Description of the Site:

Aotea Rotary Community Park is located on the corner of Chester Street and Weraroa Road, on the eastern side of the Waverley Township. The site is accessed from Chester Street.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in vehicles is permitted at the Aotea Rotary Community Park, as highlighted in the map below.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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Schedule 3 – Restricted areas for freedom camping (tenting only)

3.1 Opunake

3.1.1 Middleton Bay Carpark, Opunake

Description of the Site:

The Middleton Bay Carpark is located on the south western side of the Opunake Township. The site is accessed via Heaphy Road at the corner of Halse Place and adjoins onto part of the Opunake walkway. The Opunake Boat Club and boat ramp is located at the southern end of the carpark

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in tents is permitted at the northern end of the carpark, as highlighted in the map below.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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3.1.2 Opunake Lake (Layard Street) Carpark and play area

Description of the Site:

Opunake Lake Carpark is located on the eastern side of the Opunake Township. The site runs along the banks of the Opunake Lake and is accessed from Layard Street, via Bowen Crescent or Tasman Street.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in tents is permitted at the Opunake Lake Carpark, as highlighted in the map below.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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3.1.3 Halse Place, Opunake

Description of the Site:

Halse Place is located on the south western side of the Opunake Township, at the intersection of Heaphy Road and Halse Place. The site is part of the entrance to Middleton Bay and forms part of the Opunake Walkway, which runs parallel to the coastline.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in tents is permitted at Halse Place, as highlighted in the map below.



Chief Executive.....

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3.2 Eltham

3.2.1 Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve, Eltham

Description of the Site:

Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve is located at the end of Sangster Road, via Rawhitiroa Road in an easterly direction from Eltham. The Reserve is fully enclosed in a pest proof fence and there is a double gate system at the entrance.

Restrictions:

Prohibited:

Any vehicle which has any animal or pest animal on-board.

Restricted:

- Freedom camping in tents is restricted to the area directly on the lakefront, as highlighted in the map below.



Because of the high conservation values within this reserve, there is a strict rule of no dogs, no pets, or other animals (pests) in a vehicle entering the reserve – no exceptions.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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3.2.2 Glen Nui Reserve, Eltham

Description of the Site:

The Glen Nui Reserve is located in the rural area on eastern side of the Eltham Township. The site runs along the banks of Lake Rotorangi and is accessed from Glen Nui Road, Rawhitiroa Road, Mangamingi.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in tents is permitted at the Glen Nui Reserve, as highlighted in the map below.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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3.3 Hawera

3.3.1 Pukekino Landing, Lake Rotorangi (Tangahoe Valley)

Description of the Site:

Pukekino Landing is located in a north easterly direction from the Hawera Township in the rural area of the Tangahoe Valley. The site runs along the banks of Lake Rotorangi and is accessed from Tangahoe Valley Road, via Ararata Road, Hawera.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in tents is permitted at Pukekino Landing, as highlighted in the map below.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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3.4 Patea

3.4.1 Bedford Street/Egmont Street Reserve, Patea

Description of the Site:

The Bedford Street/Egmont Street Reserve is located in the centre of the Patea Township. The site is accessed from Egmont Street.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in tents is permitted at the Bedford Street/Egmont Street Reserve, as highlighted in the map below.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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3.4.2 Mana Bay, Patea Beach

Description of the Site:

Mana Bay is located on the southern side of the Patea Township at Patea Beach and runs along the banks of the Patea River mouth. The site is accessed from Beach Road, via Egmont Street.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in tents is permitted at Mana Bay, within the designated area as defined in the map below.



Chief Executive.....

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3.5 Waverley

3.5.1 Aotea Rotary Community Park, Waverley

Description of the Site:

Aotea Rotary Community Park is located on the corner of Chester Street and Weraroa Road, on the eastern side of the Waverley Township. The site is accessed from Chester Street.

Restrictions:

Freedom camping in tents is permitted at the Aotea Rotary Community Park, within 100 metres of a public toilet.



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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Schedule 4 - Wastewater Dump Stations

4.1 Opunake

Opunake Beach

GPS X 1673727. Y 5632110



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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Opunake Transfer Station

GPS X 1674338. Y 5632282

5



Chief Executive.....

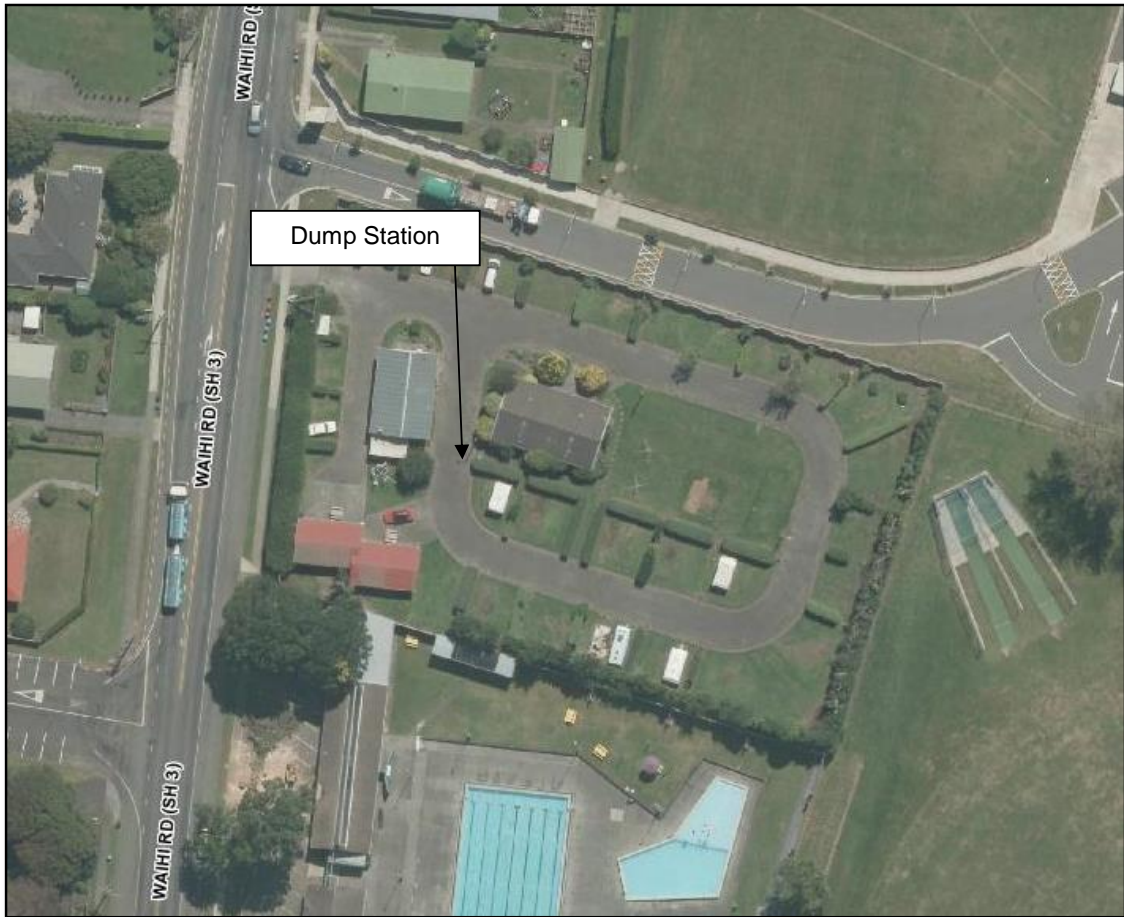
Mayor.....

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4.2 Hawera

Hawera Holiday Park

GPS X 1709135. Y 5617651



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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4.3 Normanby

Normanby (SH3)

GPS X 1709467.Y 5622797



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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4.4 Waverley

Corner Chester Street and SH3, Waverley

GPS X 1740100. Y 5597221

5



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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SOUTH TARANAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL
Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016

Schedule 4

4.5 Waitotara

Wai-inu Beach

GPS X 1749300. Y 5585791

5



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

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Schedule 5 – South Taranaki Holiday Parks

5.1 Opunake

Opunake Beach Holiday Park

Address – Beach Road, Opunake

Phone – (06) 761 7525

Website – www.opunakebeachnz.co.nz

5



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

5.2 Hawera

Hawera Holiday Park

Address – 70 Waihi Road, Hawera

Phone – (06) 278 0572

Website – www.southtaranaki.com



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

5.3 Patea

Patea Beach Holiday Park

Address - Mana Bay, Patea

Phone - (06) 278 3042, 021 253 7053 or 021 0263 9895

Website - www.pateamotorcamp.com

5



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

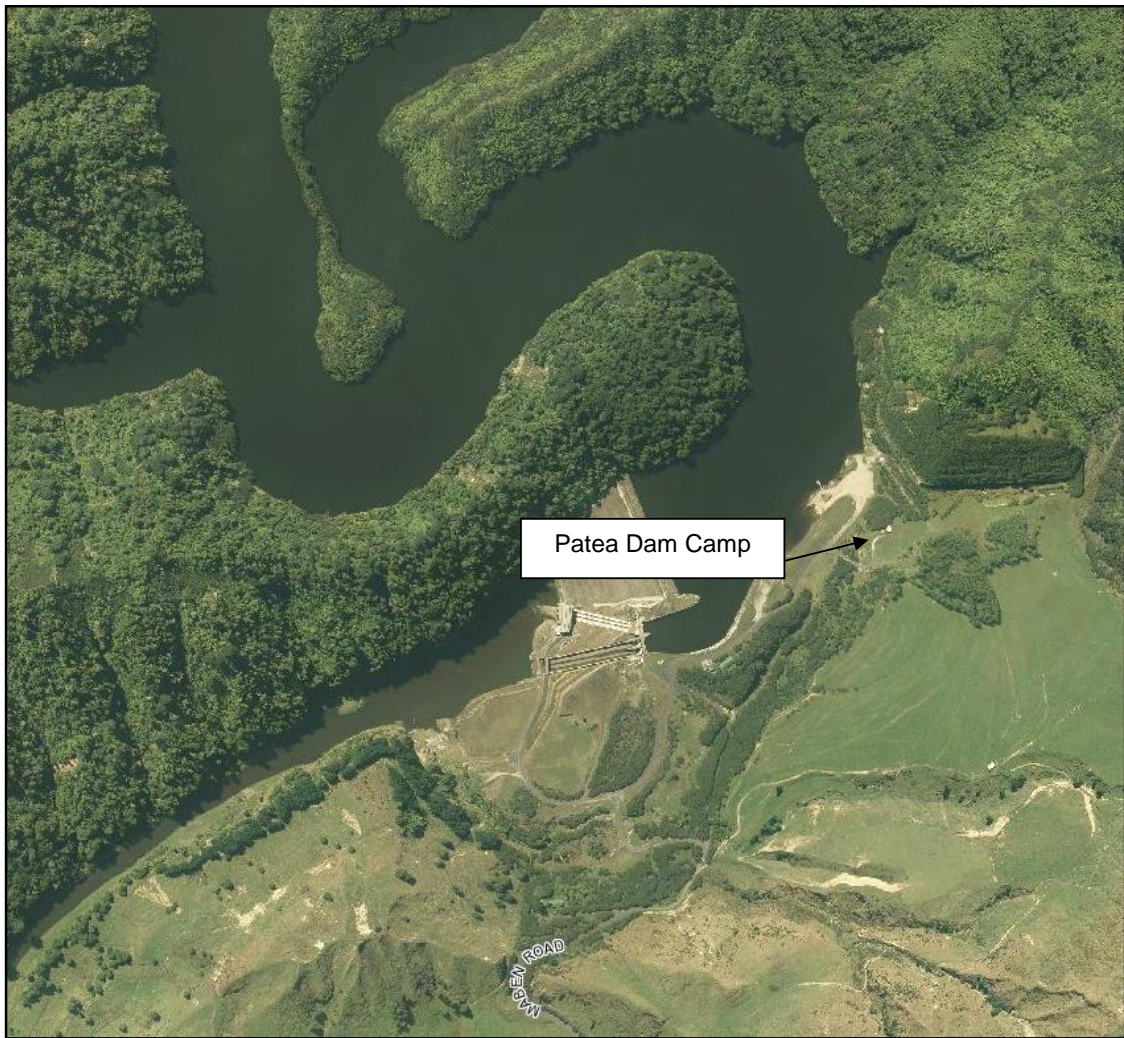
Patea Dam Camp

Address - Maben Rd off Ball Rd, SH3

Phone - 0800 111 323 (South Taranaki District Council)

Website - www.southtaranaki.com

5



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

5.4 Waverley

Waverley Beach

Address - Waverley Beach (Wairoa Domain)

Phone - 0800 111 323 (South Taranaki District Council)

Website - www.southtaranaki.com



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....

5.5 Waitotara

Wai-inu Beach Holiday Park

Address – Wai-inu Beach

Phone - 0800 111 323 (South Taranaki District Council)

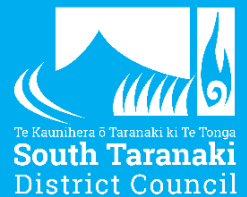
Website - www.southtaranaki.com

5



Chief Executive.....

Mayor.....



Pūrongo Arotake Wāhi Hōpuni Kore Utu

Freedom Camping Site Assessment Report

Executive summary

A review of the South Taranaki District Council Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016 (the Bylaw) is required due to the Self-Contained Motor Vehicles Legislation Act 2023. We have taken this opportunity to also review our freedom camping sites as the last review was undertaken in 2017.

The default position under the Freedom Camping Act 2011 (the Act) is that freedom camping on all local authority land is permitted in self-contained vehicles. This report examines each site to determine if freedom camping should be allowed, and the suitability of the site to support tents and non-self-contained vehicles. When assessing the suitability of sites, we consider public toilet access and availability, and the health and safety risks in the area such as traffic.

We used the three assessment criteria as set out under section 11 of the Act:

- To protect the area.
- To protect the health and safety of people who may visit the site (campers and the general public)
- To protect access to the site (general public)

Each of the three assessment criteria were assessed and given a score between 1 and 5, 1 means that there are no concerns, and 5 means we have high concerns. Any sites with a score of 9 or above are considered unsuitable for freedom camping.

This report has been prepared by Council officers, the proposals in this report have not been formulated, considered, or approved by Council.

This report seeks feedback from Community Board Members and Te Kāhui Matauraura Members. Once feedback is received and the report is amended it will be put forward to Council to consider the proposals and what options may go to public consultation.

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Definitions

Act means the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

Assessment Scoring Method is the method derived by the Council using the assessment criteria set out in the Act, which is used to determine the level of significance of a particular site, which is Council owned.

Bylaw means the South Taranaki District Council Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016.

Council means the South Taranaki District Council.

CRM means Customer Request Management, which is the initials and colloquial term used by Officers to describe a record of a request or concern made by the public. A CRM is logged within the Council's computer system.

DOC means the Department of Conservation.

Freedom Camping Category Types means the three types of freedom camping: self-contained, non-self-contained and tenting.

Non-self-contained Freedom Camping means camping in a vehicle that is not displaying a current self-containment warrant issued under NZS4565:2001 (and all amendments).

NZMCA is the New Zealand Motor Caravan Association.

Significant Site is an area that has been assessed within this document and has a significance score of 9 or greater, using the assessment scoring method on page 7.

Site means a particular land parcel which is owned by the Council.

Self-contained Freedom Camping means camping in a vehicle that is displaying a current self-containment warrant issued under New Zealand Standard: *Self-containment of Motor Caravans and Caravans* NZS4565:2001 (and all amendments). The self-containment warrant means that the vehicle has the capability of holding wastewater (black and grey) from the occupants for three days, without the need to discharge any waste or require any external services.

Tauranga Waka (in te reo) means a waka landing and anchorage site.

Tenting means camping in a portable and collapsible temporary structure (which is usually made of fabric), is supported by poles and affixed to the ground with pegs.

TRC means the Taranaki Regional Council.

Urupā (in te reo) means a cemetery or burial site.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Report

The purpose of the Freedom Camping Site Assessment Report (the Report) is to assess the freedom camping sites throughout the District. The assessment has collated staff and freedom camping ambassador observations, and public complaints. Occupancy rates for the sites have been included where these are available. Occupancy rates are recorded from October to April when the Council's Freedom Camping Kaitiaki are employed.

This Report is being presented to Community Board Members and Te Kāhui Matauraura Members to gain their feedback. Once feedback is received, the report will be amended and put forward to Council for consideration of the proposals. This Report seeks to assist Council in determining what proposals may be presented for public consultation.

This report has been prepared by Council officers, the proposals in this report have not been formulated, considered, or approved by Council and therefore may or may not form part of the revised Bylaw.

1.2 Requirements of the Act

The Act seeks to regulate freedom camping on land controlled or managed by local authorities and the Department of Conservation. The Act is very permissive generally in its approach to freedom camping and provides councils with the opportunity to place restrictions or prohibitions through the development of bylaws.

Bylaws must be made in accordance with the Act or any other enactment and must not prohibit freedom camping absolutely within the District. Through the development of a bylaw, councils must be satisfied that a bylaw is necessary for one or more of the following purposes:

- To protect the area;
- To protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area; and
- To protect access to the area.

A bylaw can determine if an area within the District is restricted and state the restrictions which apply; and a bylaw can also determine if freedom camping in an area is prohibited. The areas defined under a bylaw must be detailed in a map or a description of its locality.

1.3 Council's role and responsibility

Under section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002, the purpose of Local Government is to *"promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future."*

Under the Freedom Camping Act 2011, councils are given powers to regulate and enforce any Freedom Camping Bylaws which have been developed and adopted under the Act. This is to ensure that freedom camping can still occur within the District but enables Council to place reasonable restrictions on freedom camping to protect the area, the health and safety of people who may visit the area and protect access to the area.

It is important to be able to balance the regulatory aspect of enforcing the bylaw to protect and maintain the natural environment of the District, with the need to promote and encourage the tourism of freedom campers in the District.

1.4 Assessment guidelines

'Public land' vs. 'Private land'

The assessment looks at sites on Council owned or managed property. Under Part 1, section 3 (4) of the Act, the regulation of freedom camping on private land is specifically excluded.

Leased Council land;

Council owns land throughout the District, which is not allocated at any given time to specific purposes (such as parks and reserves). To ensure that the land is maintained, Council leases the land for grazing purposes through a formal contract. Therefore, leased land is not included within the assessment. Generally, freedom camping is prohibited on leased Council land.

Accessible land;

Previously the assessment was only undertaken on land which was accessible by vehicle. However, freedom camping in tents is a concern and therefore this assessment report will examine all sites that can be accessed by vehicle and by foot.

Availability of Public Toilets

Under this assessment it is proposed that non-self-contained vehicles and tents are restricted to an easily accessible public toilet. This would ensure that there is no fouling of the environment at the freedom camping sites.

1.5 Assessment Criteria

Under the Act, the Council must be satisfied that the Bylaw is necessary for the following purposes:

- To protect the area;
- To protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area; and
- To protect access to the area.

These three criteria are considered in this document and termed the *assessment criteria*.

The following paragraphs show how the Council has interpreted the assessment criteria specifically and provides clarity on how the assessment of the Act was undertaken using a fair and consistent approach.

Protect the Area

The protection of sites may outweigh the benefits of allowing freedom camping in some areas.

Daily activities that a freedom camper may undertake such as cooking, washing, listening to music may not be appropriate in some areas, and may affect the pleasantness and attractiveness of the area. The risk of damage, littering, and the effect freedom campers have may outweigh the benefits of allowing freedom camping in specific sites such as sports grounds, cemeteries, cultural or historical sites, or environmental reserves.

Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area.

Protecting the health and safety of people includes protecting the freedom campers and the public.

The public toilet facilities in the area assist in determining the suitability of each site for non-self-contained vehicles and tents. If public toilets are easily accessible, they are more likely to be used.

Risks such as coastal erosion are considered in the assessment, and traffic risks which may include pedestrians and vehicles sharing a common area, and the risk associated with no physical barriers between a camp site and passing traffic.

Access to the Area

The impact freedom campers have on other people's access and usage of the site is also examined as part of the assessment. This is helpful when dealing with smaller sites to determine the appropriate number of freedom campers and the duration of their stay.

1.6 Assessment Scoring Method

Each assessment criterion is given a score from 1 to 5, this assists in determining the significance of a site. If the significance score is **9 or above**, this means that the site is determined to be a "significant site" and freedom camping is prohibited. If the significance score is **8 or below**, freedom camping is permitted at the site; however there could be some restrictions placed on the conditions specific to the type of camping at the site.

Risk scoring	
1	No concerns regarding the site
2	Low concerns regarding the site
3	Some concerns regarding the site
4	Moderate concern regarding the site
5	High concerns regarding the site

Where it makes sense to do so, types of areas have been grouped together for the assessment as these areas have features or uses in common.

Note: This report will present proposals for Council to consider for public consultation. A proposal in this document does not automatically result in a reclassification of the freedom camping site.

2.0 Discussion

2.1 Significant sites

2.1.1 Kaūpokonui Beach Reserve

This area is part of a larger Kaūpokonui Reserve that Council maintains by agreement of the Kaūpokonui Beach Society. The adjacent formal camping area is managed by the Kaūpokonui Beach Society.



Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is prohibited at this site.

Background information

Centuries ago when Turi, captain of the Aotea waka, travelled about the Taranaki coast, he and his travelling party stayed for a time by the mouth of the Kaūpokonui Stream. Following their arrival, ceremonial rites were carried out in connection to Turi's sacred cloak, Huna-kiko, which Turi brought with him across Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa. The ceremony took place on the eastern flat lands by the mouth of the Kaūpokonui Stream. Huna-kiko, the sacred red cloak was spread out for the people to gaze upon it. Marae-kura was the name given to the place where the garment was laid. According to Reverend Hammond, the name Marae-kura indicated the building of an altar, and the spreading out of the sacred garment. Furthermore, the various ceremonies which took place were undoubtedly of a very sacred character.

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The Reserve is of special cultural significance to the Ngāti Tu hapū, the risk of littering and damage to this significant area outweighs the benefits of allowing freedom camping. Campers can stay at the campground which is monitored, and behavior of campers can be better controlled than if they were freedom camping. The reserve is a grassed area, large vehicles may damage the area after heavy rainfall.	5/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	There is a children's playground next to this part of the reserve. Vehicles and pedestrians share a common area, during summer there is a lot of pedestrian movement with visitors using the carpark and people from the campground making their way to and from the beach. There are public toilet facilities close by that are open 24/7.	3/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the</i> 	This part of the reserve has privately owned baches and is the main carparking area for those visiting the beach. The	2/5

<i>general public</i> • Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers	beach is popular during the summer months and spring when the whitebaiting season starts.	
Recommendation	That the Kaūpokonui Beach Reserve continues to be a prohibited Freedom Camping site.	10/15

2.1.2 Ōaonui Reserve, Tai Road

The Ōaonui Reserve stretches from Tai Road south to Arawhata Road. It is an average of 37 metres wide by 2.3 kilometres long.

Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is prohibited at this site.

Background information

The coastal reserve is located 11km north of Ōpunakē, there are specific heritage sites within the dunes that are of cultural significance. The foreshore is the nesting ground for the endangered NZ dotterels, Oystercatcher, and the Little Blue Penguin. The dunes ecosystem is the habitat for native species such as the gold striped gecko and the Notoreas moth.



Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect the area. • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	<p>The Reserve is of special environmental significance due to the presence of the endangered NZ Dotterel nesting on the ground in this area, along with other wildlife.</p> <p>Ngāti Tara Ōaonui, the Sandy Bay Society volunteer to protect this area and support the wildlife.</p> <p>Dogs and vehicles are prohibited on the beach environment.</p> <p>The risk of littering and damage to this significant area outweighs the benefits of allowing freedom camping.</p>	5/5
<p>Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	<p>Access to the site is via tracks on foot. There is some level of risk to health and safety associated with access as it supports wildlife, so the tracks are not paved or well formed.</p> <p>There are no public toilet facilities nearby.</p>	4/5
<p>Protect access to the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> 	<p>The Reserve can be accessed on foot from Tai Road, there is no formed road to access the reserve, and no designated camping area within the reserve therefore access and use of</p>	2/5

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	the reserve by others may be compromised by the presence of freedom campers.	
Recommendation	That the Ōaonui Reserve continues to be a prohibited Freedom Camping site.	11/15

2.1.3 Paora Road

The site is situated at the end of Paora Road.

The Council reserve is a thin strip seventeen metres wide by 1.4 kilometres.

Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is prohibited at this site.



Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The accessway and reserve is a compacted gravel and dirt road, heavy vehicles are likely to cause damage after rainfall. The Reserve is located close to an urupā, daily activities that a freedom camper may undertake (cooking, washing, listening to music) along with vandalism, littering and damage would have a greater impact on the public visiting an urupā, than if those activities happened in another area such as a sealed carpark in town. The Council is aware that the site is the location of a culturally significant Tauranga waka site, which is important to the local hapū. The risk of littering and damage to this significant area outweighs the benefits of allowing freedom camping.	5/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	There are public toilet facilities available at the site, despite this, there have been complaints about human waste at the site when freedom campers stayed here previously.	4/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being</i> 	The Reserve is a main access point for the public to go surfing, and those visiting the urupā. There have been previous complaints regarding freedom	5/5

<i>compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i>	campers staying outside the designated freedom camping area, excessive numbers of campers.	
Recommendation	That Paora Road Reserve continues to be a prohibited Freedom Camping site.	14/15

2.1.4 Stent Road

The site is situated at the end of Stent Road. There is a history of freedom camping at this site that pre-dates the Bylaw.

Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is prohibited at this site.



Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The accessway is a gravel road and the area has dirt tracks and grass. Heavy vehicles are likely to cause damage after rainfall. The area is rich in taonga (treasure) which pre-dates European history. The area has high cultural significance to Iwi. <i>Lepidium flexicaule</i> is also found in this area which is classified by the Department of Conservation as a nationally endangered native plant. The risk of littering and damage to this significant area outweighs the benefits of allowing freedom camping.	5/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	The popularity of this area and the increased traffic may cause traffic risk. There are public toilet facilities in this area for the community to use.	2/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The area is a popular surf break and is well known in the surfing community. Freedom Campers may impact access and use of this area by the community.	5/5
Recommendation	That the Stent Road area continues to be a prohibited Freedom Camping site.	12/15

2.1.5 Cemeteries

Under the current Bylaw Freedom Camping is prohibited at the cemeteries.

Cemetery	Location
Eltham Cemetery	Corner of Anderson and Rāwhitiroa Roads, Eltham rural area
Kaponga Cemetery	Park Lane, Kaponga
Hāwera Cemetery	Gladstone Street, Hāwera
Manaia Cemetery	Cemetery Road, (off Hassard Street) Manaia
Ōhawe Cemetery	Hoka Street, Ōhawe (access off Kepa Street, Ōhawe)
Ōkaiawa Cemetery	Tito Road, Ōkaiawa
Ōpunakē Cemetery	Wilson Road, Ōpunakē
Otakeho Cemetery	Surf Highway 45, Otakeho
Pātea Cemetery	Scotland Street, Pātea
Waihi Cemetery	Pikitūroa Road, Normanby

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	<p>All cemeteries in the South Taranaki District are considered to have a high level of historical and cultural significance.</p> <p>Daily activities that a freedom camper may undertake (cooking, washing, listening to music) along with vandalism, littering and damage would have a greater impact on the public within a cemetery than if those activities happened in another area such as a reserve, or public carpark.</p> <p>It would be generally considered insensitive and inconsiderate of people to be camping in a public cemetery.</p>	5/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	<p>There are moderate health and safety concerns due to the likelihood of open ground (plots), use of specialised digging, equipment and burial services taking place.</p> <p>There are risks around vehicles and pedestrians sharing a common area, and there is limited availability of toilet facilities.</p>	3/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	<p>Access to cemeteries is granted to the public generally during the day. All sites are fenced and the gates at Hāwera cemetery are locked at night.</p> <p>Some sites, such as Eltham Cemetery, have small parking areas, if freedom camping was allowed at this site, it would mean public access may be restricted.</p>	4/5
Recommendation	That cemeteries within South Taranaki continue to prohibit Freedom Camping.	12/15

2.1.6 Parks and Reserves

Under the current Bylaw Freedom Camping is prohibited at these Parks and Reserves.

Eltham-Kaponga Ward

Eltham		
Rāwhitiroa Swimming Pool and Reserve	The Reserve is located behind the Rāwhitiroa school, it is accessed from Horoi Road.	The Reserve contains a community swimming pool, playground, and a BBQ/picnic area.
Saunders Park	Saunders Park is located on Collingwood Street it is accessed from either Collingwood Street or via Taumata Park.	The Park contains a sports field.
Soldiers Memorial Park	The Park is located on Conway Road, on the west side of the Eltham Primary School.	The Park contains the community pool, playground, skatepark and a sports field.
Stark Park	Stark Park is opposite the four square and is located between High Street and Bridger Street carpark.	The Park contains a small stage and seating. Stark Park is a thoroughfare for those walking between Bridger Street carpark and High Street.
Taumata Park	Taumata Park is located at the end of Preston Street and can be accessed via Preston and Park Streets and via Saunders Park.	The Park contains a playing field, athletics track and long-jump, playground, grandstand, and a recreation centre.
Kaponga		
Grace Avenue Reserve	Grace Avenue Reserve is located beside the community swimming pool, it is accessed off Lorne Street in Kaponga.	The Reserve provides an entry point to the community swimming pool area.
Victoria Park	Victoria Park is located on Victoria Street. It is accessed from Victoria Street, Fitzgerald Avenue, and Park Lane.	The Park contains a playing field, batting cages, athletics track and long-jump, tennis courts, playground, and public toilets.

Pātea Ward

Pātea		
Garden of Tutunui	The Garden is located on the corner of Bedford and Egmont Streets.	The Garden contains a whale bone sculpture and has established flower gardens.
Pātea Domain	The Domain is located on Egmont Street and is accessed from either Egmont or Surrey Street.	The Domain has a sports field, tennis courts, playground, and community swimming pool
Pātea Memorial Gardens	The Gardens are located on Egmont Street, opposite the petrol station. The Gardens are accessed from Chester and Egmont Streets.	The Gardens contain Turi's Waka sculpture (Aotea Memorial Canoe), grassed picnic area, seating, and has established gardens and trees.
Waverley		
Dallison Park Recreation	Dallison Park Recreation Grounds is located on Chester Street.	The Park contains a sports field, bowling green, and clubrooms.

Grounds		
Gully Park	Gully Park is located opposite Four Square on Weraroa Road.	The Park contains seating, established gardens, and the Kiwi (racehorse) statue.
Okiwa Terrace Reserve, Waiinu Beach	Okiwa Terrace Reserve is accessed from Okiwa Terrace, Pingao Place, and Nukumarū Parade.	The Reserve is a large, grassed, uneven area that is located in a residential area.

Taranaki Coastal Ward

Manaia		
Manaia Domain	The Domain is located on Hassard Street, there are two areas of the Domain. Both areas are accessed from Bennet Drive, one area is to the north and one area is to the south.	The Domain has sports fields, and tennis courts.
Manaia Skatepark	The Skatepark is located east of the Roundabout and is between South Road and Riemenschneider Street.	The Skatepark is divided into two areas, the skate area is on the northern side and there is a large grassed area at the southern side.
Ōpunakē		
Cape Egmont Boat Club and Historic Lighthouse Reserve.	The Reserve is located on Coast Road, between the road and the Cape Egmont Boat Club and Historic Lighthouse reserve.	The Reserve is a small area of land that is used for parking.
Hurst Park	The Park is located on Ihaia Road. It is accessed from Ihaia Road or Gisborne Terrace.	The Reserve is the site of the former railway station. It is grassed area with a walking track and a picnic table.
Ōpunakē Beach Recreation Reserve	The Reserve is located by the Ōpunakē Beach Campground. It is accessed from Beach Road.	The Reserve is a grassed area at the bottom of hill adjacent to the campground. It is used for overflow parking at the Campground and when events are held at the beach.
Ōpunakē BMX Track	The Track is located on Dieffenbach Street.	The Track and surrounding area is very uneven and not suited to a freedom camping area.
Ōpunakē Recreation Grounds	Ōpunakē Recreation Grounds is accessed from Tasman Street, Heaphy and Longfellow Roads, and Halse Place.	The grounds cover a large area, it includes a recreation centre, public toilets, skate park, tennis courts, and sport fields.

Te Hāwera Ward

Hāwera		
Beech Place Reserve	Beech Place Reserve is located at the end of Kamahi Avenue. The site can be accessed via walkways from Beech Place, Tawa Street and Ngaio Place.	Beech Place Reserve is surrounded by private residential property. It is currently used as a leash free dog park.
Charles Major	Charles Major Place Reserve is located at	The Reserve is a grassed area with

Place Reserve	Charles Major Place off Ramanui Avenue.	a playground.
Hāwera Water Tower Grounds and Skate Park	The Park is located on Albion Street it is accessed from either Albion Street or High Street.	The Park contains the i-SITE building, Water Tower, public toilets, a skate park, a basketball hoop, picnic tables, established gardens and trees.
Hicks Park	Hicks Park is accessed from Pacey Avenue, Reid Avenue and the TSB Hub carpark and access lane.	The Park contains sports fields, tennis courts, outdoor fitness area, and athletics track.
King Edward Park, Hāwera (including sports field)	King Edward Park is accessed from Waihi and Camberwell Roads, High Street, and the TSB Hub carpark and access lane.	The Park contains a lake, playground, observatory, cricket grounds, batting cages, club rooms for the cricket and alpine clubs, and established gardens and trees.
McGuire Street Reserve	Located on and accessed from McGuire Street.	The Reserve is a small neighborhood park dominated by a playground.
Turuturu Road Soccer Grounds	Turuturu Road Soccer Grounds is accessed from Turuturu Road.	The Grounds contain clubrooms and sports fields.
Normanby		
Evans Park	The Park is located between Brown and Hobson Streets.	The Park is a small area that a playground and is located in a residential area.
Normanby Domain	Normanby Domain is accessed from Ketemarae Road.	The Domain contains a bowling green, sports fields, a playground, athletics track, and a hall.

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	Recreation Reserves are areas of significance to the sporting communities. Community areas such as playgrounds, skateparks and swimming pools are of significance to families with younger children. The sports fields are maintained to a sports turf standard. Vehicles (campers, motorhomes, caravans) may damage the sports turf and grassed areas particularly after rainfall which would result expensive remediation work.	4/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	Health and Safety risks associated with recreation reserves would be higher when sports are being played as pedestrians and vehicles potentially share a common area. There are no public toilet facilities close by that are open 24/7 therefore tenting and non-self-contained vehicles should be prohibited from these areas.	3/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> 	Most of the grounds are fenced and gated to prevent vehicles accessing the sports fields. Sports teams and individuals use these areas during organised events and	4/5

• <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i>	training. Freedom campers may impede on the use of these areas, as there is a perceived risk for unaccompanied children to visit the playgrounds if people are camping in the same area.	
Recommendation	That Parks and Reserves within South Taranaki continue to prohibit Freedom Camping.	11/15

2.1.7 Parks and Reserves continued

The following Parks and Reserves have **not** been assessed as freedom camping areas because under previous assessment criteria only sites with vehicle access were assessed.

Eltham-Kaponga Ward

Eltham		
Bridger Park, Eltham	The Park is located between Stanners and High Street, it is accessed from Stanners Street and Bridge Street.	The Park has a grassed area on Stanners Street, and the lower area of the park has a stream, seating, and established gardens and trees.
Chartwell Drive Reserve	The Reserve is located on Chartwell Drive amongst residential houses.	The Reserve is a sloping grass area with established trees.
Connell Reserve, Eltham	Connell Reserve is located on Clifford Road, it is accessed from Clifford Road and Kōwhai Street.	The Reserve has a large grass area, it was leased to Forest and Bird, but the lease has ended. There have been issues at the Reserve with littering, people overstaying, and cars tearing up the area.
Taylor Park, Eltham	The Park is located on Tayer Street, with two access points.	The Park is an off-leash dog exercise area.
Willowbrook Reserve	The Reserve is located on Willowbrook amongst residential houses.	The Reserve is a small grass area with established trees.
Kaponga		
Smyth Reserve	The Reserve is located on Victoria Street, opposite Thoumine Park.	The Reserve is a grass area that leads down to the river. It has established trees, a picnic table and seating area.
Victoria Street Park, Kaponga	The Park is located at 50 Victoria Street beside the old takeaway shop.	The Park is dominated by a shelter with picnic table and seating.

Pātea Ward

Waverley		
Manchester	The Playground is located on	The Playground is a large grass area with a

Street Playground	Manchester Street.	playground and picnic table.
Waverley Memorial Park, Waverley	The Park is located on Weraroa Road, east of Chester Street.	The Park is dominated by the Waverley Clock Tower and stairs. The Park has a grass area and established trees.
Waverley Domain Pool and carpark	The Domain and carpark are located on Weraroa Road opposite Chester Street.	The Swimming Pool is fenced, there are carparks in front of and on the east side of the pool complex.

Taranaki Coastal Ward

Manaia		
The Row Playground	The Playground is located on Tauranga-a-ika Street and is the part of the entrance to get to the community pool.	The Playground has a grassed area and a large playground and established trees.

Te Hāwera Ward

Hawera		
Clapham Common	The Common is located on High Street and can also be accessed from Cameron and Gladstone Streets.	The Common is large grass area with a small playground.
Goodson Dell	The Dell is located on High Street, with the main access point on the corner of High and Cameron Streets.	The Dell is a small park with established trees.
Kōwhai Street Reserve	The Reserve is located on the corner of Hunter and Kōwhai Streets.	The area has a grass area, picnic table, seating, and a playground.
McCullum Park	The Park is located on Rātā Street and can be accessed from Murray Avenue.	The Park has a large grass area and playground, established trees and seating.
Naumai Park	The Park is located on High Street.	The Park has a lake, walkways, established trees.
Queen Elizabeth Park, Hāwera	The Park is located on Tawhiti Road, opposite the takeaway shop.	The Park has a large grass area, a playground and seating area.
Rod Symes Reserve	The Reserve is located on Rod Syme Place.	The Reserve has large established trees.

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area</i> 	<p>These parks provide a space of recreation and refecton for people in the community.</p> <p>Vehicles (campers, motorhomes, caravans) would damage grassed areas particularly after rainfall. Freedom camping in tents would have an impact on the pleasantness and</p>	3/5

<i>could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i>	attractiveness of these areas.	
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	There are no public toilet facilities close by that are open 24/7 therefore tenting and non-self-contained vehicles should be prohibited from these areas.	5/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by freedom campers</i> 	Freedom campers may impede on the use of these areas, as there is a perceived risk for unaccompanied children to visit the playgrounds if people are camping in the same area.	2/5
Recommendation	That these Parks and Reserves are prohibited for freedom camping. If approved, these proposals will be included in the Bylaw review and form part of the public consultation.	10/15

2.2 Town Boundary Maps

Town boundary maps means creating a boundary around the town and prohibiting freedom camping within its border except for the areas where freedom camping is permitted.

Section 10 of the Act was amended in 2023, previously it stated, ‘Freedom camping is permitted in any local authority area unless it is restricted or prohibited in an area (a) in accordance with a bylaw made under section 11; or (b) under any other enactment.’

Section 10 of the Act now states that ‘Freedom camping is permitted in any local authority area unless it is restricted or prohibited in that area as specified in subsection (3) (i.e. through a bylaw), if (a) a tent or temporary structure is used; or (b) a self-contained motor vehicle is used.’ In short, people can freedom camp on all local authority land in a tent or self-contained motor vehicle unless the area is identified as a prohibited or restricted area.

Section 7 of the Bylaw states that tents are only permitted in the restricted areas identified in the schedule. This statement in the Bylaw may conflict with the revised Act. To prohibit freedom camping in tents we need to identify those prohibited areas either through a map or a description.

The risk for the Council is that freedom camping can happen in any area that is not prohibited or restricted through the Bylaw and council officers have limited powers to move people on. The areas that are most at risk of complaints and nuisance are our towns. This is generally due to the population size and the visibility of freedom campers in public areas.

Under section 12 of the Act bylaws cannot prohibit freedom camping in all areas of the district. The introduction of town boundary maps would not put our Bylaw in conflict with the Act as we still have areas within the district and within the towns where freedom camping is encouraged.

It is proposed that Eltham, Hāwera, Kaponga, Manaia, Normanby, Ōpunakē, Pātea, and Waverley have town boundary maps as these towns have prohibited and restricted areas.

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	Open spaces are used for relaxation, entertainment, and community gatherings. Footpaths, lanes, and carparks are used by people that work in and support businesses within the CBD. The pleasantness and attractiveness of these areas can be damaged by the everyday activities that a freedom camper may undertake. There is an increased risk of household rubbish being deposited in public rubbish bins, as well as an increased risk of littering.	3/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may	Open spaces and public areas within the towns are not where you would expect to see freedom campers and	3/5

<p>visit the area. (General public and campers)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	<p>therefore may attract the attention of passing traffic and inadvertently cause a driving distraction.</p> <p>Ideally tenting should be prohibited in areas where there are no easily accessible public toilets in the vicinity.</p>	
<p>Protect access to the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	<p>There is potential that the public may feel intimidated or uncomfortable by the presence of freedom campers in areas that are designed as community spaces. Perceived intimidation may stop the public accessing areas.</p> <p>In public carparks any parking restrictions (P60, P120) are valid from 8am to 6pm every day except public holidays. So, a freedom camper can park in a public carpark overnight or on public holidays.</p>	3/5
<p>Recommendation</p>	<p>That town boundary maps are used for Eltham, Hāwera, Kaponga, Manaia, Normanby, Ōpunakē, Pātea, and Waverley. The maps will identify large prohibited areas, rather than identifying each individual site.</p>	9/15

Hāwera town boundary map example



Kaponga town boundary map example



2.3 Eltham-Kaponga Ward

Eltham

2.3.1 Bridger Park Carpark, Eltham

The Bridger Park car park is located in the central business district, it is accessed from High Street (SH 3) and Bridge Street.



Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted at this site for self-contained vehicles.

Observations

The Freedom Camping Ambassadors that are employed from 1 November to 30 April each summer season recorded the number of vehicles/tents at this site.

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	7	3	9
Non-self-contained	4	7	-
Tent	2	-	-
TOTAL	13	10	9

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The site is tar sealed and would support large vehicles using this area.	1/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	The site is a public carpark, so pedestrians and vehicles do share the area, but is not a busy thoroughfare other than when the squash club is open. The site is more than 100m walking distance from the public toilets.	4/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the</i> 	The carpark is used by people visiting the shops, Stark Park is the throughfare connecting the carpark to High Street. The carpark is also used by people going to the squash club or Bridger Park. The carpark is big enough to support freedom campers and the local community.	2/5

<i>presence of freedom campers</i>		
Recommendation	That this site continues to allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles only.	6/15

2.3.2 Eltham Library Carpark

The Eltham Library is located on the corner of High and King Edward Streets. The car park adjoining the library is accessed from Bath Street.



Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted at this site in self-contained vehicles.

Observations

The Freedom Camping Ambassadors that are employed from 1 November to 30 April each summer season recorded the number of vehicles/tents at this site.

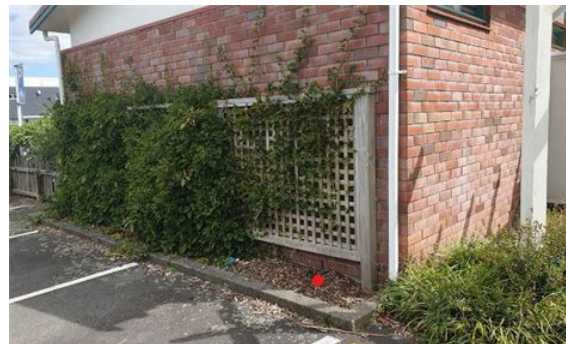
	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	27	26	14
Non-self-contained	-	5	-
Tent	-	2	-
TOTAL	27	33	14

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The site is tar sealed but would not support large vehicles due to the size of the carparking area and the turning area available.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	The public toilets are close to this site but are not open 24/7. Library staff have reported and cleaned up human faeces around the library on three separate occasions in the last 12 months. Although the site requires freedom campers to be in self-contained vehicles, it is assumed that freedom campers have defecated at this site as the toilets are locked overnight.	5/5

<p>Protect access to the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	<p>The primary use of the carpark is to provide carparking for users of the library.</p> <p>The Library is a busy place as it has the NZ Post franchise. The car park is relatively small with 8 car parking spaces available. With the limited number of car parks the presence of freedom campers has the potential to cause parking issues for the public visiting the library.</p> <p>Freedom campers do not have to vacate a site at a certain time and campers have been known to stay while the library is open in the morning.</p>	<p>4/5</p>
<p>Recommendation</p>	<p>That this site changes to a prohibited site for freedom camping.</p> <p>If approved this proposed change will be included in the Bylaw review and form part of the public consultation.</p>	<p>11/15</p>

The red dots on the images below indicate where human faecal matter was found.



2.3.3 Taylor Park Carpark, Eltham

Taylor Park is located on Tayler Street. It is a large reserve with a playground, small car park. The park is a dedicated leash free dog exercise area.

Vehicular access to the park area is not available as locked gates are in place. Some self-contained vehicles have made use of the small carpark on Tayler Street.



Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted at this site in self-contained vehicles.

Observations

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	1	4	5
Non-self-contained	-	4	-
Tent	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	8	5

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	There is a small playground that is separated from the parking area. The parking area is small and is a compacted gravel area, there may be some damage caused by vehicles after heavy rainfall, although there have not been any issues, and the site is not busy.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	There is a shared accessway to Taylor Park and the carpark, pedestrians and vehicles will share a small portion of this area but there is also another entrance to the park if pedestrians feel unsafe. There are no public toilet facilities so freedom campers must be in self-contained vehicles.	2/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	There are parking spaces available on the roadside so users of the dog park would not be greatly impacted by freedom campers when trying to access the park if the carpark was full.	2/5
Recommendation	That this site continues to allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles.	6/15

2.3.4 Glen Nui Reserve, Eltham

Glen Nui Reserve is situated at the end of Glen Nui Road off Rāwhitiroa Road. Because the area is remote, the neighbouring farmer grazes sheep at the site to maintain the grassed area.



Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted at this site in self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles, and tents.

Observations

There are no recorded observations from this site due to its remoteness. There are no recorded issues at this site.

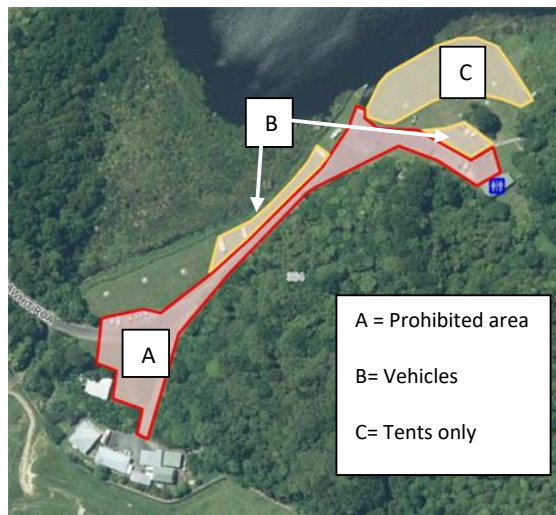
Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The Reserve has a compacted gravel road running through it surrounded by grass areas. There may be some damage caused by vehicles after heavy rainfall, although there have not been reported issues regarding this.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	There are public toilet facilities in the camping area, so tenting can be available at the Reserve. Vehicles and pedestrians share a common area and there are no barriers protecting the camping area from vehicles.	2/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The freedom camping area is a designated camping area, the local community is most likely not going to be impacted from using the public toilets while people are camping in this area.	1/5
Recommendation	That this site continues to allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles, and tents.	5/15

2.3.5 Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve

Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve and ecological sanctuary is located at the end of Sangster Road. The site is 230 hectares of native bush and wetlands and 17.8 hectares of lake.

Native flora and fauna have been reintroduced into the area and are protected by a pest-proof fence. The site has a very high level of environmental significance and is managed by South Taranaki District Council in partnership with the Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust under a memorandum of understanding.



Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted at this site in self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles, and tents.

Observations

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	39	134	140
Non-self-contained	35	33	45
Tent	32	36	29
TOTAL	106	203	214

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	<p>There is a very high degree of cultural and environmental significance as the reserve is a bird sanctuary of national significance.</p> <p>All dogs are prohibited from the site. Any freedom campers with pets or threats to the biodiversity, are prohibited from the site.</p> <p>Because of the importance of the reserve and its environmental sensitivity, the reserve is a restricted site meaning that freedom camping is restricted to certain places for certain types of camping.</p> <p>A manager lives onsite at the Reserve and volunteers are regularly at the Reserve so any damage or vandalism caused by freedom campers would be identified and reported quickly.</p>	4/5
Protect the health and	The campers and pedestrians do share a common area as	2/5

safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	people complete walks around the lake and the ridgeline. There are public toilet facilities available so tents and non-self-contained vehicles can camp close to the facilities.	
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	Currently up to three self-contained vehicles, and three non-self-contained vehicles can camp at the reserve. This number of campers would not impede on the public accessing the carparking area or using the reserve.	2/5
Recommendation	That this site continues to allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles, and tents, with a limit of 3 self-contained and 3 non-self-contained vehicles.	8/15

2.3.6 Rukumoana Reserve, Eltham

Rukumoana Reserve is located off Rāwhitiroa Road, and access is via a formed dirt road. The site is situated on the banks of the Pātea River.

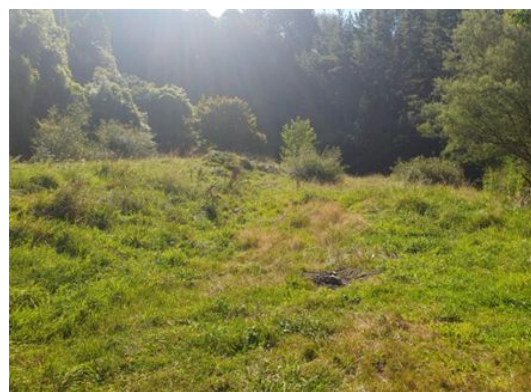


Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted at this site in self-contained vehicles.

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The main access is a deep rutted track and require a large vehicle to access this site, but it would be more likely to get stuck when wet and cause further damage. The site is remote and not monitored regularly by staff or others in the area. The freedom camping sign states no lighting of fires, but there is evidence of a fire being lit there recently. If the site was damaged it may remain undetected for a length of time unless it was noticed by locals in the area.	3/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	There are no public toilet facilities so freedom campers must be in self-contained vehicles. There is no regular monitoring of the site and due to its overgrowth human waste and litter could be easily hidden.	2/5

<p>Protect access to the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	<p>Access to the freedom camping area is difficult. The main access is a deep rutted track.</p> <p>The site allows three self-contained vehicles, but the site does not have a large area to camp or a large turning area. Campers would need to camp on the main access track meaning that other campers and the public would struggle to enter and exit the site.</p> <p>The site has several dips that would be difficult to navigate due to the overgrowth.</p>	<p>5/5</p>
<p>Recommendation</p>	<p>That this site changes to a prohibited site for freedom camping.</p> <p>This site lends itself to being better suited for planting of trees as part of the Councils Environmental sustainability plan, which also forms part of the reason to change the use of the site.</p> <p>If approved this proposed change will be included in the Bylaw review and form part of the public consultation.</p>	<p>10/15</p>



Kaponga

2.3.7 Thoumine Park Carpark, Kaponga

Thoumine Park car park is situated on the corner of Victoria Street and Riverside Street.

Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted at this site in self-contained vehicles.



Observations

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	6	2	3
Non-self-contained	1	2	1
Tent	-	-	-
TOTAL	7	4	4

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	There is a small playground, and seating areas that are separated from the car park. The car park is a metaled area, heavy vehicles are not likely to cause damage, however the carpark is small and doesn't have a wide turning area.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	There is a shared accessway to Thoumine Park and the carpark, pedestrians and vehicles will share a small portion of this area. There are no public toilet facilities so freedom campers must be in self-contained vehicles.	2/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The reserve is a restricted site meaning that freedom camping is restricted to the carpark for self-contained vehicles. The carpark is a small area, too many freedom campers may impede on the public being able to use the carpark, but the site is not well utilised and public access hasn't been an issue.	2/5
Recommendation	That this site continues to allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles.	6/15

2.3.8 Victoria Park Carpark, Kaponga

The Victoria Park car park is located on Park Lane and forms part of the Victoria Park Grounds. It is primarily used by sports members and visitors that use the recreational facilities.



Observations

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	8	-	8
Non-self-contained	12	-	7
Tent	2	-	-
TOTAL	22	-	15

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	This site has been a freedom camping site for a while and there were complaints that the freedom campers used the infinity gas power socket on the outside of the club rooms to charge electrical devices, using the outside tap to wash dishes, and parking below the security sensor light. Measures have been taken to ensure that freedom campers do not take advantage of the services that the club has to pay for (ie water and power). The car park is a tar sealed area; heavy vehicles are not likely to damage this area. There is no grassed area to pitch a tent in the carpark area, and the adjacent sports fields are a prohibited freedom camping space.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	There are several access points to Victoria Park and pedestrians and vehicles do not need to share a common area. Public toilets are located 100m from this site and are available 24 hours a day.	2/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The presence of freedom campers would not hinder public use of Victoria Park as there are several access points. During large sporting events the carpark can be closed to freedom campers if 24 hours' notice is given. (Section 12 - Freedom Camping Bylaw).	1/5
Recommendation	That this site continues to allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles and non-self-contained vehicles.	5/15

2.4 Pātea Ward

Pātea

2.4.1 Bedford Street/Egmont Street Reserve, Pātea

The reserve is located on the corner of Bedford Street and Egmont Street and is on State Highway 3.

Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted at this site in self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles, and tents.



Observations

There have been no observations of people camping on this site over the past three years.

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The camping area is a small grassed area, with established trees. Heavy vehicles may damage the area after rainfall, although there have not been any issues as the site is not well utilised. Daily activities that a freedom camper may undertake such as cooking, washing, and listening to music may make the area more unattractive.	4/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	Public toilets are located 100m from this site and are available 24 hours a day, unless they are closed for maintenance. Freedom campers may cause an unintended distraction to passing traffic as this is a busy corner and one where you may not expect to see people camping as it is on the main street of the town. There is a risk to health and safety as the access points are directly off the State Highway corner, vehicles accessing the site may cause issues with other road users. There is also a measure of risk associated with the amount of traffic passing by this site and the lack of safety barriers.	4/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the</i> 	The site does not have picnic tables or a playground to attract the general public so the site is most likely not well utilised by the community. Therefore the presence of freedom campers would most likely have minimal effect on the public due to its under-utilisation.	1/5

<i>presence of freedom campers</i>		
Recommendation	That this site changes to a prohibited site. If approved this proposed change will be included in the Bylaw review and form part of the public consultation.	9/15

2.4.2 Bourke’s Lookout, Pātea Beach

This area is known as Bourke’s Lookout by locals, it has not been assessed as a Freedom Camping area previously. However, there are regular campers using this area so an assessment is needed.



Observations

This area has not previously been listed as a freedom camping site but observations have been recorded by our freedom camping ambassadors.

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	-	5	8
Non-self-contained	-	4	3
Tent	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	9	11

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The site consists of a sand and gravel access road. Large vehicles may damage the access after rainfall. A portion of the area is tar sealed. The presence of freedom campers is unlikely to have a detrimental effect on the pleasantness or attractiveness of the area, however this is a popular site due to the outlook and viewing the turbines.	3/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	There are no public toilet facilities so freedom campers must be in self-contained vehicles. With the recent completion of the Patea Loop walkway, pedestrians and vehicles will share a common area.	4/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> 	There is no playground or seating to attract people to the area other than the view. The area is uneven ground and there are no useful flat	2/5

• <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i>	areas for vehicles to park for overnight camping.	
Recommendation	That this site is prohibited for freedom camping. If approved, this proposal will be included in the Bylaw review and form part of the public consultation.	9/15

2.4.3 Seaview Lookout, Pātea Beach

Under the Bylaw this area was known as Bourke’s Lookout. According to locals Bourke’s Lookout is closer to the beach and is the site of the greenwaste dump site that is now closed. For this assessment and Bylaw review this area will be referred to as Seaview Lookout.



Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted at this site in self-contained vehicles.

Observations

Number of units (not people) recorded by Freedom Camping Ambassadors from October – March each summer season.

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	25	15	46
Non-self-contained	19	4	13
Tent	-	-	2
TOTAL	44	19	61

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i>	The site consists of a large tar sealed car park, which has speed cushions/humps. Large vehicles are unlikely to damage the site. The presence of freedom campers is unlikely to have a detrimental effect on the pleasantness or attractiveness of the area.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers)	There are no public toilet facilities so freedom campers must be in self-contained vehicles. The area is uneven ground and there are no useful flat areas	4/5

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health issues such as human waste • Traffic hazards 	for vehicles to park for overnight camping.	
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of the area by the general public • Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers 	There is no playground or seating to attract people to the area other than the view.	1/5
Recommendation	That this site continues to be allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles.	6/15

2.4.4 Mana Bay, Pātea Beach

Mana Bay is located at the end of Beach Road. The area consists of a large tar sealed car park, Board Riders clubrooms and a large grassed area with Picnic shelters and BBQs.



Observations

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	50	54	108
Non-self-contained	16	20	26
Tent	-	-	14
TOTAL	66	74	148

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vandalism • Littering • Damage to the area • The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers 	The carpark area is tar sealed so heavy vehicles are unlikely to cause damage. The site is very public and any damage or vandalism would be reported soon after the event. The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area would not be greatly impacted by freedom campers as it is an environment you would expect to see campers in.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health issues such as 	Pedestrians and vehicles will share a common area due to the busy beachside location. Public toilets are located within 100m from this site and are available 24 hours a day.	2/5

<p><i>human waste</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 		
<p>Protect access to the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The number of freedom camping vehicles is restricted so that the public has access to the beach and parking facilities.	2/5
Recommendation	That this site continues to be a allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles, and tents.	6/15

2.4.5 Stafford Street Pool Reserve, Pātea

The Stafford Street Pool Reserve is the site of the old Pātea Swimming Pool. The pool was closed in 2012; the buildings were demolished and the pool was filled in.



Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted at this site in self-contained vehicles.

Observations

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	1	-	-
Non-self-contained	1	-	1
Tent	-	-	1
TOTAL	2	-	2

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
<p>Protect the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	<p>The site is elevated with a steep access and consists of a large grass area and concrete grandstand seating on the northern bank.</p> <p>The area is uneven and due to it being a grassed site heavy vehicles are likely to cause damage after rainfall.</p> <p>The site is located within a residential area. It is not well utilised by freedom campers, if it were more popular it may cause issues for residents.</p>	3/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may	There are no nearby public toilet facilities so freedom campers must be in self-contained vehicles.	5/5

visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health issues such as human waste • Traffic hazards 	There are two driveways that access the site from Stafford Street, one is a tar sealed drive the other is a grass drive. Both of these access points and the uneven ground would be difficult for large campers to navigate. The access is very difficult and would require a 4-wheel drive vehicle.	
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of the area by the general public • Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers 	The site does not have picnic tables or a playground to attract the general public so the site is most likely not well utilised by the community. Therefore the presence of freedom campers would most likely have minimal effect on the public accessing the site.	1/5
Recommendation	That this site changes to a prohibited site for freedom camping. If approved this proposed change will be included in the Bylaw review and form part of the public consultation.	9/15

2.4.6 York Street Picnic Area, Pātea

York Street Picnic Area is located at the end of York Street on the banks of the Pātea River.



Observations

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	2	3	12
Non-self-contained	2	1	8
Tent	-	1	20
TOTAL	4	5	40

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vandalism • Littering • Damage to the area • The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers 	The carpark area and accessway is a compacted gravel road, heavy vehicles may cause damage after rainfall. A wastewater pump station is located within this area so any damage or vandalism would be noticed by council staff and reported in a timely manner. The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area would not be greatly impacted by freedom campers as it is an	2/5

	environment you would expect to see campers in.	
<p>Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	<p>The site forms part of the Pātea Walkway, which leads to Mana Bay. Pedestrians and vehicles will share a common area.</p> <p>There are no public toilet facilities so freedom campers must be in self-contained vehicles.</p>	2/5
<p>Protect access to the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	<p>The site is not well used by freedom campers, but if there were more people camping here, there may be some benefit in restricting the number of freedom campers per night so that the local community still has access.</p>	2/5
Recommendation	That this site continues to allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles.	6/15

Waverley

2.4.7 Aotea Rotary Community Park, Waverley

Aotea Rotary Community Park is located on the corner of Chester Street and Weraroa Road.

Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted at this site in self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles, and tents.



Observations

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	68	49	60
Non-self-contained	34	17	21
Tent	26	22	11
TOTAL	128	88	92

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The carpark area is a compacted gravel area, heavy vehicles may cause damage after rainfall. The site is very public, and any damage or vandalism would be reported soon after the event. The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area would not be greatly impacted by freedom campers as the camping area is separated from the playground area.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	Pedestrians and vehicles may share a common area in the carpark where campers will stay. Public toilets are located within 100m from this site and are available 24 hours a day.	2/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The Park consists of a large child’s playground, grassed picnic area and public toilets. Visitors to the playground may wish to park in the carpark which freedom campers use but there is also space on the roadside for visitors to park as well. If access did become an issue in the future the number of freedom camping vehicles can be restricted at this site.	2/5
Recommendation	That this site continues to allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles, and tents.	6/15

2.4.8 Dallison Park Carpark, Waverley

Dallison Park is accessed via Chester Street.

Under the current Bylaw freedom camping at the Dallison Park carpark is permitted for self-contained vehicles.



Observations

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	28	34	39
Non-self-contained	1	-	2
Tent	-	1	-
TOTAL	29	35	41

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The carpark area is tar sealed so heavy vehicles are unlikely to cause damage. The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area would not be greatly impacted by freedom campers.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	There are no public toilet facilities so freedom campers must be in self-contained vehicles.	2/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	This site has an overflow parking area on the grass next to the carpark. Under the Bylaw, the site can be closed to Freedom Camping if there is an event and the site is needed for the public parking.	2/5
Recommendation	That this site continues to allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles.	6/15

2.4.9 Wairoa Reserve – Long Beach/Cave Beach Access, Waverley

The Long Beach/Cave Beach Access Reserve is located on George Road, which is adjacent to the Waverley Beach Motor Camp.



Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted at this site in self-contained vehicles.

Observations

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	214	273	549
Non-self-contained	10	10	16
Tent	7	15	11
TOTAL	231	298	576

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The access road is compacted gravel and the parking area is grass so large vehicle may cause damage after heavy rainfall. The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area would not be greatly impacted by freedom campers as it is adjacent to the Waverley Campground and therefore an environment you would expect to see campers in.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	Pedestrians and vehicles will share a common area due to the busy beachside location. There are public toilet and shower facilities close to the Cave Beach camping area, so freedom campers can stay in non-self-contained vehicles close to these facilities. However, tenting is not recommended as the most appropriate place to pitch a tent is further than 100m from the facilities and the health and safety risks associated with vehicles and an unfenced tenting area. There are health and safety concerns due to the site being on a cliff top and coastal erosion.	3/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	There have been comments that the amount of campers at the beach during the day has restricted the public’s access to parking areas. This is difficult to navigate as the Bylaw only applies to campers that stay overnight at the site, there is no restriction on the number of campers that can visit a site during the day.	2/5

<p>Recommendation</p>	<p>That this site changes and allows freedom camping for self-contained vehicles, and non-self-contained vehicles in the area that is closest to the public toilet facilities.</p> <p>That this site also increases the number of vehicles from three to six vehicles.</p> <p>If approved this proposed change will be included in the Bylaw review and form part of the public consultation.</p>	<p>7/15</p>
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2.5 Taranaki Coastal Ward

Manaia

2.5.1 Manaia Domain carpark

The Domain car park is located on Bennett Drive that leads to the Manaia Golf Club.



Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The carpark area is tar sealed so heavy vehicles are unlikely to cause damage. The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area would not be greatly impacted by freedom campers as it is not a busy site or on a public throughfare.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	Pedestrians and vehicles will share the carpark, although it is not likely to be a busy location all the time. There are no nearby public toilet facilities so freedom campers must be in self-contained vehicles.	2/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The driveway area is kept clear to allow emergency service vehicles to obtain access to the Manaia Golf Club and Rugby field if required. Under the Bylaw, the site can be closed to Freedom Camping if there is an event and the site is needed for the public parking.	2/5
Recommendation	That this site continues to allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles.	6/15

Ōpunakē

2.5.2 Arawhata Road Carpark

The site is situated at the end of Arawhata Road which is very popular with surfers. The car park provides access to the Oaonui Reserve which stretches north from Arawhata Road to Tai Road.



The carpark at the end of the road is designated as a freedom camping area for self-contained vehicles.

This portion of road, and carpark area was constructed in 2010 approximately, during or after its construction it was not gazetted. This area of land is still in the farmers ownership.

Under the Act, the Local Authority Area is land that is controlled or managed by or on behalf of the local authority under any enactment. If this land is not gazetted as a road reserve, we may not have any authority to the decide on the status of freedom camping in this area.

Recommendation

To remove this site as a freedom camping area from the Bylaw.

2.5.3 Halse Place, Ōpunakē

Halse Place is a public reserve which also forms part of the Ōpunakē Walkway.

Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is prohibited at the northern end (highlighted red) of Halse Place. Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles, and tents is permitted at the southern end (highlighted yellow) of Halse Place.



The observations and assessment below only focus on the southern end of Halse Place.

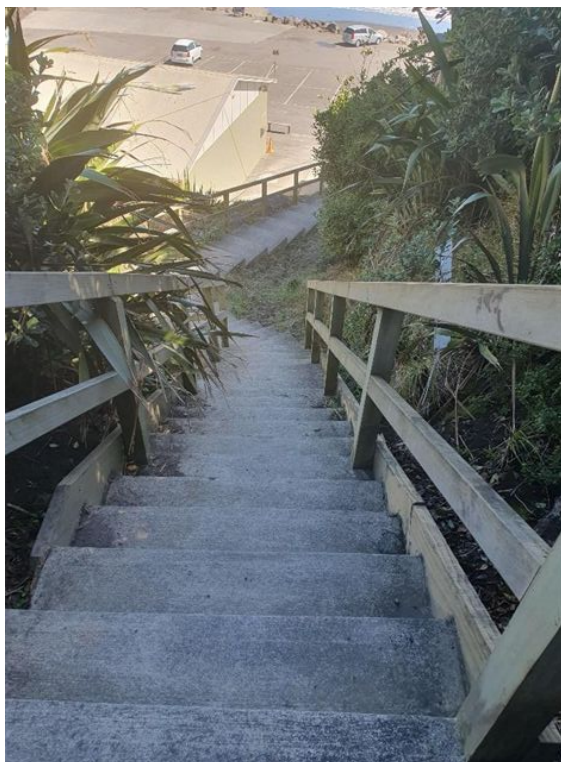
Observations

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	158	205	351
Non-self-contained	118	115	172
Tent	85	47	63
TOTAL	361	367	586

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	<p>Halse Place Reserve is a large grass area, heavy vehicles would cause damage after rain.</p> <p>The site is very public, and any damage or vandalism would be reported soon after the event.</p> <p>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area is impacted by freedom campers but there are no residential houses directly opposite this area, so the impact is reduced.</p> <p>Complaints have been received from residents over recent years regarding Freedom Campers and locals who have accessed the northern grassed area of Halse Place and ripped it up with their vehicles. As a result, access to the grassed area has been restricted with the placement of planted borders and some boulders. This area prohibited freedom camping in the last Bylaw review.</p>	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	<p>There are no safety barriers between campers and the road, and visitors need to take caution around the cliff faces.</p> <p>Non-self-contained vehicles and tents are restricted to the southern part of the freedom camping area, that is closest to the toilets. However, the toilets are down a staircase of 84 steps that is uncovered with no lighting. It is unlikely that people would make the trek during the night to use the public toilet, it is more likely that people would find a place at the top of the cliff to defecate, and this is something we do not want to encourage. Therefore, we would recommend that only self-contained vehicles are able to camp at Halse Place.</p>	4/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	<p>The southern end of Halse Place has a newly installed seating area and the staircase to Middleton Bay which the public may wish to access.</p> <p>The number of freedom camping vehicles is restricted to 12 vehicles overnight.</p>	2/5
Recommendation	<p>That this site changes and only allows freedom camping for self-contained vehicles.</p> <p>If approved this proposed change will be included in the Bylaw review and form part of the public consultation.</p>	8/15

Stairs going down to Middle Bay public toilet



2.5.4 Hurst Park (Railway Reserve), Ōpunakē

Hurst Park is the former Ōpunakē Railway Reserve, the old railway entrance (accessible from Gisborne Terrace) at Hurst Park is a restricted Freedom Camping site for self-contained vehicles.



Observations

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	-	112	16
Non-self-contained	-	1	2
Tent	-	-	1
TOTAL	-	113	19

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vandalism • Littering • Damage to the area • The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers 	The area is grassed, heavy vehicles would cause damage after rain. The site is amongst a residential area therefore vandalism or damage is likely to be reported quickly after an event. The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area would not be greatly impacted by freedom campers.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health issues such as human waste • Traffic hazards 	There are no public toilet facilities so freedom campers must be in self-contained vehicles. There are no barriers between the campers and the road but there is a large buffer zone with the berm, and it is not a state highway or busy throughfare.	2/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of the area by the general public • Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers 	There is nothing to attract the general public to this area, no picnic tables or a playground. The Reserve may act as an overflow parking area for the Bowling Club across the road. If the Bowling Club did hold a large event the Freedom Camping site can be shut to allow the public to use it for an event.	2/5
Recommendation	That this site continues to allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles.	6/15

2.5.5 Middleton Bay Carpark, Ōpunakē

Middleton Bay is at the eastern end of Heaphy Road.

Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is prohibited at the southern (boat ramp) end of Middleton Bay. Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles and non-self-contained vehicles is permitted in the middle carparking area, and tents are permitted at the northern end of Middleton Bay.



Observations

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	208	138	170
Non-self-contained	92	62	91
Tent	14	2	12
TOTAL	314	202	273

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The carpark area is tar sealed so heavy vehicles are unlikely to cause damage. The site is very public, and any damage or vandalism would be reported soon after the event. The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area would not be greatly impacted by freedom campers as it is an environment you would expect to see campers in.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	Pedestrians and vehicles will share a common area due to the busy beachside location. There are some health and safety concerns caused by the increase in activity of boats and trailer units using the boat ramp. Public toilets are located within 100m from this site and are available 24 hours a day, The northern part of Middleton Bay currently allows for tenting however the sand dunes are considered unstable and at risk of collapsing. Signs have been installed warning people to stay away from this area. It is proposed that tenting at Middleton Bay is prohibited as there are no safe or comfortable areas to erect a tent.	4/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	To avoid potential clashes between camper vehicles and boat trailers the number of freedom camping vehicles is restricted to three vehicles at the western end of the carpark area so that the public has access to the beach and parking facilities.	2/5
Recommendation	That this site changes and allows freedom camping for self-contained vehicles and non-self-contained vehicles. With a maximum of 3 vehicles. If approved this proposed change will be included in the Bylaw review and form part of the public consultation.	8/15



2.5.6 Northern Headland Carpark, Ōpunakē

Access to the headland is from Wharf Road with the exit on a one-way system to Hector Place.

Observations

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	93	80	105
Non-self-contained	-	-	18
Tent	-	-	-
TOTAL	93	80	123



Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The area consists of a formed dirt road and car park with small areas of grass verge. Heavy vehicles may cause damage after rain. The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area would not be greatly impacted by freedom campers as it is an environment you would expect to see campers in.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	There is a moderate level of health and safety risks associated with the site due to the site being on a cliff top with no barriers and coastal erosion. There are no public toilet facilities so freedom campers must be in self-contained vehicles. Pedestrians and vehicles will share a common area as this site is part of the Ōpunakē walkway.	3/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The public accessing this area is unlikely to be hindered by freedom campers. The accessway to the boat ramp is to be kept clear and views can be enjoyed from anywhere along Wharf Road. There is Māori land in this headland area.	2/5
Recommendation	That this site continues to allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles.	7/15

2.5.7 Ōpunakē Lake (Layard Street) Carpark and Play Area

The reserve is situated on the banks of the Ōpunakē Lake on Layard Street and forms part of the Ōpunakē Walkway.



Observations

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	293	397	330
Non-self-contained	77	120	161
Tent	23	52	40
TOTAL	393	569	531

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The area is predominantly a grass area. Heavy vehicles are likely to cause damage after rainfall. The site is very public and any damage or vandalism would be reported soon after the event. The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area would not be greatly impacted by freedom campers as it is an environment you would expect to see campers in.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	Pedestrians and vehicles will share a common area due to the playground and picnic area. Public toilets are located at this site and are available 24 hours a day, .	2/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The number of freedom camping vehicles is restricted to 6 vehicles so that the public has access to the lake and facilities.	2/5
Recommendation	That this site continues to allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles, and tents. With a maximum of 6 vehicles.	6/15

2.5.8 Ōpunakē Recreation Grounds carpark

The western carpark of the Ōpunakē Recreation Grounds are accessed from Heaphy Road.



Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted at this site in self- contained and non-self-contained vehicles.

Observations

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Self-contained	17	4	13
Non-self-contained	-	-	7
Tent	-	-	-
TOTAL	17	4	20

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The carpark area is tar sealed so heavy vehicles are unlikely to cause damage. The site is very public, and any damage or vandalism would be reported soon after the event. The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area would not be greatly impacted by freedom campers.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	Public toilets are located at the Recreation Grounds but they are more than 100m walking distance from this site, so freedom campers must be in self-contained vehicles.	3/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	There are different points of access to the Recreation Grounds so it is unlikely that Freedom Campers would hinder peoples access or enjoyment of this area. Under the Bylaw the Freedom Camping Site can be closed for large events when the carpark may be needed for the public.	1/5
Recommendation	That this site changes and only allows self-contained vehicles. If approved this proposed change will be included in the Bylaw review and form part of the public consultation.	6/15

2.5.9 Southern Headland, Ōpunakē

The Ōpunakē Southern Headlands are located at the end of Layard Street.

The land was part of the Crown Settlement with Taranaki Iwi, and Council no longer owns this land. The only portion that is under Council management is the old dump site which is land locked.

Recommendation

To remove this site as a freedom camping area from the Bylaw.



2.6 Te Hāwera Ward

2.6.1 Albion Street Carpark, Hāwera

The Albion Street car park is located opposite the Hāwera I-Site.

Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted at this site in self-contained vehicles, and non-self-contained vehicles.



Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The carpark area is tar sealed so heavy vehicles are unlikely to cause damage. There is no grassed area to accommodate tents within this carpark. The site is very public, and close to the council administration building so any damage or vandalism would be noticed and addressed soon after the event. The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area would not be greatly impacted by freedom campers as it is a public carpark and located out of the main CBD area.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	Public toilets are located within 100m from this site and are available 24 hours a day, The carpark is well utilized during the day by people who work in the area. There is a lot of traffic movement but this is expected due to the size and location of the carpark.	2/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The carpark is large enough to accommodate freedom campers and the public. Under the Bylaw the Freedom Camping Site can be closed for large events when the carpark may be needed for the public.	1/5
Recommendation	That this site continues to allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles, and non-self-contained vehicles.	5/15

2.6.2 TSB Hub Carpark, Hāwera

The TSB Hub car park is situated between Waihi Road and Camberwell Road.



Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The carpark area is tar sealed so heavy vehicles are unlikely to cause damage. The site is very public, and any damage or vandalism would be reported soon after the event. The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area would not be greatly impacted by freedom campers as it is a public carpark that is not in the direct line of sight for residential properties, and it is not near the CBD area.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	There are no public toilet facilities so freedom campers must be in self-contained vehicles. The carpark is a busy area particularly during school hours when children are going to and from school, and school buses are about. Traffic safety is a concern for the school and measures have been put in place to keep children safe during drop off and pick up times.	2/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The carpark is well utilised by visitors to the TSB Hub, people using Hicks Park, or the clubrooms located beside the carpark. The number of freedom campers is restricted to a total of six, three on the Waihi Road carpark and three on the Camberwell Carpark. The carpark areas are large enough to ensure freedom campers do not impede other users. Under the Bylaw the Freedom Camping Site can be closed for large events when the carpark may be needed for the public.	2/5
Recommendation	That this site continues to allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles. Three vehicles in the Camberwell Street carpark and three vehicles in the Waihi Road carpark.	6/15

2.6.3 Turuturu Road Soccer Grounds Carpark, Hāwera

Turuturu Soccer Grounds are situated on Turuturu Road.

Under the Bylaw Freedom Camping is allowed in self-contained vehicles.



Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The carpark area is located beside the Soccer Club Clubrooms, it is tar sealed so heavy vehicles are unlikely to cause damage. The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area would not be greatly impacted by freedom campers, the carpark is in a residential area but it is only used when people are using the soccer grounds or clubrooms.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	There are no public toilet facilities so freedom campers must be in self-contained vehicles.	2/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	Under the Bylaw the Freedom Camping Site can be closed for large events when the carpark may be needed for the public.	1/5
Recommendation	That this site continues to allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles.	5/15

2.6.4 Pukekino Landing, Lake Rotorangi

The public reserve incorporates the entire peninsular which includes the Pukekino Landing and the Hāwera Water Ski Club site. It is sited at the end of the Tangahoe Valley Road.

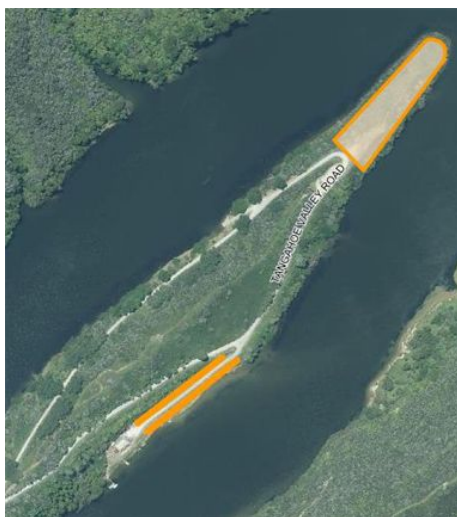


Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted in a section of the peninsular area in self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles, and tents.

Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The accessway is compacted gravel and dirt, the freedom camping areas are grass which heavy vehicles may damage. There is a risk of damage and vandalism with the public visiting this site and due to its remoteness, it may not be noticed within a timely manner. The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area would not be greatly impacted by freedom campers as it is an environment you would expect to see campers in.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	Public toilets are located by the boat club and are available 24 hours a day. Currently the ridge is included as a freedom camping area. This area is blocked off to vehicles as the water tank and solar panels are located on the ridge. This ridge could be used for tenting, but it is unlikely that people will navigate their way down the ridge to use the toilet facilities it is more likely that people would find a place at the top of the ridge to defecate, and this is something we do not want to encourage. There is an area for freedom camping in tents and non-self-contained vehicles either side of the accessway by the toilet and water ski club, that we would recommend instead of the ridge. The northern tip of the reserve also has flat areas that may be suitable for self-contained vehicles. This area is currently not part of the Bylaw. The reserve is fully accessible although at times in the winter the tunnel which gives access to the area is closed because of slips. This may mean that the area is only accessible to four wheel drive vehicles if at all. The site is remote and there is no mobile phone coverage, people visiting this site need to be aware it is surrounded by water and the dangers	4/5

	associated with that.	
<p>Protect access to the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	<p>The reserve is busy particularly between Christmas Day and to the mid January. Freedom campers will need to be warned that they may not get a camping spot during this period, although there is ample room on the road berm leading to the camping area that could be used if insufficient space is available closer to the lake. At other times of the year freedom camping may not impede too much on other users of the reserve.</p>	2/5
<p>Recommendation</p>	<p>That the freedom camping areas change for this site.</p> <p>If approved this proposed change will be included in the Bylaw review and form part of the public consultation.</p>	8/15



Proposal for freedom camping areas. Self-contained vehicles at the northern point of the reserve and non-self-contained and tents either side of the accessway to the public toilet and water ski club.

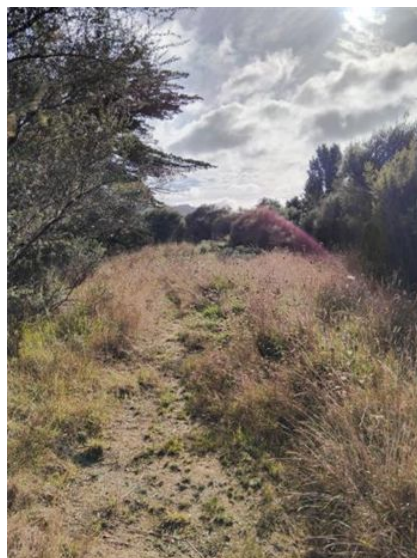
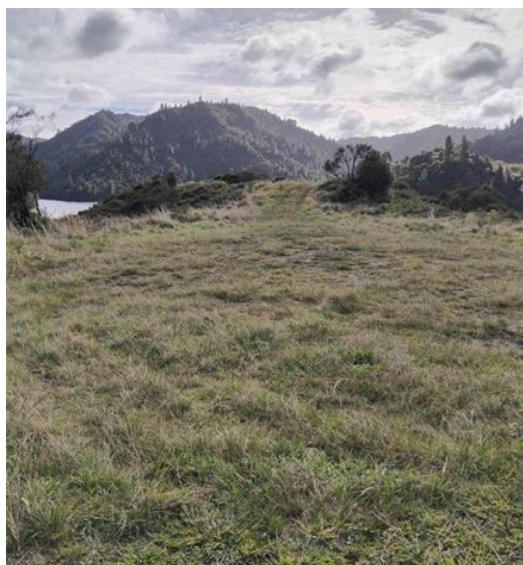
This is the accessway to the ridge, it is closed to vehicles due to the risk of damage to the water tank and solar panels.



Proposed freedom camping areas for non-self-contained vehicles and tents.



Proposed freedom camping area for self-contained vehicles at the northern tip of the Reserve.



2.6.5 Waihi Beach Reserve, Hāwera

Waihi Beach Reserve is located at the end of Denby Road. The Reserve provides walking access to Waihi Beach. It is a popular area for locals and visitors.

Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted at this site in self-contained vehicles.



Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The area has a tar sealed road through and the Reserve. The parking areas for freedom campers are grass so heavy vehicles are likely to cause damage. The site is very public, and any damage or vandalism would be reported soon after the event. The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area would not be greatly impacted by freedom campers as it is an environment you would expect to see campers in.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	Pedestrians and vehicles will share a common area due to the busy beachside location. Since the last Bylaw review a new toilet pod has been installed and is available 24 hours a day, . Therefore, it is recommended that non-self-contained vehicles and tents can also stay at this site.	2/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The whole Reserve is marked as a freedom camping area, to protect the access for the public it is proposed that the two lots of six tar sealed carparks prohibit freedom camping. This means that the public can still use the lookout area and the carparks beside beach access walkway.	2/5
Recommendation	That this site changes and allows freedom camping for self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles, and tents. That freedom camping is prohibited in the two lots of six sealed carparks. That a maximum of three vehicles and three tents are allowed at the site each night. If approved this proposed change will be included in the Bylaw review and form part of the public consultation.	6/15

Normanby

2.6.6 Normanby Domain carpark

Normanby Domain carpark is accessed from Ketemarae Road.

Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted at this site in self-contained vehicles.



Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The carpark area is tar sealed so heavy vehicles are unlikely to cause damage. The adjacent Domain and Community Hall have regular bookings so any damage or vandalism would likely be reported soon after the event. The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area would not be greatly impacted by freedom campers.	2/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	Pedestrians and vehicles will share a common area when people are accessing the Domain or Hall. There are no public toilet facilities so freedom campers must be in self-contained vehicles.	2/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	Under the Bylaw the Freedom Camping Site can be closed for large events when the carpark may be needed for the public.	2/5
Recommendation	That this site continues to allow freedom camping for self-contained vehicles.	6/15

2.6.7 Tuke Street Reserve, Normanby

Tuke Street Reserve is accessed via Tuke and Fitzroy Streets.

Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted at this site in self-contained vehicles.



Assessment

Legislative considerations	Comments	Score
Protect the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vandalism</i> • <i>Littering</i> • <i>Damage to the area</i> • <i>The pleasantness and attractiveness of the area could be damaged by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The site is a grassed area so heavy vehicles are unlikely to cause damage, although there have not been any issues as the site is not well utilised. There is no formed vehicle access to this site, it borders two roads and drivers need to pass over the kerbing to access. This site is surrounded by residential properties, daily activities that a freedom camper may undertake such as cooking, washing, and listening to music may make the area more unattractive, especially to residents living in the area.	4/5
Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area. (General public and campers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health issues such as human waste</i> • <i>Traffic hazards</i> 	There are no public toilet facilities so freedom campers must be in self-contained vehicles. Freedom campers may cause an unintended distraction to passing traffic as you may not expect to see people camping in this area. There is a measure of risk associated with the traffic passing by this site and the lack of safety barriers.	3/5
Protect access to the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use of the area by the general public</i> • <i>Access to the area being compromised by the presence of freedom campers</i> 	The site does not have picnic tables or a playground to attract the general public but children from the neighborhood may use this area to congregate and play. The presence of freedom campers would most likely have minimal effect on the public due to its under-utilisation.	2/5
Recommendation	That this site changes to a prohibited site. If approved this proposed change will be included in the Bylaw review and form part of the public consultation.	9/15

3.0 Summary

As stated earlier, this report has been prepared by council officers and the proposals have not been formulated, considered, or approved by Council. A proposal in this document does not automatically result in a reclassification of the freedom camping site.

Below is a summary of the proposals made in this report.

Town Boundary Maps

The introduction of town boundary maps means prohibiting freedom camping within a town's border except for the areas where freedom camping is permitted.

Under the revised Act people can freedom camp in a tent or self-contained vehicle on council owned land unless the area is prohibited or has restrictions placed upon it. The prohibited and restricted areas must be identified by a map or a description. A risk for the Council is that freedom camping can happen in any area that is not covered by the Bylaw and council officers have limited powers to move people on. The areas that are most at risk of complaints and nuisance are our towns, this is due to the population size and the visibility of freedom campers in public areas.

Parks and Reserves

Previously only sites that had vehicle access were assessed as freedom camping areas. This report recognises that people may access parks and reserves on foot and pitch a tent, so all council owned parks and reserves have been assessed. This has resulted in a list of parks and reserves being presented as proposed sites to prohibit freedom camping if town boundary maps are not implemented.

Eltham Ward	
Bridger Park, Eltham	The Park is located between Stanners and High Street, it is accessed from Stanners Street and Bridge Street.
Chartwell Drive Reserve	The Reserve is located on Chartwell Drive amongst residential houses.
Connell Reserve, Eltham	Connell Reserve is located on Clifford Road, it is accessed from Clifford Road and Kowhai Street.
Smyth Reserve	The Reserve is located on Victoria Street, opposite Thoumine Park.
Taylor Park, Eltham	The Park is located on Tayler Street, with two access points.
Victoria Street Park, Kaponga	The Park is located at 50 Victoria Street beside the old takeaway shop. (see map below)
Willowbrook Reserve.	The Reserve is located on Willowbrook amongst residential houses.
Pātea Ward	
Manchester Street Playground	The Playground is located on Manchester Street.
Waverley Memorial Park	The Park is located on Weraroa Road, east of Chester Street.

Waverley Domain Pool and carpark.	The Domain and carpark are located on Weraroa Road opposite Chester Street.
Taranaki Coastal Ward	
The Row Playground	The Playground is located on Tauranga-a-ika Street and is the part of the entrance to get to the community pool.
Te Hāwera Ward	
Clapham Common	The Common is located on High Street and can also be accessed from Cameron and Gladstone streets.
Goodson Dell	The Dell is located on High Street, with the main access point on the corner of High and Cameron Streets
Kōwhai Street Reserve	The Reserve is located on the corner of Hunter and Kōwhai Streets.
McCullum Park	The Park is located on Rātā Street and can be accessed from Murray Avenue.
Naumai Park	The Park is located on High Street.
Queen Elizabeth Park	The Park is located on Tawhiti Road, opposite the takeaway shop.
Rod Symes Reserve	The Reserve is located on Rod Syme Place.

Other proposed changes

Eltham Ward	
Eltham Library Carpark	Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. We are proposing freedom camping is prohibited.
Rukumoana Reserve	Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. We are proposing freedom camping is prohibited.
Pātea Ward	
Bedford/Egmont Street Reserve	Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles, and tents. We are proposing freedom camping is prohibited.
Bourke’s Lookout	We are proposing that freedom camping is prohibited. (This site has not been previously assessed)
Stafford Street Pool Reserve	Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. We are proposing freedom camping is prohibited.
Wairoa Reserve	Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. We are proposing that this site changes and also allows non-self-contained vehicles close to the toilet facilities, and that the number of vehicles increases from 3 to 6 vehicles per night.
Taranaki Coastal Ward	
Halse Place	Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles, and tents.

	We are proposing that this site changes and only allows self-contained vehicles in the current freedom camping area.
Middleton Bay	Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles, and tents. We are proposing that this site changes and only allows self-contained and non-self-contained vehicles in carpark area.
Ōpunakē Recreation Grounds	Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles, and non-self-contained vehicles. We are proposing that this site changes and only allows self-contained vehicles in western carpark area.
Southern Headland	This land was part of a crown settlement and has been passed back to Iwi, the old dump site is owned by Council but is landlocked. This site can no longer be a freedom camping area as it is not council owned, so we are proposing it is removed from the Bylaw.
Arawhata Road carpark	This portion of road was constructed around 2010, the land is still in the farmers ownership. I am not sure what rights we have over this land in its current status to determine whether we can include it in the Bylaw.
Te Hāwera Ward	
Waihi Beach Reserve	Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. We are proposing that this site changes and also allows non-self-contained vehicles and tents in the area closest to the public toilet facilities. To protect public access, it is proposed that freedom camping is prohibited in the 12 carparks within the reserve.
Tuke Street Reserve	Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. We are proposing freedom camping is prohibited.
Pukekino Landing, Lake Rotorangi (Tanghoe Valley Road)	Under the current Bylaw freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles, and tents. We are proposing that people no longer access the ridge, and tents and non-self-contained vehicles camp close to the public toilet, and that the northern tip allows non-self-contained vehicles.



Karakia

6. Karakia

6

Ruruku Whakakapi – Closing Prayer

Unuhia, unuhia

Unuhia ki te uru tapu nui

Kia wātea, kia māmā te ngākau, te

tinana, te wairua i te ara takatū

Kia wātea, ka wātea, āe rā, kua wātea

Rire rire hau pai marire!

Draw on, draw on,

Draw on the supreme sacredness

*To clear, to free the heart, the body and the
spirit of mankind*

To be clear, will be clear, yes is cleared.

Deeply in peace!