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Environment
Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Resource Management Act: Two-yearly Survey of Local Authorities 2003/2004

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Disclaimer

Please note that while every effort has been made to ensure that this report is as clear and accurate as possible, the Ministry for the Environment will not be held responsible for any action arising from its use. Limitations associated with the information contained in this report are noted in the report and the reader should refer to these notes.

The information contained within this report is based on responses provided by local authorities to the *Resource Management Act: Two-yearly Survey of Local Authorities 2003/2004*.

Foreword

I am pleased to be able to present this the seventh *Resource Management Act: Survey of Local Authorities*, produced by the Ministry for the Environment with the assistance of the local and regional authorities. We continue to refine the process so that the survey is easier to administer and answer and so the results will be more useful. This survey has new questions, a more streamlined verification process and a dedicated analyst dealing with the survey at the Ministry for the Environment.

I thank those council staff at the grass roots who were charged with managing the collation and return of the results for your individual councils. It was a demanding exercise and for some councils more so than others. We acknowledge busy people at a pressing time of year, and we appreciate the efforts that you made.

The results of the RMA survey help monitor the effect and implementation of the RMA. The Ministry for the Environment uses the results to highlight trends for RMA processes and as well as promote good practice. Councils too benefit from the survey. The survey provides a useful check of internal systems and processes and is useful when answering public enquiries.

I encourage you to make use of it where you can. When making comparisons be mindful of comparing equivalent councils and do make use of the good practice commentary throughout the report.



Hon Marian L Hobbs

MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Executive summary

Resource consents

- 54,658 resource consents were processed through to a decision over the 2003/2004 financial year, an 11.5% (5,646) increase in the total number of resource consents processed through to a decision in 2001/2002 (49,012).
- 4.8% (2,628) resource consents were publicly notified during 2003/2004 – a decrease from the 6% (2,921) publicly notified in 2001/2002.
- The 2003/2004 financial year saw the introduction of limited notification as an alternative to full notification. 0.7% (380) of resource consents have been processed since its introduction in August 2003.
- 24% of consents processed through to a decision were for Controlled Activities, 66% for Discretionary Activities (including Restricted Discretionary Activities) and 11% for Non-Complying Activities.
- Pre-hearing meetings were held for 25% of all notified resource consents processed, compared with 19% in 2001/2002.
- Local authority officers acting under delegated authority made 87% of decisions on resource consent applications compared to 84% in 2001/2002.
- 0.7% (404) of resource consent applications were declined in 2003/2004 – an increase from the 0.56% (274) resource consent applications declined in 2001/2002.
- 1.2% (651) of resource consent decisions were appealed to the Environment Court in 2003/2004 – a decrease from the 1.8% (893) that were appealed in 2001/2002.

Time

- 84% of local authorities formally received resource consent applications within one full working day of their arriving at the council office, i.e. processing the consent began within one day of consent application being lodged, compared to 88% in 2001/2002.
- All 86 local authorities monitored whether resource consents were processed within statutory time limits in 2003/2004. Of these 43% monitored weekly and 43% monthly. 12% used other methods (for example daily, continually, annually or a combination of these).
- 77% of all resource consents were processed within statutory time limits.
- 56% of all notified consents were processed within statutory time limits in 2003/2004 compared to 69% in 2001/2002.
- 74% of all consents using the limited notification process were processed within statutory time limits in 2003/2004.
- 78% of non-notified consents were processed within statutory time limits, compared to 83% in 2001/2002.
- Section 37 was used to extend statutory time limits for 12.6% of the total resource consents processed – compared to 6% in 2001/2002.

Executive summary

Cost

- Over 2003/2004 median charges for resource consents varied depending on the consent types and type of issuing local authority.

Good practice in resource consent processing

- 90% (77) of local authorities in 2003/2004 define the environmental effects that must be addressed in consent applications for controlled and restricted discretionary activities. This compares to 81% (70) local authorities in 2001/2002.
- 69% (59) of local authorities indicated that they follow a structured process (such as using checklists) to ensure that environmental effects are adequately identified and addressed in Assessments of Environmental Effects compared to 64% (55) local authorities over 2001/2002.
- 65% (55) of local authorities indicated that guidance notes or checklists are available to staff making decisions on whether to notify an application, compared with 73% (63) local authorities in 2001/2002.
- 57% (49) of local authorities advised they have internal guidance notes or checklists available to staff on how to identify affected parties, the same as reported in the 2001/2002 survey.
- 79% (68) of local authorities formally monitored and reported consent processing performance, the results of which are made available to ratepayers – compared to the 85% (73) of local authorities who undertook monitoring and reporting in 2001/2002.

Enforcement and compliance

- 58% of complaints were dealt with informally compared to 75% in 2001/2002.
- Those councils able to provide information on compliance indicated that 74% of all resource consents that required monitoring complied with resource consent conditions in 2003/2004 compared to 72% in 2001/2002.

Māori participation

- 56% of local authorities made a formal budgetary commitment to Māori/iwi participation in resource management processes compared to 49% over 2001/2002.
- 65% of local authorities provided staff guidance when determining if Māori/iwi are likely to be affected parties in a resource consent application and should therefore be notified. This compares with 59% in 2001/2002.
- 789 resource consent applications that affected statutory acknowledgements under the Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 were received by 12 local authorities in 2003/2004. This compares to 589 in 2001/2002.

Introduction

This is the seventh *Resource Management Act: Two-yearly Survey of Local Authorities 2003/2004 (RMA Survey of Local Authorities)*. The survey, run annually up until 1999/2000, is now run every two years. This report covers activity in the financial year beginning 1 July 2003 through to 30 June 2004, the period referred to in the report as the year 2003/2004. All 86 local authorities responded to the questionnaire, a 100% response rate.

In August 2003 substantial amendments to the Resource Management Act came into force. One amendment introduced a new limited notification process to consent processing. Councils are now able to return incomplete or inadequate resource consent applications to the applicants (thereby reducing the number of section 92 further information requests and, theoretically, the number of consents that may otherwise have been declined).

Because the amendments came into force after the commencement of the survey period, the figures obtained do not represent a full year's data on amendment use. It is expected that the full effect of the amendments will be borne out in the next biennial survey.

Purpose of the survey

The purpose of the *RMA Survey of Local Authorities* is to:

- Assist the Minister for the Environment to monitor the effect and implementation of the Resource Management Act (RMA)
- Provide the Ministry for the Environment and local authorities with information that:
 - highlights areas that may need further research and assist with research projects
 - highlights trends over time for some key processes under the RMA
 - provides a basis for considering comments on the RMA, including general enquiries and ministerial letters
- Promote local authority good practice and improved performance in terms of benchmarks established in the RMA and/or guidance produced by the Ministry for the Environment
- Provide local authorities with information so they can more accurately respond to criticism about RMA processes
- Enable individual local authorities to compare their own performance with their peers.

The survey does not measure the performance of the RMA or the performance of individual local authorities in delivering better environmental outcomes. Local authority state of the environment monitoring and reporting provides information about environmental quality and the achievement of environmental outcomes on a district and regional basis.

Introduction

Responses from local authorities are compared to:

- Identify local authorities complying with statutory requirements and recommended good practice
- Stimulate discussion about any variance in results between like local authorities
- Promote benchmarking and performance improvement.

The 2003/2004 questionnaire

As with the previous survey, the 2003/2004 questionnaire was made available on-line. Eighty-four authorities entered their response directly onto the on-line questionnaire while two councils sent their response using the paper-based format. Respondents were generally satisfied with the internet response option and some suggestions were made as to how it could be improved.

The survey questionnaire was divided into the following sections:

- Resource consent processing statistics
- Time
- Cost
- Monitoring and enforcement
- Māori participation in RMA processes
- Good practice in resource consent processing.

Three new questions were asked in the 2003/2004 RMA survey:

- Question 1.6 – resource consents by activity type
- Question 5.4 – number of resource consents where formal consultation with iwi was undertaken
- Question 6.14 – level of customer satisfaction on resource consent processing performance.

The core questions on *resource consent processing statistics* and *time* (sections one and two of the survey) were similar to previous surveys with the addition of the Limited Notification process which covers all processing options. Local authorities should be familiar with these questions and have systems in place to capture most of the required information.

Local authority family groups

Where appropriate, results are reported in family groups of local authorities to enable comparisons to be made between those authorities with similar characteristics. These six local authority family groups are the same as those used in the past two surveys:

- Regional councils
- Unitary authorities, including the Chatham Islands District Council
- Territorial authorities that process similar numbers of consents:
 - Group 1: 0 – 110 consents
 - Group 2: 111 – 300 consents
 - Group 3: 301 – 650 consents
 - Group 4: 651 – 7,000 consents.

Appendix 1 presents the family group each local authority has been placed in, along with the number of consents they processed.

Introduction

Data presentation

Throughout the report ($n=$) indicates the number of local authorities that answered each question. When comparing survey data over time spans note that the last two surveys (2001/2002 and 2003/2004) were carried out biennially, while previous surveys were conducted on an annual basis. Changes in the survey questionnaire do not allow all results to be presented for these years. In these instances the most recent available data has been used. A full report on the results of each survey is available on the Ministry for the Environment website www.mfe.govt.nz.

Some results are presented in graphs rather than tables to make it easier for local authorities to compare performance with their peers. If a local authority did not answer a particular question, that authority is omitted from the relevant graph.

Local authority good practice

Local authority good practice recommendations are included throughout the report and are highlighted in olive text.

Limitations of the 2003/2004 survey

There was some variation in interpretation of the survey questions by local authorities. Some respondents had difficulties answering questions when the information required was not recorded or held in a format that could be readily extracted.

Not all local authorities have developed data collection systems to record basic RMA data. A number of local authorities advised that they could not answer questions about the consent activity type and/or cost. This means that for a number of questions a full picture of the local authorities throughout the country cannot be presented.

Section 35 of the RMA requires every local authority to gather sufficient information to fulfil their functions under the Act; this includes recording details of each resource consent granted by it [(35(5)(g)–(h)] and the exercise of those consents [(35(2)(d)]. This information is vital for supporting local authority decisions and performs an important audit function. It can also be used to:

- Identify areas where improvements can be made in local authority practice
- Monitor local authority performance
- Maintain consistency in procedures
- Provide local ratepayers with a credible and transparent record of their performance.

Resource consent processing statistics

This section reports on:

- Resource consents processed
- Changes to consent conditions
- Notification of resource consents
- Resource consents by activity type
- Requests for further information
- Pre-hearing meetings
- Resource consent decisions
- Resource consents declined and appealed.

Resource consents processed

54,658 consents were processed through to a decision in 2003/2004. This is 11.5% (5,646) more consents than in 2001/2002 (49,012). Territorial authorities processed 72.4% of resource consents with regional councils processing 19.7% and unitary authorities 7.9%.

Table 1 shows the change in consent numbers processed by each local authority type over the four previous surveys. Note: Appendix 1 reports the number of consents processed by each local authority in local authority family groups.

REFER TABLE 1

As with previous surveys, the majority of resource consents processed were for land use and subdivision consents. Over the last four surveys there has been a gradual increase in the proportion of land use consents. The proportion of subdivision consents increased in 2003/2004, offsetting a downward trend between 1998/1999 and 2001/2002 (see Table 2).

REFER TABLE 2

1,251 certificates of compliance (issued under section 139 of the RMA) were processed in 2003/2004 compared to 1,069 reported in the 2001/2002 survey.

Table 1: Number of resource consents processed by local authority type

| Local authority type | Total consents processed | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 1997/1998 | 1999/2000 | 2001/2002 | 2003/2004 |
| Regional councils | 9,510 | 8,037 | 11,643 | 10,794 |
| Territorial authorities | 44,975 | 36,000 | 33,159 | 39,556 |
| Unitary authorities | 3,575 | 4,008 | 4,210 | 4,308 |
| Total | 58,060 | 48,045 | 49,012 | 54,658 |

Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004 and 2001/2002; RMA annual survey of local authorities 1999/2000 and 1997/1998.

Table 2: Percentage of resource consents processed by consent type

| Survey Period | Subdivision consent % | Land use consent % | Coastal permit % | Water permit % | Discharge permit % |
|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 2003/2004 (n=86) | 24 | 63 | 3 | 5 | 6 |
| 2001/2002 (n=86) | 20 | 62 | 5 | 6 | 6 |
| 1999/2000 (n=86) | 26 | 61 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1998/1999 (n=86) | 31 | 59 | 2 | 4 | 5 |

Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004 and 2001/2002; RMA annual survey of local authorities 1999/2000 and 1998/1999.

Note: Due to rounding, not all percentages in rows will add to 100%.

Resource consent processing statistics

Changes to consent conditions

Local authorities were asked for the number of applications for changes to resource consent conditions (section 127 of the RMA). In 2003/2004 local authorities (*n* =86) processed 2,223 applications, an increase from the 1,690 processed in 2001/2002 (*n* = 83). In 2003/2004, 6.9% of changes to resource consent conditions were publicly notified. Table 3 provides details on the proportion of applications for changes to consent conditions processed by each local authority type and the percentage notified by each local authority type.

Note the statistics regarding notification of applications for changes to consent conditions must be treated with some caution as the question did not provide for the introduction of the limited notification process during the survey period. Some local authorities may not have included applications which followed the limited notification process in their counting.

REFER TABLE 3

Public notification of resource consents

Over 2003/2004 local authorities reported 4.8% (2,628) of resource consents were publicly notified compared to 6% (2,921) over 2001/2002. Proportionately, the most frequently notified consents in 2003/2004 were coastal (26%), water (26%) and discharge (11%).

REFER TABLE 4

Table 3: Applications for changes to consent conditions processed by each local authority type and by proportion notified

| Local authority type | 1999/2000 (n=75) | | 2001/2002 (n=83) | | 2003/2004 (n=86) | |
|-------------------------|--|-----------------------|--|-----------------------|--|-----------------------|
| | % processed by each local authority type | Proportion notified % | % processed by each local authority type | Proportion notified % | % processed by each local authority type | Proportion notified % |
| Regional councils | 34.1 | 4.3 | 39.7 | 11 | 27.4 | 8.5 |
| Territorial authorities | 60.4 | 9.4 | 54.9 | 5.3 | 63.5 | 3.0 |
| Unitary authorities | 5.5 | 6.7 | 5.4 | 8.8 | 9.1 | 29.1 |

Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004, 2001/2002, 1999/2000.

Table 4: Percentage of consents publicly notified by consent type

| Survey Period | Subdivision consent % | Land use consent % | Coastal permit % | Water permit % | Discharge permit % | Total % |
|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|---------|
| 2003/2004 (n=86) | 3 | 3 | 26 | 26 | 11 | 5 |
| 2001/2002 (n=86) | 5 | 3 | 21 | 15 | 18 | 6 |
| 1999/2000 (n=86) | 4 | 3 | 17 | 15 | 17 | 5 |
| 1997/1998 (n=83) | 3 | 4 | 15 | 24 | 21 | 5 |

Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004 and 2001/2002; RMA annual survey of local authorities 1999/2000 and 1997/1998.

Resource consent processing statistics

Table 5: Percentage of consents publicly notified by local authority type

| Local authority type | % notified | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | 1997/1998 (n=85) | 1999/2000 (n=86) | 2001/2002 (n=86) | 2003/2004 (n=86) |
| Regional councils | 14 | 11 | 10 | 9 |
| Unitary authorities | 10 | 9 | 17 | 16 |
| Territorial authorities | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 |

Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004 and 2001/2002; RMA annual survey of local authorities 1999/2000 and 1997/1998.

Table 5 presents the percentage of resource consents publicly notified by local authority type. Regional councils and unitary authorities have a higher public notification rate than territorial authorities. This is due to regional councils and unitary authorities frequently processing resource consents relating to public resources (water, air, coast) as opposed to private resources such as land.

REFER TABLE 5

Table 6: Percentage of resource consents by activity type within each local authority type

| Local authority type | Activity type | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | % Controlled | % Discretionary* | % Non-complying |
| Regional councils | 27 | 72 | 1 |
| Territorial authorities | 23 | 65 | 12 |
| Unitary authorities | 24 | 63 | 13 |
| All | 24 | 66 | 11 |

Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004.
* Includes Restricted Discretionary.

Resource consents by activity type

For the 2003/2004 RMA survey a new question was added asking how many resource consents were processed to a decision by activity type or status. Results from councils show that discretionary activities comprised close to two-thirds (66%) of all resource consent applications processed through to a decision, followed by 24% for controlled activities and (11%) non-complying activities. Table 6 shows the proportion for each activity type by each local authority type.

REFER TABLE 6

Note that in Table 6 applications involving activities with more than one status have been processed according to the most restrictive of the status types. Where multiple consents have been applied for in respect of the same project (for example a land use consent, and earthworks consent and subdivision consent for a large residential development) each consent type was treated as an individual consent.

Table 7: Percentage of total resource consents processed where further information was requested

| Year | 1995/1996 (n=54) | 1996/1997 (n=73) | 1997/1998 (n=76) | 1998/1999 (n=82) | 1999/2000 (n=82) | 2001/2002 (n=86) | 2003/2004 (n=86) |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| % of total consents where further information requested | 22 | 39 | 22 | 28 | 33 | 35 | 35 |

Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004 and 2001/2002; RMA annual survey of local authorities 1999/2000, 1998/1999, 1997/1998, 1996/1997 and 1995/1996.

Requests for further information

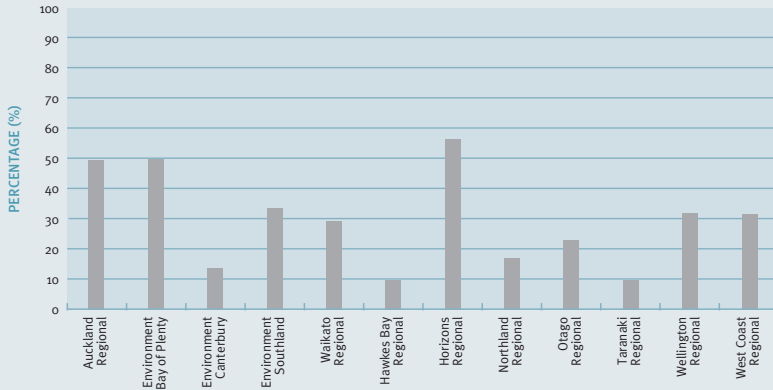
Local authorities reported that they requested further information (under section 92) for 35% of resource consents processed in 2003/2004, the same proportion as reported in the 2001/2002 survey.

REFER TABLE 7

REFER FIGURES 1-3

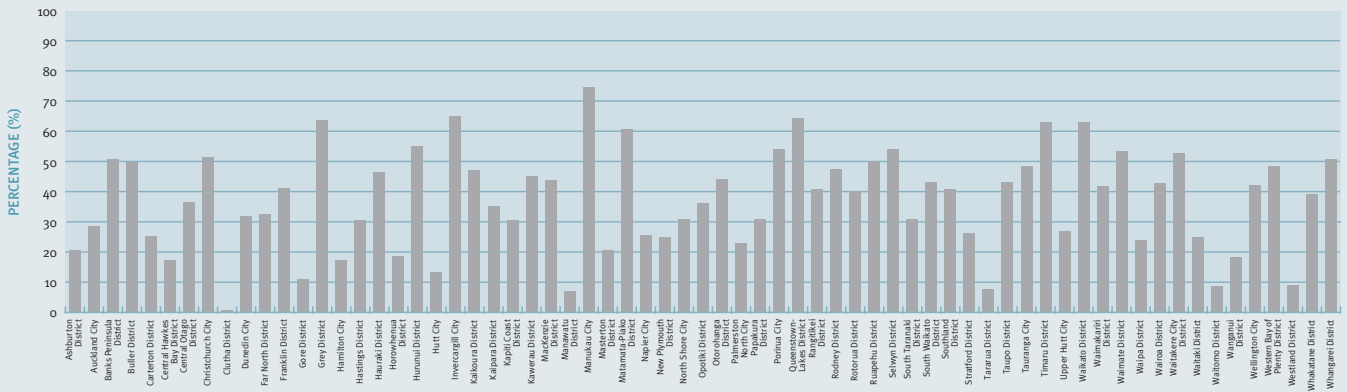
Resource consent processing statistics

Figure 1: Regional council requests for further information as a percentage of total resource consents 2003/2004



Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004.

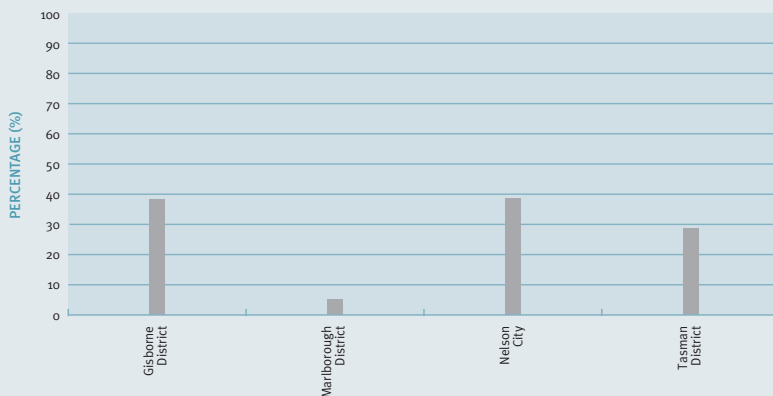
Figure 2: Territorial authority requests for further information as a percentage of total resource consents 2003/2004



Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004.

Note: South Wairarapa District Council and Thames-Coromandel District Council are omitted from Figure 2, due to a non-response for this question.

Figure 3: Unitary authority requests for further information as a percentage of total resource consents 2003/2004



Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004.

Note: Chatham Island Council had no requests for further information in this period.

Resource consent processing statistics

Table 8: Percentage of notified resource consents for which a pre-hearing meeting was held by local authority type

| Local authority type | % notified consents where a pre-hearing was held | | | |
|-------------------------|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | 1997/1998 (n=80) | 1999/2000 (n=85) | 2001/2002 (n=86) | 2003/2004 (n=86) |
| Regional councils | 37 | 33 | 35 | 39 |
| Territorial authorities | 12 | 12 | 11 | 9 |
| Unitary authorities | 3 | 3 | 3 | 27 |

Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004 and 2001/2002; RMA annual survey of local authorities 1999/2000 and 1997/1998.

Pre-hearing meetings

Local authorities were asked to provide the number of pre-hearing meetings held and the number which resulted in no hearing being required.

647 pre-hearing meetings were held in 2003/2004, compared to 546 in 2001/2002.

Pre-hearing meetings are a good practice tool for clarifying, mediating or facilitating resolution of an issue associated with an application for resource consent. While it may not always be appropriate to hold a pre-hearing meeting, they save the local authority, submitters, and the applicant time and costs in the resource consent process as well as improve the quality of the decisions that are made in respect of the application.

163 (25%) pre-hearing meetings resolved the issue to the extent that no formal hearing was necessary. This is an increase from that recorded in 2001/2002 (23%) but is lower than the previous two surveys in 1999/2000 (35%) and 1998/1999 (40%).

Pre-hearing meetings were held for 24.6% of all notified resource consent applications, compared with 19% in 2001/2002 and 18% in 1999/2000. These figures do not include informal meetings which are frequently used by local authorities to assist the resource consent process. As with previous surveys, regional councils remain the most frequent users of pre-hearing meetings.

REFER TABLE 8

Resource consent processing statistics

Table 9: Percentage of resource consent decisions made by decision maker, local authority type

| Local authority type | Local authority officers | | Independent commissioners | | Councillors acting as commissioners | | Councillors as part of a hearings panel | | Other (e.g. mixed panel of councillors/commissioners) | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------|---------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|-------|---|-------|---|-------|
| | 01/02 | 03/04 | 01/02 | 03/04 | 01/02 | 03/04 | 01/02 | 03/04 | 01/02 | 03/04 |
| Regional councils | 91% | 90% | 2% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 4% | 6% | 2% | 2% |
| Territorial authorities | 85% | 90% | 1% | 1% | 8% | 5% | 5% | 4% | <0.5% | <0.5% |
| Unitary authorities | 53% | 54% | 1% | 1% | 29% | 41% | 5% | 4% | 12% | 0% |
| Total | 84% | 87% | 1% | 1% | 8% | 7% | 5% | 4% | 2% | <1.0% |

Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004 and 2001/2002; RMA annual survey of local authorities 1999/2000.

Resource consent decisions

In 2003/2004 ($n=85$) the majority (87%) of decisions on resource consent applications were made by local authority officers acting under delegated authority. Regional councils and territorial authorities both reported that 90% of their resource consent decisions are made by local authority officers acting under delegated authority.

REFER TABLE 9

Resource consents declined and appealed

Local authorities reported that in 2003/2004 0.7% (404) of the resource consent applications processed were declined compared to 0.56% (274) in 2001/2002.

Decisions made on resource consent can be appealed to the Environment Court under section 120 of the RMA. In the current survey 1.2% (651) of all decisions made on resource consents in 2003/2004 were appealed, down from 1.8% (893) in 2001/2002. Over 2003/2004 the proportion of decisions appealed varied between regional councils (2.9%), territorial authorities and unitary authorities (0.8%).

REFER TABLE 10

Table 10: Number and percentage of resource consent decisions appealed by local authority type

| Local authority type | Number and percentage of resource consents appealed | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|
| | 1999/2000 | | 2001/2002 | | 2003/2004 | |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Regional councils | 96 | 1.2 | 437 | 3.6 | 308 | 2.9 |
| Territorial authorities | 329 | 0.9 | 371 | 1.1 | 308 | 0.8 |
| Unitary authorities | 61 | 1.5 | 85 | 2.0 | 35 | 0.8 |
| Totals | 486 | 1.0 | 893 | 1.8 | 651 | 1.2 |

Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004 and 2001/2002; RMA annual survey of local authorities 1999/2000.

Time

This section reports on:

- Checking applications are complete
- Formal receipt of applications
- Resource consent applications processed within statutory time limits
- Notified limited and non-notified resource consent applications processed within time limits
- Median time taken to process consents
- Use of section 37 to extend time limits.

The timeframes used in this survey to define whether an application was processed within time are described in sections 88B, 95, 97, 101 and 115 of the Resource Management Act. If one part of the consent process falls outside the statutory time for that phase, but the entire consent is processed within the overall upper time limit, for the purposes of this survey it is considered as processed within time.

Checking applications are complete

In 2003/2004, 76% (65) local authorities checked applications for completeness within one working day of the application arriving at the local authority's office, compared to 72% local authorities in 2001/2002 and 76% in 1999/2000. The local authorities adopting this good practice are listed in Appendix 4.

Checking for completeness should involve a scan of the application to determine if all the information required to process the application is included. It does not involve checking the information provided for accuracy or assessing whether further information is required. It is good practice for local authorities to check resource consent applications are complete within one working day of the application arriving at the local authority office.

If an application is not actually complete then it would not technically be an application for the purposes of section 88 of the Act. Local authorities should return these to the applicants, and if the application is lodged again it should be treated as a new application. The Resource Management Amendment Act (2003) states that a local authority can return deficient applications to the applicant within five working days of receiving them (see section 88(3) of the Act).

Time

Formal receipt of applications

Local authorities were asked whether they formally receive¹ (i.e. start the time limit clock) resource consent applications within one working day. 84% (72) local authorities advised that they did, compared to 88% (76) local authorities in 2001/2002, 80% in 1999/2000, and 62% in 1997/1998. The local authorities adopting this good practice procedure are identified in Appendix 4.

Resource consent applications processed within statutory time limits

In 2003/2004, 77% of all resource consents were processed within statutory time limits compared to 82% in 2001/2002, 1999/2000 and 1998/1999 and 78% in 1997/1998. This includes resource consents where the time limits were formally extended by councils under section 37 of the RMA.

¹ The time limit clock begins as soon as the application is received. The Resource Management Amendment Act 2003 clarifies that the processing clock starts on the date the application is first lodged with the local authority (i.e. when it physically arrives at the counter).

Table 11 presents a time-series of each consent type processed within statutory time limits. Compared to the previous survey, discharge consents increased in the proportion processed within time. The other categories, subdivision, land, coastal and water – all decreased in the proportion of time taken. The percentage of coastal permits being processed within time increased significantly in 2001/2002 following the introduction of the aquaculture moratorium.

REFER TABLE 11

Notified, limited-notified, and non-notified resource consents processed within time limits

Over 2003/2004 regional councils processed 84% of resource consents within statutory time limits compared to 76% territorial authorities and 61% unitary authorities.

Limited notification is the colloquial name for a new notification process introduced in the Resource Management Amendment Act in August 2003. It differs from full notification in that copies of the application are only passed on to affected parties and are not open for wider public submission. It is used where the effects of an activity are considered minor and the written approvals of all persons affected by that activity have not been obtained. Activities that have effects which are more than minor require the full public notification process to be followed.

REFER TABLE 12

Appendix 3 provides a full summary of the percentage of notified, limited and non-notified consents processed by individual local authorities within time. The percentages for resource consents processed within time limits should be interpreted with caution where a local authority processes a small number of consents. A consent application may be processed outside of the time limit at the request of the applicant and in this situation does not reflect any inefficiency on the part of the local authority.

Table 11: Percentage of consents processed within statutory time limits by consent type

| Survey period | Subdivision % | Land use % | Coastal % | Water % | Discharge % | Total % |
|---------------|---------------|------------|-----------|---------|-------------|---------|
| 2003/2004 | 74 | 78 | 82 | 60 | 79 | 77 |
| 2001/2002 | 79 | 85 | 86 | 63 | 75 | 82 |
| 1999/2000 | 79 | 87 | 62 | 67 | 73 | 82 |
| 1997/1998 | 77 | 81 | 84 | 61 | 66 | 78 |

Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004 and 2001/2002; RMA annual survey of local authorities 1999/2000 and 1997/1998.

Table 12: Percentage of consents processed within statutory time limits by local authority type, 2003/2004

| Local authority type | % processed within time limits | | | Total % |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|---------|
| | Full notification % | Limited notification % | Non-notified % | |
| Regional councils | 67 | 78 | 85 | 84 |
| Territorial authorities | 56 | 73 | 77 | 76 |
| Unitary authorities | 38 | 82 | 66 | 61 |
| Total | 56 | 74 | 78 | 77 |

Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004.

Time

Median time taken to process consents

Local authorities were asked to provide the median number of working days taken to process resource consents. This is the second time this information has been collected the first being in the 2001/2002 survey. Eighty three councils responded to this section of the 2003/2004 survey. The results of median time taken are not provided in this report as there are concerns over the accuracy and quality of data captured from councils.

Use of section 37 to extend time limits

In 2003/2004, section 37 was used to extend statutory time limits for 12.6% of the total consents processed, compared to 6% in 2001/2002 and 1999/2000.

The RMA provides for the extension of statutory time limits:

- Section 37A(2)(a) provides for the time limit specified in the Resource Management Act to be exceeded but not by more than twice the maximum specified in the Act
- Section 37A(2)(b) allows a local authority to extend a time limit by more than twice the maximum time period specified in the Act if the applicant agrees or requests.

It is considered good practice to use sections 37 and 37A to extend timeframes rather than allow them to run overtime without any clear guidance being given to the applicant or other interested parties as to when new timeframes have been set.

Note, however, that extensions of time should only be used where there are good reasons and the delay in processing the application is beyond the control of the consent authority. It is good practice to keep the number of extensions to timeframes to a bare minimum so that sections 37–37A use does not just become a matter of course for no reason.

It may be appropriate and good practice to seek time extensions when undertaking further consultation, negotiating consent conditions, to allow a committee of commission time to consider complex applications, or to accept late submissions which add value to the process.

Charges to resource consent applicants

Under the Local Government Act 2002 local authorities must adopt funding and financial policies to provide predictability and certainty about sources and levels of funding. Local authority funding of resource consent processing is predominantly derived from fees and charges to the applicant. Some local authorities may subsidise their fees and costs using other income streams (e.g. rates).

Section 36 of the Resource Management Act allows a local authority to charge for resource consent processing (including receiving and granting resource consents). Such charges must be fixed in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002.

Charges to applicants for resource consent processing

Local authorities were asked to provide information on minimum, median and maximum charges to resource consent applicants.

Data limitations

The data reported in relation to charges should be treated carefully as there are a number of limitations associated with its use. These limitations are brought about because:

- Some local authorities estimated the median
- Some local authorities provided standard charges rather than the actual amounts that were paid by applicants
- Not all councils could provide minimum, median and maximum charges.

Combined regional council and unitary authority charges to applicants

For the 2003/2004 survey there was a low response to the cost questions from unitary authorities. Therefore unitary authorities have been added to regional councils for cost analysis, even though it is recognised that unitary authorities have functions of both district and regional councils which will see their median, maximum and minimum charges differ. See Table 13.

As regional councils do not process subdivision consents, and there was a low response rate from unitary authorities on costs, there was insufficient data to provide information on subdivision consents in Table 13.

Regional council and unitary authority charges to applicants

The average median charge of regional council and unitary authority notified consents for coastal permits (\$8,841) is higher than that of notified discharge permits (\$5,116), water (\$3,567) or land use (\$3,198). Notified coastal permits have the highest average maximum charge (\$23,265) compared to all consent types listed in Table 13.

The average median charges for non-notified consents issued by regional councils and unitary authorities range from \$350-\$598. The average maximum charge for a non-notified consent was highest for discharge permits (\$6,119) and lowest for a non-notified coastal permit (\$3,915).

Charges to resource consent applicants

Table 13: Regional council and unitary authority: average charges to applicants for resource consent processing

| Consent type | | Average minimum charge (\$) | Average maximum charge (\$) | Average median (\$) | Number of councils |
|--------------|--------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Land use | Notified | 1,298 | 16,872 | 3,198 | 11 |
| | Limited | 1,251 | 1,599 | 1,414 | 7 |
| | Non-notified | 124 | 4,146 | 350 | 14 |
| Water | Notified | 752 | 11,722 | 3,567 | 13 |
| | Limited | 1,691 | 2,323 | 2,126 | 8 |
| | Non-notified | 106 | 5,979 | 577 | 13 |
| Coastal | Notified | 5,160 | 23,265 | 8,841 | 12 |
| | Limited | Insufficient data to analyse | | | |
| | Non-notified | 161 | 3,915 | 383 | 14 |
| Discharge | Notified | 1,106 | 12,641 | 5,116 | 13 |
| | Limited | 1,109 | 2,553 | 1,653 | 10 |
| | Non-notified | 103 | 6,119 | 598 | 14 |

Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004.

Territorial authority charges to applicants

The average maximum charge for territorial authority notified consents was higher for land use consents (\$15,220) compared to subdivision consents (\$9,461). The average median charge for territorial local authorities was highest for notified land use consents (\$6,047).

Tables 13 and 14 illustrate the averages of the minimum, maximum and median charges to applicants for each type of resource consent processed. They also present the number of local authorities who responded to each question.

REFER TABLE 13

REFER TABLE 14

Table 14: Territorial authorities: average charges to applicants for resource consent processing

| Consent type | | Average minimum charge (\$) | Average maximum charge (\$) | Average median (\$) | Number of councils |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Subdivision | Notified | 2,974 | 9,461 | 4,080 | 45 |
| | Limited | 1,697 | 2,596 | 2,326 | 28 |
| | Non-notified | 297 | 5,242 | 681 | 60 |
| Land use | Notified | 1,981 | 15,220 | 6,047 | 55 |
| | Limited | 1,325 | 3,850 | 1,896 | 43 |
| | Non-notified | 173 | 3,892 | 407 | 61 |

Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004.

Good practice in resource consent processing

One purpose of the RMA survey is to promote local authority good practice and improve performance in resource management functions. This section reports on:

- The pre-application phase of resource consent processing
- The application phase of resource consent processing
 - assessments of environmental effects and notification
 - monitoring processing timeframes
- Customer satisfaction.

The Ministry for the Environment along with partner organisations Local Government New Zealand, the New Zealand Planning Institute, the New Zealand Institute of Surveyors, and the Resource Management Law Association established a website in 2001 to promote good practice in resource management planning in New Zealand. The website has a substantial section (*The Consent Processing Resource*) dedicated to promoting good practice in the processing of resource consents. The site can be accessed at <http://www.qualityplanning.org.nz>.

Pre-application phase of resource consent processing

Ninety percent (77) of local authorities define the environmental effects that must be addressed in consent applications for controlled and restricted discretionary activities in checklists for applicants. This is compared to 81% (70) of local authorities in 2001/2002 and 1999/2000 and 73% in 1998/1999.

Knowing exactly which effects a local authority considers need to be addressed can assist applicants in understanding and writing an Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE). This can save time for all parties (the applicant, the local authority and submitters) and may lead to the proposed activity having better environmental outcomes.

Application process

Ninety-one percent (78) of local authorities indicated that before commissioning specialist reports they provided applicants with the opportunity to discuss or dispute the requirements to provide such further information and/or obtain it themselves, compared to 84% (81) local authorities in 2001/2002. This saves applicants paying for a specialist report when the information can be obtained from another source. The Resource Management Amendment Act 2003 clarifies the process by which applicants are notified of the requirement to commission a specialist report. Sections 357 and 358 of the Act clarify the process by which applicants can object to the requirement.

Assessments of Environmental Effects (AEEs) and notification

Local authorities were asked to indicate from a list (see Figure 4) the mechanisms used to ensure adequate identification and assessment of AEEs, identification of affected parties and proper notification. Sixty-nine percent (59) of authorities indicated that they follow a structured process to check that environmental effects are adequately identified and addressed in AEEs, compared to 64% (55) of local authorities in 2001/2002 and 1999/2000 and 53% in 1997/1998. Adhering to a set process helps to ensure that all the necessary steps are followed and completed. This in turn provides consistency from application to application as well as from officer to officer.

Sixty-five percent (55) of local authorities indicated that guidance notes (such as *The Consent Processing Resource*) or checklists are available to staff on when to notify an application. This compares with 73% in 2001/2002, 56% in 1999/2000 and 53% in 1997/1998.

Good practice in resource consent processing

Fifty-seven percent (49) of local authorities advised they have internal guidance notes or checklists available to staff about identifying potentially affected parties compared to 57% in 2001/2002, 44% in 1999/2000 and 47% in 1997/1998. Internal checklists and guidance notes ensure consistent decisions on notification and the identification of affected parties are made.

REFER FIGURE 4

Monitoring processing timeframes

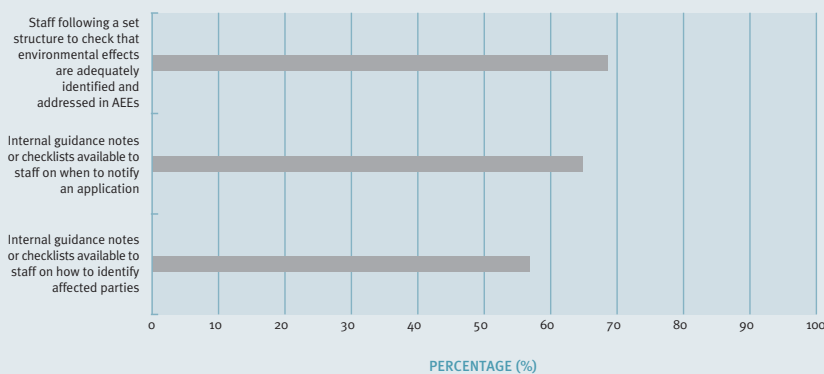
Local authorities were asked if they monitor whether resource consents are processed within statutory time limits. In 2003/2004 all 86 local authorities indicated that they monitor whether consents are processed within statutory time limits. 37 advised they do so weekly, 37 monthly and 12 use other methods (for example daily, continually, annually or a combination of these). In 2001/2002, 83 local authorities (97%) monitored whether consents were processed within statutory time limits. 42 advised they do so weekly, 33 monthly, three not at all, and eight used other methods (for example, daily, continually, or a combination of these).

Local authorities were asked whether they use mechanisms to assist staff to process resource consents within time. Seventy-seven percent (66) of local authorities advised they use mechanisms to assist staff to process resource consents within time compared to 87% in 2001/2002, 72% in 1999/2000, and 70% in 1998/1999.

Local authorities were asked whether they formally monitor and report consent processing performance. Seventy-nine percent (68) of local authorities formally monitor and report consent processing performance, the results of which are made available to ratepayers. This is lower than the 85% in 2001/2002 and 84% recorded in 1999/2000.

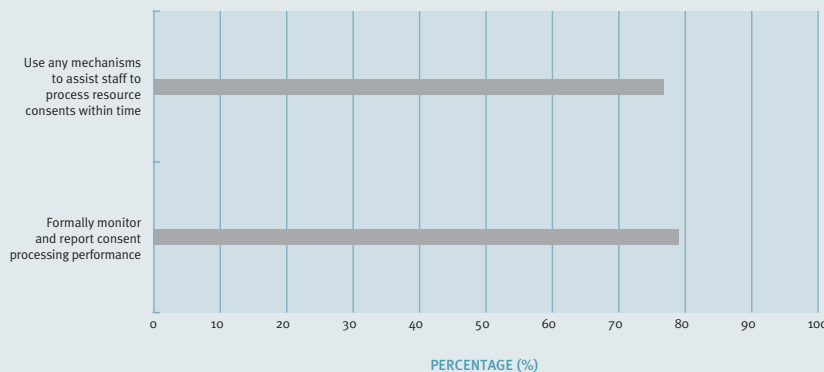
REFER FIGURE 5

Figure 4: Good practice: assessment of environmental effects (AEEs) and notification



Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004.

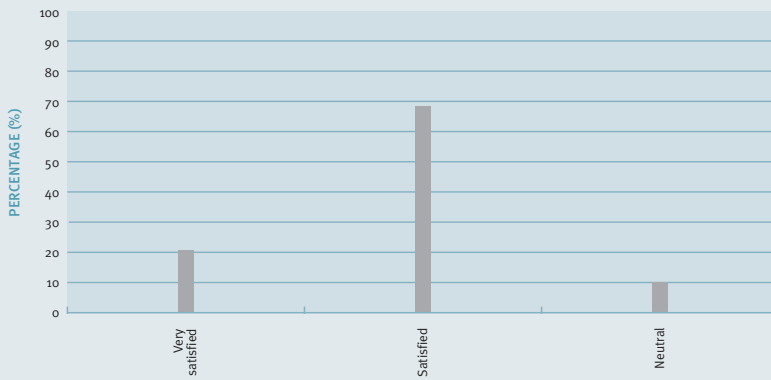
Figure 5: Monitoring timeframes



Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004.

Good practice in resource consent processing

Figure 6: Customer satisfaction



Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004.

Customer satisfaction

Local authorities were questioned regarding the practice and usefulness of satisfaction surveys for resource consent processes. Forty-four percent (38) local authorities reported that they used customer satisfaction surveys in 2003/2004 to establish what applicants think of their resource consent processes. This compares to 37% in 2001/2002, 59% in 1999/2000 and 48% in 1997/1998.

Of those 38 that reported that they used customer satisfaction surveys in 2003/2004, zero reported a very dissatisfied level of satisfaction, four neutral, 26 satisfied and eight very satisfied.

REFER FIGURE 6

Monitoring, compliance and enforcement

This section reports on local authority responses to questions about their monitoring and enforcement activities, specifically in relation to:

- Section 35 monitoring
- Joint monitoring with other agencies
- State of the environment monitoring
- Plan effectiveness monitoring
- Complaints and enforcement orders
- Compliance with resource consent condition monitoring
- Infringement notices.

Section 35 monitoring

Monitoring and reporting on policies, processes and environmental outcomes is an important aspect of the RMA and is a required function for local authorities under section 35 of the RMA. Section 35 outlines monitoring responsibilities of local authorities, including monitoring:

- The state of the environment
- The suitability and effectiveness of policy statements and plans
- The exercise of any functions, powers or duties delegated or transferred by the local authority
- Compliance with resource consent conditions.

Sections 35(2A) and 35(2)(b) of the Resource Management Act requires local authorities to report at least once every five years on the results of monitoring the efficiency and effectiveness of their policy statement or plan. This may be in the form of an integrated policy/plan and State of the Environment report.

While there is an expectation that information is to be kept and collected for all applications for resource consents, decisions, transfers of consent, complaints and other information under section 35(5), the only timeframe stipulated for the compilation of a report is that in regard to monitoring the effectiveness of policy statements and plans.

The higher proportion of monitoring and reporting by regional councils can be explained by the fact that regional councils often have more plans and policy statements than territorial authorities (who typically have just a district plan). Therefore, a regional council is more likely to have monitored the effectiveness of at least one of their plans in the survey period than a territorial authority.

REFER TABLE 15

Table 15: Percentages of local authorities monitoring and reporting in 2003/2004

| Local authority type | Percentage monitor and report | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| | State of the environment | Suitability and effectiveness of policies and plans | Delegated/transferred functions | Compliance with conditions | Complaints register |
| Regional | 80 | 80 | 60 | 92 | 100 |
| Territorial | 31 | 29 | 32 | 71 | 66 |
| Unitary | 60 | 0 | 40 | 60 | 80 |
| Total | 39 | 33 | 36 | 73 | 72 |

Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004.

Monitoring, compliance and enforcement

Complaints about breaches of the Resource Management Act (RMA)

Local authorities were asked to indicate the number of complaints concerning alleged breaches of the RMA or other resource management incidents. Over 2003/2004, 117,655 complaints² were recorded by the 84 local authorities able to provide this information. This is a 7.3% increase from the 109,609 complaints reported by the 84 local authorities able to provide this information in 2001/2002.

Table 16 compares the numbers of complaints recorded in 2003/2004 with those recorded in 2001/2002. The data reported in this table have a number of limitations. Local authorities have reported problems arising from the collection of complaints data that have impacted upon the accuracy of their responses. Most commonly these were:

- Changes to systems for recording complaints part way through the recording period
- Some systems record both complaints and enquiries
- Some councils did not record where informal action was used to resolve the complaint.

² Complaints include excessive noise complaints.

REFER TABLE 16

Complaint resolution

A number of enforcement options are available for the resolution of complaints relating to breaches of the RMA. These are:

- Enforcement orders
- Abatement notices
- Excessive noise directions
- Prosecutions
- Informal means
- Infringement notices.

Excessive noise complaints can be resolved using excessive noise directions – 20,891 directions were issued in 2003/2004. There were 25 enforcement orders, 889 abatement notices, 887 infringement notices and 31 prosecutions in 2003/2004. Over half of all complaints (58%) were resolved through informal means or were minor administrative matters not requiring further action.

Compliance with resource consent conditions

Sixty percent of resource consents that required monitoring for compliance were monitored in 2003/2004. Of the consents that required monitoring, 74% complied with their consent monitoring conditions.

A total of 9,137 breaches of resource consent conditions were recorded in 2003/2004. Breaches of resource consent conditions were resolved using informal means in 7,366 cases (81%) in 2003/2004. Breaches requiring formal resolution in 2003/2004 included seven enforcement orders, 678 abatement notices, 390 infringement notices and eight prosecutions. Local authorities reported that 568 breaches were still unresolved at the close of the 2003/2004 financial year.

Table 16: Total number of complaints about breaches of the RMA recorded in 2001/2002 and 2003/2004

| Local authority type | Complaints recorded | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|
| | 2001/2002 | 2003/2004 | % change |
| Regional councils | 11,835 | 11,383 | -4% |
| Territorial authorities | 93,031 | 100,285 | 8% |
| Unitary authorities | 4,743 | 5,987 | 26% |

Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004, 2001/2002.

Monitoring, compliance and enforcement

Table 17: Number and percentage of infringement notices issued in 2003/2004 by local authority type

| Local authority type | Number and percentage of infringement notices issued | |
|-------------------------|--|------------|
| | No. | % of total |
| Regional councils | 503 | 43 |
| Territorial authorities | 561 | 48 |
| Unitary authorities | 93 | 8 |

Source: RMA survey of local authorities 2003/2004.

Infringement notices

Infringement notices came into force on 1 February 2000 under the Resource Management (Infringement Offences) Regulations 1999. Eighty local authorities issued 1,157 infringement notices in the 2003/2004 annual period compared to 620 ($n=85$) in 2001/2002. Table 17 describes the number of infringement notices issued by different local authority types.

REFER TABLE 17

Of the 1,157 infringement notices issued in 2003/2004, 194 were not proceeded with while 21 were defended (appealed) in the Environment Court. The remainder were either paid immediately or are still in progress.

Māori participation in RMA processes

The section reports on:

- Funding for Māori/iwi participation in RMA processes
- Māori input into consents and plans
- Statutory acknowledgements
- Consultation with iwi in resource consents applications.

Funding for Māori participation in RMA processes

Fifty-six percent (47) of local authorities reported that they had made a budgetary commitment to Māori/iwi participation in RMA processes in 2003/2004 compared to 49% in 2001/2002, 65% in 1999/2000 and 58% in 1997/1998.

Māori input into contents and plans

Sixty five percent of local authorities have criteria or provide guidance for their staff to determine when iwi or hapu are likely to be affected parties in a resource consent application and should be notified of the proposal. This is a slight increase from the 59% in 2001/2002 and 61% recorded in 1999/2000.

Iwi management plans can be used for input into consents and plans. The Resource Management Amendment Act 2003 altered the status of these documents. When preparing plans or policy statements local authorities are now required to take into account iwi management plans. Guidance on iwi management plans is provided in the Ministry for the Environment publication *Whakamaui ki Nga Kaupapa: Making the best of Iwi Management Plans under the Resource Management Act 1991*, published in 2001 and updated in 2003.

Of those councils that have criteria or provide guidance for their staff to determine when iwi or hapu are likely to be affected parties in a resource consent application 42% (23) made written criteria/set policy available to the public for consent applications.

A new question was asked for the 2003/2004 survey – for how many resource consents processed in 2003/2004 was formal consultation with iwi undertaken? Overall 10,709 (20%) of all resource consents had formal consultation with iwi.

Statutory acknowledgements

Statutory acknowledgements were introduced in the Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 and represent an innovative approach to improving existing RMA processes by incorporating Ngai Tahu interests into resource management decision-making.

There are 25 local authorities whose boundaries fall within the Ngai Tahu rohe. Twelve of these local authorities received resource consent applications in 2003/2004 that affected statutory acknowledgements, compared to eight in 2001/2002 and 17 in 1999/2000.

789 resource consent applications were received in 2003/2004 affecting statutory acknowledgements. Ninety-five percent were received by regional councils – Northland Regional Council receiving 220 of them, Otago Regional Council 185, Environment Southland 178, and Environment Canterbury 146. 589 and 391 resource consent applications were received in 2001/2002 and 1999/2000 respectively affecting statutory acknowledgements.

Appendix 1:

Number of resource consents processed by local authority group

| Local authority group | Local authority | 1997/1998 | 1999/2000 | 2001/2002 | 2003/2004 |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Territorial authorities group 1 | Buller District Council | 56 | 57 | 86 | 88 |
| | Carterton District Council | 52 | 82 | 49 | 66 |
| | Clutha District Council | 85 | 72 | 75 | 108 |
| | Gore District Council | 100 | 98 | 83 | 79 |
| | Grey District Council | 90 | 86 | 61 | 105 |
| | Kaikoura District Council | 73 | 58 | 104 | 103 |
| | Kawerau District Council | 7 | 11 | 8 | 11 |
| | Opotiki District Council | 59 | 58 | 40 | 49 |
| | Otorohanga District Council | 71 | 69 | 54 | 87 |
| | Rangitikei District Council | 74 | 91 | 96 | 66 |
| | South Waikato District Council | 93 | 78 | 97 | 90 |
| | Stratford District Council | 63 | 32 | 36 | 52 |
| | Tararua District Council | 57 | 55 | 59 | 64 |
| | Waimate District Council | 52 | 48 | 47 | 56 |
| | Wairoa District Council | 41 | 41 | 38 | 44 |
| | Waitomo District Council | 52 | 55 | 51 | 66 |
| Territorial authorities group 2 | Ashburton District Council | 170 | 141 | 177 | 216 |
| | Banks Peninsula District Council | 187 | 160 | 137 | 206 |
| | Central Hawkes Bay District Council | 103 | 93 | 124 | 150 |
| | Hauraki District Council | 158 | 173 | 126 | 134 |
| | Horowhenua District Council | 253 | 222 | 186 | 239 |
| | Hurunui District Council | 200 | 200 | 143 | 256 |
| | Invercargill City Council | 297 | 306 | 232 | 244 |
| | Kaipara District Council | 207 | 174 | 190 | 251 |
| | MacKenzie District Council | N/A | 74 | 43 | 113 |
| | Manawatu District Council | 204 | 187 | 147 | 270 |
| | Masterton District Council | 142 | 120 | 140 | 196 |
| | Matamata-Piako District Council | 216 | 193 | 214 | 184 |
| | Papakura District Council | 523 | 402 | 249 | 290 |
| | Ruapehu District Council | 100 | 92 | 69 | 121 |
| | South Taranaki District Council | 185 | 131 | 164 | 195 |
| | South Wairarapa District Council | 127 | 192 | 170 | 191 |
| | Southland District Council | 187 | 176 | 246 | 253 |
| | Timaru District Council | 364 | 293 | 286 | 276 |
| | Upper Hutt City Council | 139 | 246 | 200 | 241 |
| | Waitaki District Council | 160 | 91 | 116 | 169 |
| Wanganui District Council | 290 | 242 | 215 | 195 | |
| Westland District Council | 85 | 58 | 93 | 148 | |

Appendix 1:

Number of resource consents processed by group

| | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Territorial authorities group 3 | Central Otago District Council | 134 | 161 | 206 | 424 |
| | Franklin District Council | 475 | 422 | 314 | 536 |
| | Hastings District Council | 483 | 514 | 466 | 569 |
| | Hutt City Council | 856 | 738 | 622 | 641 |
| | Kapiti Coast District Council | 413 | 385 | 298 | 323 |
| | Napier City Council | 326 | 375 | 310 | 354 |
| | New Plymouth District Council | 382 | 402 | 414 | 600 |
| | Palmerston North City Council | 511 | 506 | 447 | 641 |
| | Porirua City Council | 285 | 318 | 358 | 305 |
| | Rotorua District Council | 812 | 675 | 536 | 530 |
| | Selwyn District Council | 491 | 515 | 529 | 591 |
| | Tauranga City Council | 1,061 | 696 | 526 | 607 |
| | Thames-Coromandel District Council | 528 | 472 | 565 | 602 |
| | Waikato District Council | 522 | 448 | 472 | 577 |
| | Waipa District Council | 566 | 453 | 484 | 645 |
| | Whakatane District Council | 290 | 294 | 229 | 313 |
| Whangarei District Council | 1,090 | 820 | 747 | 570 | |
| Territorial authorities group 4 | Auckland City Council | 9,324 | 6,183 | 5,649 | 7,215 |
| | Christchurch City Council | 4,165 | 2,604 | 2,489 | 2,721 |
| | Dunedin City Council | 942 | 832 | 780 | 1,073 |
| | Far North District Council | 1,003 | 795 | 763 | 827 |
| | Hamilton City Council | 1,806 | 963 | 588 | 782 |
| | Manukau City Council | 2,620 | 2,013 | 1,808 | 1,901 |
| | North Shore City Council | 2,980 | 2,374 | 2,385 | 2,563 |
| | Queenstown-Lakes District Council | 613 | 745 | 964 | 1,029 |
| | Rodney District Council | 1,427 | 1,319 | 1,403 | 1,603 |
| | Taupo District Council | 502 | 457 | 511 | 659 |
| | Waimakariri District Council | 385 | 604 | 402 | 790 |
| | Waitakere City Council | 2,473 | 2,092 | 1,506 | 1,815 |
| | Wellington City Council | 1,451 | 1,550 | 1,323 | 1,423 |
| Western Bay of Plenty District Council | 737 | 421 | 414 | 655 | |

Appendix 1:

Number of resource consents processed by group

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Regional councils | Auckland Regional Council | 961 | 721 | 1,042 | 997 |
| | Environment Bay of Plenty Regional Council | 495 | 393 | 732 | 1,022 |
| | Environment Canterbury | 2,032 | 1,801 | 2,390 | 2,420 |
| | Environment Southland | 511 | 414 | 731 | 621 |
| | Waikato Regional Council | 1,377 | 1,036 | 1,192 | 1,091 |
| | Hawkes Bay Regional Council | 541 | 540 | 811 | 629 |
| | Horizons Regional Council | 369 | 490 | 450 | 284 |
| | Northland Regional Council | 732 | 632 | 931 | 1,076 |
| | Otago Regional Council | 898 | 620 | 675 | 784 |
| | Taranaki Regional Council | 322 | 261 | 478 | 568 |
| | Wellington Regional Council | 829 | 665 | 691 | 748 |
| | West Coast Regional Council | 443 | 607 | 1,520 | 554 |
| Unitary authorities | Chatham Islands District Council | 12 | 9 | 2 | 5 |
| | Gisborne District Council | 658 | 610 | 576 | 676 |
| | Marlborough District Council | 1,525 | 1,327 | 2,037 | 1,955 |
| | Nelson City Council | 513 | 467 | 408 | 507 |
| | Tasman District Council | 867 | 816 | 1,187 | 1,165 |
| Total consents processed | | 58,060 | 48,045 | 49,012 | 54,658 |

Appendix 2:

Percentage of resource consents publicly notified by individual local authorities

| Local authority group | Local authority | Percentage notified | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | 1997/1998 | 1999/2000 | 2001/2002 | 2003/2004 |
| Territorial authorities group 1 | Buller District Council | 14.30% | 3.50% | 3.50% | 5.68% |
| | Carterton District Council | 34.60% | 0.00% | 18.40% | 1.52% |
| | Clutha District Council | 3.50% | 5.60% | 1.30% | 2.78% |
| | Gore District Council | 3.00% | 2.00% | 0.00% | 5.06% |
| | Grey District Council | 6.70% | 4.70% | 4.90% | 2.86% |
| | Kaikoura District Council | 2.70% | 0.00% | 5.80% | 6.80% |
| | Kawerau District Council | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| | Opotiki District Council | 6.80% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 4.08% |
| | Otorohanga District Council | 1.40% | 0.00% | 1.90% | 2.30% |
| | Rangitikei District Council | 5.40% | 0.00% | 4.20% | 1.52% |
| | South Waikato District Council | 2.20% | 2.60% | 0.00% | 1.11% |
| | Stratford District Council | 4.80% | 9.40% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| | Tararua District Council | 7.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 1.56% |
| | Waimate District Council | 3.80% | 0.00% | 4.30% | 0.00% |
| | Wairoa District Council | 2.40% | 4.90% | 0.00% | 11.36% |
| | Waitomo District Council | 3.80% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| Territorial authorities group 2 | Ashburton District Council | 3.50% | 5.70% | 1.70% | 2.31% |
| | Banks Peninsula District Council | 4.80% | 3.80% | 3.60% | 4.85% |
| | Central Hawkes Bay District Council | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.80% | 0.00% |
| | Hauraki District Council | 1.90% | 1.70% | 0.00% | 2.24% |
| | Horowhenua District Council | 1.20% | 1.80% | 2.70% | 0.00% |
| | Hurunui District Council | 3.00% | 4.50% | 5.60% | 1.95% |
| | Invercargill City Council | 3.40% | 0.70% | 0.90% | 1.64% |
| | Kaipara District Council | 4.80% | 8.00% | 6.30% | 3.59% |
| | MacKenzie District Council | N/A | 0.00% | 4.70% | 0.88% |
| | Manawatu District Council | 1.50% | 1.10% | 2.00% | 0.37% |
| | Masterton District Council | 10.60% | 2.50% | 2.90% | 3.06% |
| | Matamata-Piako District Council | 13.90% | 10.90% | 3.70% | 0.54% |
| | Papakura District Council | 0.20% | 0.50% | 2.80% | 1.38% |
| | Ruapehu District Council | 1.00% | 5.40% | 1.40% | 2.48% |
| | South Taranaki District Council | 5.40% | 5.30% | 4.30% | 0.51% |
| | South Wairarapa District Council | 11.80% | 15.10% | 5.30% | 8.38% |
| | Southland District Council | 3.20% | 1.10% | 4.10% | 2.37% |
| | Timaru District Council | 4.40% | 3.80% | 3.10% | 1.81% |
| | Upper Hutt City Council | 0.00% | 7.70% | 0.50% | 1.24% |
| | Waitaki District Council | 4.40% | 6.60% | 8.60% | 1.78% |
| Wanganui District Council | 2.10% | 2.50% | 1.40% | 1.54% | |
| Westland District Council | 4.70% | 3.40% | 2.20% | 1.35% | |

Appendix 2:

Percentage of resource consents publicly notified by individual local authorities

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Territorial authorities group 3 | Central Otago District Council | 21.60% | 11.20% | 3.90% | 10.61% |
| | Franklin District Council | 3.80% | 4.30% | 5.10% | 2.80% |
| | Hastings District Council | 1.00% | 1.60% | 1.30% | 2.28% |
| | Hutt City Council | 3.40% | 2.60% | 3.70% | 4.84% |
| | Kapiti Coast District Council | 4.10% | 3.40% | 2.70% | 0.62% |
| | Napier City Council | 1.50% | 1.10% | 5.20% | 2.54% |
| | New Plymouth District Council | 1.80% | 2.70% | 2.20% | 0.83% |
| | Palmerston North City Council | 0.20% | 1.00% | 2.00% | 0.47% |
| | Porirua City Council | 4.20% | 3.10% | 2.00% | 2.30% |
| | Rotorua District Council | 1.00% | 2.80% | 2.60% | 1.70% |
| | Selwyn District Council | 10.40% | 20.00% | 9.50% | 19.63% |
| | Tauranga City Council | 1.00% | 1.30% | 1.10% | 1.98% |
| | Thames-Coromandel District Council | 3.60% | 6.80% | 3.00% | 2.66% |
| | Waikato District Council | 1.70% | 2.90% | 1.90% | 3.12% |
| | Waipa District Council | 2.80% | 3.80% | 1.70% | 1.24% |
| | Whakatane District Council | 6.20% | 3.40% | 3.90% | 2.88% |
| Whangarei District Council | 3.90% | 6.10% | 11.60% | 9.30% | |
| Territorial authorities group 4 | Auckland City Council | 1.00% | 0.80% | 1.00% | 0.93% |
| | Christchurch City Council | 3.60% | 2.40% | 1.70% | 1.65% |
| | Dunedin City Council | 2.90% | 6.70% | 4.00% | 3.26% |
| | Far North District Council | 19.60% | 7.50% | 7.70% | 2.18% |
| | Hamilton City Council | 2.60% | 3.20% | 2.90% | 1.28% |
| | Manukau City Council | 0.80% | 1.50% | 1.30% | 0.89% |
| | North Shore City Council | 1.20% | 1.60% | 1.00% | 1.68% |
| | Queenstown-Lakes District Council | 7.70% | 8.60% | 8.80% | 5.73% |
| | Rodney District Council | 5.70% | 6.60% | 5.90% | 5.36% |
| | Taupo District Council | 0.60% | 2.60% | 3.70% | 5.01% |
| | Waimakariri District Council | 25.20% | 14.40% | 15.20% | 2.41% |
| | Waitakere City Council | 1.10% | 0.80% | 0.60% | 0.28% |
| | Wellington City Council | 2.60% | 2.60% | 2.60% | 1.76% |
| | Western Bay of Plenty District Council | 1.80% | 2.90% | 2.90% | 1.53% |

Appendix 2:

Percentage of resource consents publicly notified
by individual local authorities

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Regional councils | Auckland Regional Council | 17.70% | 10.10% | 17.20% | 7.12% |
| | Environment Bay of Plenty Regional Council | 11.10% | 9.90% | 11.10% | 10.96% |
| | Environment Canterbury | 9.40% | 6.20% | 5.30% | 4.79% |
| | Environment Southland | 15.30% | 9.40% | 14.80% | 12.72% |
| | Waikato Regional Council | 15.30% | 16.50% | 11.40% | 7.79% |
| | Hawkes Bay Regional Council | 17.60% | 7.60% | 2.30% | 1.59% |
| | Horizons Regional Council | 26.80% | 23.50% | 33.10% | 33.10% |
| | Northland Regional Council | 16.70% | 7.60% | 8.90% | 13.85% |
| | Otago Regional Council | 14.30% | 6.00% | 14.20% | 13.52% |
| | Taranaki Regional Council | 10.90% | 10.00% | 5.20% | 1.06% |
| | Wellington Regional Council | 14.10% | 6.00% | 12.90% | 9.09% |
| West Coast Regional Council | 7.20% | 23.00% | 6.80% | 15.88% | |
| Unitary authorities | Chatham Islands District Council | 0.00% | 0.00% | 50.00% | 0.00% |
| | Gisborne District Council | 9.90% | 14.30% | 13.00% | 12.57% |
| | Marlborough District Council | 8.50% | 10.40% | 26.10% | 23.94% |
| | Nelson City Council | 5.30% | 3.00% | 1.70% | 2.37% |
| | Tasman District Council | 15.20% | 7.20% | 9.40% | 9.44% |

Appendix 3:

Percentage of resource consents processed within time by individual local authorities

| Local authority group | Local authority | Notified | | | | | Limited | | | | | Non-notified | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|----------|---------|-------|-----------|-------------|----------|---------|-------|-----------|--------------|----------|---------|-------|-----------|
| | | Subdivision | Land use | Coastal | Water | Discharge | Subdivision | Land use | Coastal | Water | Discharge | Subdivision | Land use | Coastal | Water | Discharge |
| Territorial authorities group 1 | Buller District Council | | 40% | | | | 0% | 50% | | | 55% | 71% | | | | |
| | Carterton District Council | 100% | | | | | 100% | | | | 88% | 86% | | | | |
| | Clutha District Council | | 0% | | | | | | | | 79% | 90% | | | | |
| | Gore District Council | 0% | 67% | | | | 100% | | | | 60% | 93% | | | | |
| | Grey District Council | | 67% | | | | 33% | | | | 28% | 69% | | | | |
| | Kaikoura District Council | 100% | 100% | | | | 100% | 100% | | | 33% | 49% | | | | |
| | Kawerau District Council | | | | | | | | | | | 100% | | | | |
| | Opotiki District Council | 100% | 100% | | | | 100% | | | | 47% | 76% | | | | |
| | Otorohanga District Council | | 100% | | | | | | | | 100% | 100% | | | | |
| | Rangitikei District Council | | 100% | | | | | | | | 87% | 96% | | | | |
| | South Waikato District Council | | 0% | | | | 100% | | | | 66% | 92% | | | | |
| | Stratford District Council | | | | | | | | | | 100% | 100% | | | | |
| | Tararua District Council | | 100% | | | | 100% | | | | 94% | 85% | | | | |
| | Waimate District Council | | | | | | 100% | 100% | | | 100% | 100% | | | | |
| | Wairoa District Council | 100% | 100% | | | | | | | | 100% | 93% | | | | |
| Waitomo District Council | | | | | | | | | | 100% | 100% | | | | | |
| Territorial authorities group 2 | Ashburton District Council | | 60% | | | | 83% | | | 80% | 83% | | | | | |
| | Banks Peninsula District Council | 100% | 44% | | | | | | | 71% | 79% | | | | | |
| | Central Hawkes Bay District Council | | | | | | 100% | | | 93% | 88% | | | | | |
| | Hauraki District Council | 100% | 100% | | | | | | | 64% | 88% | | | | | |
| | Horowhenua District Council | | | | | | 67% | | | 96% | 94% | | | | | |
| | Hurunui District Council | 100% | 50% | | | | | | | 99% | 99% | | | | | |
| | Invercargill City Council | 100% | 100% | | | | 100% | 86% | | 91% | 97% | | | | | |
| | Kaipara District Council | 29% | 0% | | | | 50% | | | 55% | 63% | | | | | |
| | Mackenzie District Council | | 0% | | | | 100% | | | 100% | 98% | | | | | |
| | Manawatu District Council | | 100% | | | | 100% | 100% | | 100% | 100% | | | | | |
| | Masterton District Council | 50% | 100% | | | | | | | 77% | 95% | | | | | |
| | Matamata-Piako District Council | | 100% | | | | 100% | | | 98% | 100% | | | | | |
| | Papakura District Council | 0% | 67% | | | | 0% | | | 23% | 42% | | | | | |
| | Ruapehu District Council | 0% | 50% | | | | 100% | | | 39% | 61% | | | | | |
| | South Taranaki District Council | | 100% | | | | 100% | | | 97% | 100% | | | | | |
| | South Wairarapa District Council | 58% | 50% | | | | 75% | 20% | | 71% | 70% | | | | | |
| | Southland District Council | 25% | 0% | | | | 100% | 100% | | 78% | 80% | | | | | |
| | Timaru District Council | 100% | 50% | | | | 100% | 100% | | 90% | 99% | | | | | |
| | Upper Hutt City Council | 67% | | | | | 100% | | | 76% | 88% | | | | | |
| | Waitaki District Council | | 33% | | | | 0% | 0% | | 78% | 80% | | | | | |
| Wanganui District Council | | 67% | | | | 100% | | | 70% | 86% | | | | | | |
| Westland District Council | | 100% | | | | 100% | 100% | | 83% | 78% | | | | | | |

Appendix 3:

Percentage of resource consents processed within time by individual local authorities

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|------|------|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|-----|
| Territorial authorities group 3 | Central Otago District Council | 77% | 60% | | 100% | 100% | | 80% | 80% | |
| | Franklin District Council | 13% | 29% | | | | | 99% | 98% | |
| | Hastings District Council | 100% | 100% | | | | | 94% | 99% | |
| | Hutt City Council | 86% | 63% | | 100% | 83% | | 84% | 99% | |
| | Kapiti Coast District Council | | 100% | | 100% | 100% | | 79% | 88% | |
| | Napier City Council | 0% | 43% | | | | | 88% | 92% | |
| | New Plymouth District Council | 100% | 50% | | | 67% | | 86% | 97% | |
| | Palmerston North City Council | | 33% | | 0% | 100% | | 69% | 90% | |
| | Porirua City Council | 100% | 100% | | 100% | 100% | | 100% | 100% | |
| | Rotorua District Council | 0% | 71% | | | | | 47% | 85% | |
| | Selwyn District Council | 38% | 43% | | 40% | 67% | | 64% | 79% | |
| | Tauranga City Council | 0% | 44% | | 0% | 0% | | 51% | 51% | |
| | Thames-Coromandel District Council | 14% | 22% | | 100% | 63% | | 44% | 60% | |
| | Waikato District Council | 67% | 100% | | 100% | | | 83% | 93% | |
| | Waipa District Council | 0% | 71% | | 100% | 67% | | 76% | 96% | |
| | Whakatane District Council | 60% | 100% | | 100% | 100% | | 98% | 99% | |
| Whangarei District Council | 40% | 62% | | 40% | 50% | | 75% | 76% | | |
| Territorial authorities group 4 | Auckland City Council | | 63% | | | 57% | | 66% | 52% | |
| | Christchurch City Council | 0% | 77% | | 0% | 93% | | 76% | 91% | |
| | Dunedin City Council | 100% | 100% | | 100% | 71% | | 99% | 100% | |
| | Far North District Council | 11% | 13% | 0% | | 50% | | 61% | 74% | 60% |
| | Hamilton City Council | 83% | 50% | | 100% | 100% | | 94% | 100% | |
| | Manukau City Council | 75% | 69% | | 100% | 100% | | 88% | 84% | 0% |
| | North Shore City Council | 100% | 34% | | 0% | | | 65% | 61% | |
| | Queenstown-Lakes District Council | 10% | 21% | | | 0% | | 56% | 66% | |
| | Rodney District Council | 68% | 67% | 50% | 25% | 80% | | 80% | 89% | 70% |
| | Taupo District Council | 27% | 36% | | | | | 50% | 70% | |
| | Waimakariri District Council | 80% | 79% | | | 100% | | 92% | 97% | |
| | Waitakere City Council | 0% | 25% | | 0% | 40% | | 87% | 86% | |
| | Wellington City Council | 67% | 74% | | 75% | 44% | | 83% | 91% | |
| | Western Bay of Plenty District Council | 0% | 67% | | 50% | 75% | | 79% | 84% | |

Appendix 3:

Percentage of resource consents processed within time by individual local authorities

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|
| Regional councils | Auckland Regional Council | 47% | 61% | 33% | 38% | 100% | 100% | 50% | 94% | 93% | 93% | 83% | | | |
| | Environment Bay of Plenty Regional Council | 97% | 93% | 85% | 68% | 100% | 33% | 89% | 81% | 87% | 93% | | | | |
| | Environment Canterbury | 30% | 70% | 8% | 17% | | 60% | 92% | 55% | 24% | 40% | | | | |
| | Environment Southland | 100% | 57% | 37% | 33% | 100% | 40% | 90% | 95% | 79% | 85% | | | | |
| | Waikato Regional Council | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 0% | 71% | 98% | 91% | 93% | 94% | | | |
| | Hawkes Bay Regional Council | 100% | 100% | 100% | 75% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 97% | 94% | | | |
| | Horizons Regional Council | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | | | |
| | Northland Regional Council | 100% | 98% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 97% | 99% | 98% | | | |
| | Otago Regional Council | 13% | 0% | 49% | 29% | 0% | 25% | 0% | 83% | 69% | 53% | 72% | | | |
| | Taranaki Regional Council | | | 100% | 100% | | | | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | | | |
| | Wellington Regional Council | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | | | |
| West Coast Regional Council | 26% | 0% | 43% | 34% | 100% | 100% | 82% | 71% | 55% | 48% | 54% | | | | |
| Unitary authorities | Chatham Islands District Council | | | | | | | 100% | | | | | | | |
| | Gisborne District Council | 100% | 36% | 55% | 67% | 100% | 100% | 68% | 85% | 89% | 85% | 69% | | | |
| | Marlborough District Council | 37% | 36% | 44% | 23% | 38% | 100% | 86% | 100% | 100% | 39% | 60% | 69% | 37% | 40% |
| | Nelson City Council | 100% | 56% | 0% | | | 0% | | 37% | 50% | 67% | 100% | 50% | | |
| | Tasman District Council | 54% | 69% | 50% | 93% | 67% | 67% | 0% | 53% | 89% | 100% | 77% | 71% | | |

Note: Waikato Regional Council only processed one limited notified water consent during the survey period.

Appendix 4:

Good practice local authorities

| Local authority group | Local authority | Good practice | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| | | Local authorities that check resource consent applications for completeness within one full working day | Local authorities that formally receive resource consent applications within one full working day | Local authorities that use section s37(1) and/or s37(5A) to extend statutory time limits |
| Territorial authorities group 1 | Buller District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Carterton District Council | No | Yes | Yes |
| | Clutha District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Gore District Council | No | No | Yes |
| | Grey District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Kaikoura District Council | Yes | Yes | No |
| | Kawerau District Council | No | No | No |
| | Opotiki District Council | No | Yes | No |
| | Otorohanga District Council | Yes | Yes | No |
| | Rangitikei District Council | No | Yes | Yes |
| | South Waikato District Council | No | No | Yes |
| | Stratford District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Tararua District Council | Yes | No | Yes |
| | Waimate District Council | Yes | Yes | No |
| | Wairoa District Council | No | No | Yes |
| Waitomo District Council | Yes | Yes | No | |
| Territorial authorities group 2 | Ashburton District Council | No | Yes | Yes |
| | Banks Peninsula District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Central Hawkes Bay District Council | No | Yes | No |
| | Hauraki District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Horowhenua District Council | No | Yes | Yes |
| | Hurunui District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Invercargill City Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Kaipara District Council | No | Yes | Yes |
| | MacKenzie District Council | No | No | Yes |
| | Manawatu District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Masterton District Council | No | Yes | Yes |
| | Matamata-Piako District Council | Yes | Yes | No |
| | Papakura District Council | No | Yes | Yes |
| | Ruapehu District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | South Taranaki District Council | Yes | Yes | No |
| | South Wairarapa District Council | No | No | No |
| | Southland District Council | No | No | No |
| | Timaru District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Upper Hutt City Council | Yes | No | No |
| | Waitaki District Council | Yes | Yes | No |
| Wanganui District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes | |
| Westland District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes | |

Appendix 4:

Good practice local authorities

| | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Territorial authorities group 3 | Central Otago District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Franklin District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Hastings District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Hutt City Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Kapiti Coast District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Napier City Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | New Plymouth District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Palmerston North City Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Porirua City Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Rotorua District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Selwyn District Council | No | Yes | Yes |
| | Tauranga City Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Thames-Coromandel District Council | No | No | Yes |
| | Waikato District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Waipa District Council | No | Yes | Yes |
| Territorial authorities group 4 | Whakatane District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Whangarei District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Auckland City Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Christchurch City Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Dunedin City Council | Yes | No | Yes |
| | Far North District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Hamilton City Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Manukau City Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | North Shore City Council | Yes | Yes | No |
| | Queenstown-Lakes District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Rodney District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Taupo District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Waimakariri District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Waitakere City Council | No | No | Yes |
| | Wellington City Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Western Bay of Plenty District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes | |

Appendix 4:

Good practice local authorities

| | | | | |
|---------------------|--|-----|-----|-----|
| Regional councils | Auckland Regional Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Environment Bay of Plenty Regional Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Environment Canterbury | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Environment Southland | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Waikato Regional Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Hawkes Bay Regional Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Horizons Regional Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Northland Regional Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Otago Regional Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Taranaki Regional Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Wellington Regional Council | No | No | Yes |
| | West Coast Regional Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Unitary authorities | Chatham Islands District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Gisborne District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Marlborough District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Nelson City Council | Yes | No | No |
| | Tasman District Council | Yes | Yes | Yes |