



# Factsheet: Council process to implement Going for Housing Growth

## How councils will implement the new Going for Housing Growth requirements

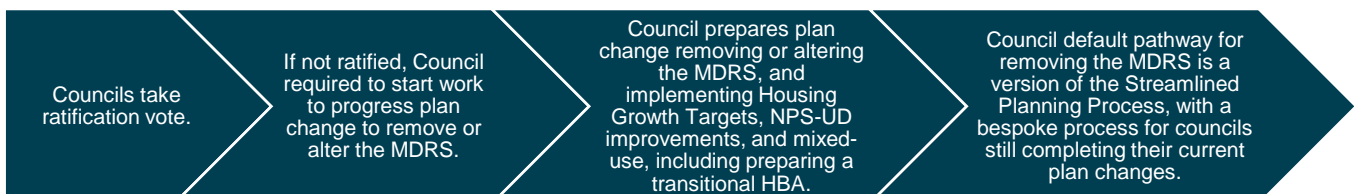
- We are proposing that councils follow different processes depending on whether they have implemented the Medium Density Residential Standards (MDRS) and the National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD) or not.

## Councils who have (or will have) implemented the MDRS and NPS-UD

- **Councils who have implemented the MDRS and NPS-UD are:**
  - Tauranga City Council (except Variation 1)
  - Western Bay of Plenty District Council
  - Rotorua District Council (Tier 2)
  - Kāpiti Coast District Council
  - Porirua City Council
  - Upper Hutt City Council
  - Hutt City Council
  - Wellington City Council
  - Selwyn District Council
- **Councils who are expected to complete implementation of the MDRS and NPS-UD in 2024:**
  - Hamilton City Council
  - Waikato District Council
  - Waipā District Council
  - Waimakariri District Council
- The new proposals will mean these councils will be required to take a ratification vote on the MDRS and subsequently notify the Minister of Housing and the Minister for the Environment of their decision in writing. Ministers have yet to make decisions on whether there will be a timeframe within which councils must take their ratification vote.

## If councils vote to remove or alter the MDRS

- Councils will be required to start work on a plan change to remove or alter the MDRS.
- This plan change removing or altering the MDRS will need to also implement the Housing Growth Targets, intensification changes to the NPS-UD, and mixed-use provisions.
- Councils will need to follow a version of the existing Streamlined Planning Process set out in the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) to remove or alter the MDRS. The exact ways in which this process will be changed have yet to be determined by Ministers.
- To show that this plan change meets the Housing Growth Target, councils will need to provide central government with a Housing and Business Capacity Assessment (HBA), as well as relevant underpinning data and assumptions.



## If councils vote to keep the MDRS

- Ministers are still considering implementation timeframes and processes for Housing Growth Targets, intensification changes, and mixed-use provisions. Timeframes will take into account other new or amended national direction under the RMA that councils will have to implement as part of the Government's wider Resource Management Reform programme.



## Councils who have not implemented the MDRS

- Auckland Council, Christchurch City Council, and Tauranga City Council (Variation 1 to Plan Change 33 – Tauriko West) are the only councils that currently have implementation dates for the MDRS and NPS-UD that extend past mid-2025 (when legislation and national direction package are expected to be in place).
- Cabinet has agreed that the Minister Responsible for RMA Reform can make decisions regarding what process these councils will use to implement the new requirements, reflecting each council's differing circumstances, but informed by an overarching objective to get the intensification provisions of the NPS-UD in place as soon as possible. Officials are working with these councils on process options. These councils will still be required to take a ratification vote.
- Auckland Council will also still be required to upzone the area not included in Plan Change 78 (the indicative Auckland Light Rail Corridor). Auckland Council also intends to introduce updated planning provisions to mitigate natural hazards.
- Whangārei District Council, New Plymouth District Council, Napier City Council, Hastings District Council, Palmerston North City Council, Nelson City Council, Tasman District Council, Queenstown Lakes District Council, and Dunedin City Council did not have to implement the MDRS, but will have to implement the Housing Growth Targets.
- Ministers are considering implementation timeframes and processes for Housing Growth Targets, intensification changes, and mixed-use provisions. Timeframes will take into account other new or amended national direction under the RMA that councils will have to implement as part of the Government's wider Resource Management Reform programme.