

# Stormwater Management

## Issues

Stormwater runoff generated from land use and development can have adverse effects on property, communities and their environments. These effects include nuisance effects on neighbouring properties, waterway flooding, and contaminants entering rivers and the coastal environment. Since the District Plan became operative there has been a gradual evolution in the stormwater management industry from an initial focus on end-of-pipe treatment to a more holistic approach incorporating reduction at source and on-site management / treatment. Under the Land and Water Regional Plan the District Council is required to manage the quantity and quality of all stormwater directed to and conveyed by the Council's reticulated Stormwater network, and from 1 January 2025 the quantity and quality of all stormwater discharged from that reticulated stormwater system.

## Operative District Plan Approach

The Operative District Plan manages stormwater as part of subdivisions, for example through outline development plans which stipulate where and how stormwater will be managed on a development site. Stormwater generated from infill development and new roads is not managed by the District Plan. (Note: Stormwater is also managed outside of the District Plan through the Council's Consolidated Bylaw 2018 (Chapter 15 Water Services), where Council approval is required to direct stormwater from greenfield developments into the Council's reticulated stormwater network).

## Draft Plan Approach

The draft District Plan carries over the subdivision requirements for stormwater management, but also includes impervious surface thresholds for infill development. Where these thresholds are breached, any additional stormwater generated must be directed to the Council's reticulated network, but approval from the Council is required for this first. The Council will work with developers to achieve stormwater neutrality on-site where possible, along with the management of contaminants.

## Changes

### Key changes include:

A new chapter covering stormwater quantity and quality, including objectives, policies and rules that seek to avoid increasing peak demand on stormwater management systems or cause adverse effects on the water quality in the reticulated stormwater network

Rules for all residential areas requiring new impervious surfaces over 30m<sup>2</sup> to utilise a rainwater tank or other stormwater capturing system or obtain approval from the Council to connect to the Council's existing reticulated stormwater network to manage stormwater quantity

Rules for all commercial and industrial areas requiring new impervious surfaces over 30m<sup>2</sup> to obtain approval from the Council to connect to the Council's existing reticulated stormwater network to manage stormwater quantity and quality

Rules for roads requiring new impervious surfaces over 100m<sup>2</sup> to obtain approval from the Council to connect to the Council's existing reticulated stormwater network to manage stormwater quantity and quality

Rules requiring resource consent to use any copper, galvanised metal, unpainted zincalume or any other unpainted metal, used in roof material, gutters, downpipes or external cladding of buildings or structures.

## What it Means in Practice

New provisions are proposed to manage stormwater quantity and quality. These provisions apply the same approach in the District Plan that is currently taken by the Council under the Consolidated Bylaw 2018, but apply these to more developments such as roads and infill developments. This will help avoid increasing peak demand on stormwater management systems or cause adverse effects on the water quality in the reticulated stormwater network.

