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## PURPOSE

The ~~Timaru~~ District Plan is the tool through which the Council manages the use, development and protection of land and associated natural and physical resources as required by the Resource Management Act 1991 (~~hereafter~~ the RMA). The District Plan will assist the Council in achieving the purpose of the RMA, which is the sustainable management of natural and physical resources.

The District Plan sets out a framework of objectives, policies and rules to sustainably manage the use, development and protection of resources in the District. It identifies zones and other management areas and manages certain activities and issues within those areas. It also addresses a number of district-wide matters that are appropriate to be managed at a district-wide scale.

The District Plan is a statutory document that is legally enforceable and which the Council is required to prepare in accordance with ~~S~~section 73 of the RMA. The RMA requires the District Plan be prepared subject to its purpose and principles and to give effect to the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement (CRPS) and National Policy Statements (NPSs), and also to not be inconsistent with the relevant Regional Plans and National Environmental Standards (NESSs). The District Plan will have a 10 year lifespan.