Ashburton District DRAFT Reserve management plan Volume 1: General Policies

May 2024

Ashburton DISTRICT COUNCIL

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1 Part 1: Introduction

1.1 Introduction

Ashburton District Council (the Council) is responsible for managing parks and reserves across the Ashburton District (the District) . This does not include other areas of open space that are not reserves under the Reserves Act e.g. Ng King Brothers Chinese Market Garden Settlement, or other types of reserves such as gravel reserves.

Reserves are a major contributor to health and well-being, cultural identity of the district and sense of place. Their benefits are many including:

- providing opportunities for sport, recreation, and experiencing nature;
- adding to the amenity, character and identity of our neighbourhoods;
- providing areas to meet, play and socialise with other members of our community;
- protecting our history and providing areas to celebrate our heritage and culture;
- maintaining and improving our district's biodiversity and ecosystems;
- providing economic benefits by encouraging people to visit or live in our towns, and;
- providing for our physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing.

1.2 Purpose, scope and structure of this plan

Under the Reserves Act, Council is the manager of an asset on behalf of the community. As a manager, Council needs to consult with the community to determine its aspirations for the reserve. Essentially the Management Plan is a planning tool that outlines how Council will manage and develop the asset to meet the community needs.

The Reserves Act 1977 requires the development of reserve management plans and sets out a formal planning process for the management of public reserves in New Zealand. As per section 41(3) of the Reserves Act, the management plan shall:

> *"provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection, and preservation, as the case may require, and, to the extent that the administering body's resources permit, the development, as appropriate, of the reserve for the purposes for which it is classified, and shall incorporate and ensure compliance with the principles set out…"*

This management plan covers 121 parks and reserves which the Council has decision making powers over. It includes both, reserves held under the Reserves Act, and other land held for open space purposes under the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA). It also includes land owned by the Crown but controlled and managed by the Council as a reserve.

It is Council's intention that the policies within this plan will apply to all land included in this plan, regardless of the legal status of the land so the land can be managed consistently. The term reserve is generally used in this plan, but may refer to both reserves held under the Reserves Act and parks held under the LGA.

While the Reserves Act does not require a management plan to be prepared for local purpose reserves, some have been included in this plan generally, where they form part of a larger reserve.

An example of this would be an esplanade reserve adjacent to a recreation reserve. Stand-alone local purpose reserves e.g. esplanade reserves, are generally out of scope of the plan. The exception to this is cemeteries, which are largely held as local purpose reserves. Though, many of them are stand-alone land parcels, all have been included in the scope of this plan.

A number of areas of legal road have been included where they provide a significant recreation function. Examples of this are Baring Square East and West and Mona Square. A list of all land included in scope of this plan can be found in Appendix A.

This plan does not cover land administered by the Department of Conservation, Environment Canterbury or beaches, unless they are legally part of a reserve. A list of land not included in the scope of this plan can be found in Appendix B.

Determining community preferences and establishing the best means to provide for them are essential ingredients of good management planning. A management plan sets out how Council intends to manage each reserve, based on its primary function, and guides Council's decision-making. It also makes the day-to-day management of reserves more streamlined, because public notification or consent from the Minister of Conservation will not be required for routine matters.

This plan consists of five volumes. , Volume 1 contains General Policies. Volumes 2 -5 provide management guidance for individual reserves or groups of reserves.

Volume 1 covers General Policies in three parts:

Part 1

Explains what the District Reserve Management Plan is all about, and describes the District and trends and issues impacting the management of reserves. It also outlines the process to develop and review the plan.

Part 2

Explains the statutory context and how the plan fits together with the other Council plans and policies. Outlines the Council's key strategic documents considered in the development of the plan. It sets out special considerations for reserve planning, including the Reserves Act classification and District Plan considerations.

Part 3

Contains Reserves and Open Space Network Objectives and General Policies that apply to **all** reserves in the District (including parks and reserves in Volumes 2-5).

Appendices

Provide supplementary information referenced in the plan.

Volumes 2-5 cover reserve specific information:

Volume 2: Ashburton Domain

Is specific to the Ashburton Domain.

Volume 3: Reserves managed by Reserve Boards

Is specific to the reserves managed by Reserve Boards.

Volume 4: Ashburton Reserves

Is specific to reserves in Ashburton, Tinwald and Lake Hood.

Volume 5: Methven, Rakaia and rural reserves:

Is specific to all other reserves in the rural areas of the District, including Methven and Rakaia.

For each reserve listed in Volumes 2-5, the following information is provided: a description, legal status e.g. the reserve classification under the Reserves Act or whether the land is held under the LGA, and New Zealand Recreation Association categories, manawhenua associations, current reserve use, future development opportunities and any specific policies.

The general policies in Volume 1 should be considered as a whole. This means that more than one objective and/or policy may be relevant in any given situation. Plan readers should therefore seek to identify all policies relevant to an issue in the general policies section and for an individual reserve.

Where a specific policy found within Volumes 2 -5 contradicts a general policy contained in Volume 1, the specific policy shall take precedence.

Where required, concept plans may be prepared for individual reserves to provide a more detailed analysis of how the reserve will be developed to protect significant values, cater for more intense use or new activities, and/or reflect the diverse needs of the community.

The plan does not include a prioritised action list for each reserve's development. Funding for the development and management of reserves is confirmed through Council's 10-Year Plan (Long Term Plan) and Annual Plan processes.

This plan, once adopted, will supersede the following reserve management plans:

- Ashburton Domain and Gardens Reserve Management Plan (2013)
- Hinds Reserve Management Plan (2013)
- Mayfield Reserve Management Plan (2012)
- Methven Reserve Management Plan (2012)
- Mount Somers Reserve Management Plan (2012)
- Rakaia Reserve Management Plan (2012)
- Tinwald Reserve Management Plan (2011)

1.3 About the Ashburton District

Located 80 kilometres south of Christchurch City, the Ashburton District, or 'Mid-Canterbury' is located in the centre of the South Island / Te Waipounamu.

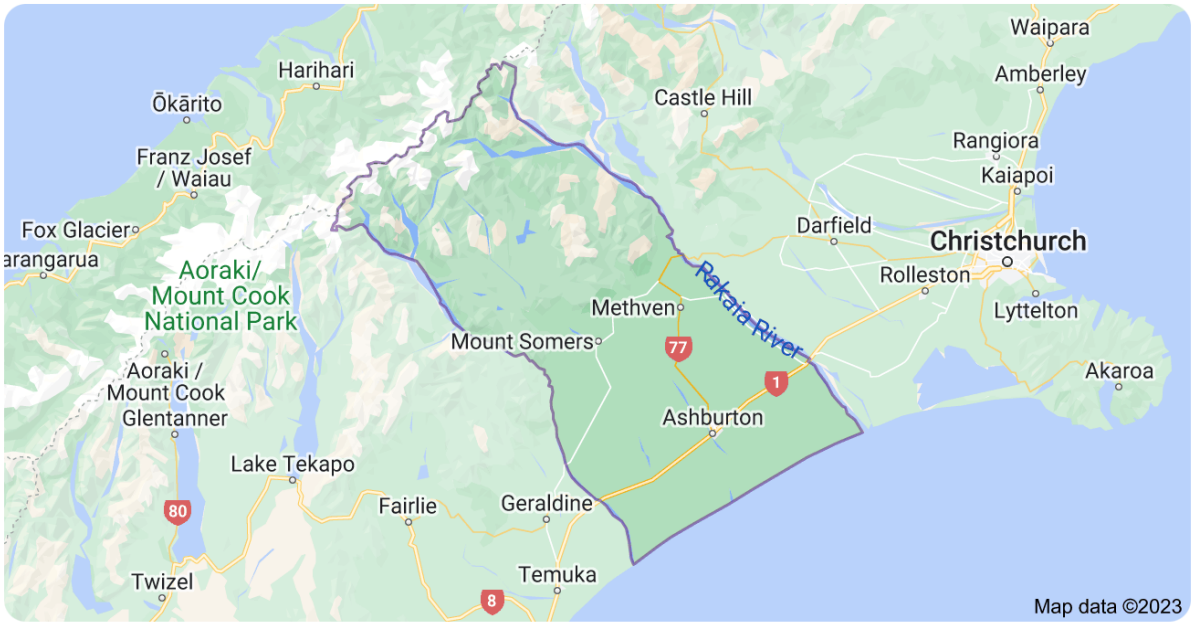


Figure 1 Ashburton District

2The district covers around 6,175 square kilometres and is bordered by the Pacific Ocean in the east, Southern Alps in the west and the Rakaia and Rangitata Rivers to the north and south, respectively.

Mid-Canterbury's main urban centre is the town of Ashburton, located on State Highway 1, with smaller urban centres being Methven, Rakaia, Mt Somers, Mayfield and Hinds.

Manawhenua have lived in the district for hundreds of years. The indigenous flora and fauna of these environments has sustained Manawhenua for hundreds of years, providing food, fibre, building materials, fuel, medicine and other necessities. Some of the plants and animal species are now found only in the reserves of the district.

The Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua represent the Kati Huirapa hapū, who have mana whenua and are the speakers of tino rakatirataka within the boundaries of Ashburton District. They are the caretaker of traditional knowledge and customary expertise and focus on issues of kaitiakitaka (environmental guardianship) in the district.

The district is also represented by Ngāi Tūāhuriri, their takiwā (district) extending from the Hurunui to the Hakatere River and inland to the main divide and Te Taumutu Rūnanga which centres on Taumutu and the waters of Te Waihora (Lake Ellesmere) south to Ashburton / Hakatere River. Ngāi Tūāhuriri takiwā extends from the Hurunui to the Ashburton / Hakatere River and inland to the Main Divide.

Since the arrival of European and other settlers, Mid-Canterbury has traditionally been a sheep and grain growing district but this has changed in recent years. Irrigation is changing land use, with a shift to dairy farming and specialised crops, such as seeds. This, combined with continued

growth in primary product processing and rural support sectors, has seen the district's population grow strongly over the past two decades[1].

1.4 About the network of reserves in the Ashburton District

Council is responsible for managing more than 120 reserves across the Ashburton District.

There is a mix of reserves across the district, with the main concentrations being in the Ashburton/Tinwald urban area (see Volume 4 of this plan for information about reserves in Ashburton). These reserves play a key role in providing for sport, recreation, play and amenity for local residents.

The 37 hectare Ashburton Domain, one of 16 former 'domains' in the district, many of which date back to the 1880s or earlier, is seen by many as the jewel in the crown of the district and is one of the key open spaces (see Volume 2 of this plan). The Domain provides public open space with sport and recreation facilities, situated in beautiful gardens of botanical significance lined by mature trees, including many memorial trees planted to signify events or people. The playground with its paddling pool and pump track provides ample play opportunities. Educational plantings and ponds are also key features of the reserve.

The communities of Methven and Rakaia have several reserves and most small communities are served by one central domain. These central domains in the district, of which there are 15, provide for the key recreation needs of the local communities and are often home to sports fields, courts, community pools, green open space and many community organisations (see section 1.5 below and Volume 3 of this plan for information about domains and the role of Reserve Boards in managing them).

Most reserves in the Ashburton District are held as recreation reserves under the Reserves Act (see Section 2.4 of this plan for additional information about classification of reserves under the Reserves Act).

There is one scientific reserve, Harris Scientific Reserve, near Ashburton which protects one of the last stands of dryland kanuka in Canterbury.

There are also a number of local purpose reserves held for cemeteries, utilities, community use, car parking, access ways, and esplanade purposes.

All reserves held under the Reserves Act are to be held managed in accordance with their primary purpose or classification.

Several open spaces are held under the Local Government Act are managed as parks for public amenity. Examples of this are large linear parks within the town centres of Ashburton, Tinwald and also Rakaia. Much of this land was acquired by Ashburton District Council from KiwiRail in the 1990's.

See Appendix A for a list of parks and reserves in scope of this plan.

1.5 The role of Reserve Boards in managing reserves

Reserve Boards have their origin in the 1880s. They were originally established as Domain Boards, when the Public Domains Act 1881 gave the Governor General the power to declare certain

[1] Referenced from Ashburton District Council website.

categories of land “domains”, and delegate powers under this Act to a body corporate or “Domain Board”.

Subsequent legislation, such as The 1908 Public Reserves and Domains Act and The Reserves and Domains Act 1953 clarified the role of the Domain Boards and simplified the administration of reserves.

Today, former “domains” are typically held as recreational reserves under the Reserves Act 1977. Since the local government reorganisation in 1989, they are generally managed by local government authorities, such as Ashburton District Council, but with underlying Crown ownership.

In the Ashburton District, Reserve Boards still play a crucial role in the stewardship and management of reserves, ensuring their day-to-day care, maintenance, and improvement for the benefit of the community. Reserve Boards are operating as subcommittees of the Council and have been delegated certain powers, with Council remaining the administering body of those reserves under the Reserves Act. Reserve Boards operate under constitutions, which in detail outline roles and responsibilities of each board. Members of Reserve Boards are appointed and regularly and consist of elected Council members and elected members of the public.

In the Ashburton District there are currently 15 reserves, which are managed by Reserve Boards:

- Alford Forest Domain
- Chertsey Domain
- Dorie Domain
- Ealing Domain
- Greenstreet Domain
- Highbank Domain
- Hinds Domain
- Mayfield Domain
- Methven Domain
- Mount Somers Domain
- Pendarves Domain
- Rakaia Domain
- Ruapuna Domain
- Seafield Domain
- Tinwald Domain.

Volume 3 of this plan contains specific information and policies for each of those reserves. Throughout this plan, we use the term Domain Boards when referring to how Reserve Boards were established and in the context of the legislation certain reserves were held under.

1.6 Trends and Issues Impacting Reserve Use and Management

The following trends and factors are expected to have some impact on reserve use and management:

- The population of the Ashburton District is projected to grow, with the population expected to reach 43,449 by 2048. The number of dwellings in the Ashburton District is also forecasted to grow from 13,690 in 2013 to 18,632 in 2048.
- An aging population will affect the type of facilities needed for the future. For example, there will be less demand for playgrounds, and more focus on accessibility, walking tracks and perhaps attractive gardens. While all age groups in the district are expected to grow, it is projected that the 65 years and over age group will grow the most, followed by 40-64 year olds'.
- The Ashburton District is predominately made up of those who identify as the European ethnic group, making up 83.8% of the population. This is much higher than the national average of 70.2%. Ethnic diversity has however been increasing, and this trend is expected to continue over time.
- An overall trend in the decline in participation in organised sport and an increasing interest in casual, less formalised activities, including active recreation like walking and biking.
- Impact of climate change on trees, amenity horticulture and sports fields, likely needing more irrigation due to more frequent or prolonged dry periods but also experiencing flooding due to more extreme weather events.
- Public satisfaction with services and facilities provided at the Council's reserves, measured by the Council's annual satisfaction survey is very high, consistently sitting between 92% and 96% satisfaction.
- Ashburton has a large network of stockwater races, with more than 2100km of main and local races across the district. Council has provided this for over 120 years in places but the continued provision of stockwater may not be financially viable for Council. Work is likely to be undertaken in the near future to investigate options for the continued provision of some stockwater races by Council, particularly for Amenity, Ecological Biodiversity or Recreational purposes.
- Council is committed to providing safe drinking water in line with relevant legislation and the Drinking Water Standards for New Zealand (DWSNZ). In some reserves, especially in rural areas, the continued provision of safe drinking water, may become an issue that will require investment from Council and/or Reserve Boards which are undertaking day-to-day maintenance and management of some reserves.

1.7 Process to develop the management plan

The following table summarises section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 – Management Plans, and the statutory process used to develop this management plan.

Table 1 Process prescribed by the Reserves Act

Relevant sections of the Reserves Act	Description of Activity	When/ How
Section 41(5)	Council notifies its intention to prepare the management plan and calls for suggestions (1 month)	Public notice in local newspapers on 1 June 2023 Close of public consultation on 7 July 2023

Relevant sections of the Reserves Act	Description of Activity	When/ How
Section 41(5)c	Public feedback is received and incorporated into a draft management plan	August to November 2023
Section 41(6)a-c	The draft plan is made available to the public for comment or objections (2 months)	June to August 2024
Section 41(6)d	A hearing is held to consider the submissions and the draft plan is edited to reflect the decisions of the hearings panel	Likely October 2024
Section 41(6)d	The final plan is presented to Council for adoption	Late 2024

This reserve management plan has been prepared having considered:

- engagement with manawhenua;
- engagement with Reserve Boards;
- public feedback received during the first round of consultation, formal and informal at Ashburton Saturday Farmers Market and at Ashburton Library;
- the history and development of reserves so far;
- current and anticipated future trends in use;
- the value of sport and recreation in the development of the District and its people;
- relevant statutory requirements;
- Council's vision and community outcomes outlined in the Long Term Plan;
- Long-term direction for reserves in the district overall, identified in its Open Space Strategy and through activity management planning.

1.7.1 ENGAGEMENT WITH RESERVE BOARDS

Two drop-in sessions were held on 12 and 13 June 2023 to give members of Reserve Boards an opportunity to discuss issues and opportunities for the reserves they are involved in managing. The main comments and themes from Reserve Boards related to:

- Assistance with maintenance of playgrounds.
- Generally assistance with managing some of the facilities, especially mowing.
- Costs imposed on Reserve Boards through rates, makes it more difficult to maintain.
- Assistance was asked for from some Reserve Boards for the maintenance and renewal of existing assets.
- Aging volunteers were an issue.
- Reserve board members expressed their appreciation of community liaison staff.
- The increasing costs and requirements for maintenance were an issue, with one reserve board receiving funding from a targeted rate from local residents.

Following the preparation of the draft plan, a further two drop-in sessions were held with Reserve Boards on 11 March 2024. The plan, as drafted at the time was provided to Reserve Boards prior to those sessions. The meetings were an opportunity for Reserve Boards to provide feedback on the draft plan, prior to formal public consultation. Reserve Boards who could not make it to the meetings were contacted via phone and given the opportunity to provide feedback.

1.7.2 ENGAGEMENT WITH MANAWHENUA

The Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga[2] of Arowhenua and Ngāi Tūāhuriri share manawhenua status and responsibilities in Ashburton District and have been engaged throughout the development of the plan.

Key feedback from manawhenua included:

- Planting of indigenous species to enhance taoka (cultural treasures) species and **mahika kai** (traditional food and resource gathering practices)
- **Biodiversity and Conservation**, including animal and plant pest control and planting of locally sourced indigenous species
- Importance of ongoing **consultation** with Rūnanga (Māori tribal council)
- Importance of protection and enhancement of **waterways**
- Council's role in leading **best practice** in terms of management of reserves
- Opportunities to incorporate **matāuranga Māori** (traditional Māori knowledge) into reserve management
- Specific sites e.g. Awa Awa Rata Reserve, Wakanui and Ashton Beach and others

1.8 Plan Review

Section 41(4) of the Reserves Act 1977 provides that Council must keep its management plan under continuous review. This is to ensure reserve management plans are adapted to changing circumstances or in accordance with increased knowledge.

New reserves, e.g. those vested in Council as part of a new subdivision, may be added to the plan via the processes outlined in section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977.

Council may consider whether it will initiate a full review, including full public consultation as outlined in sections 41(5) and 41(6) of the Reserves Act.

[2] Papatipu refers to ancestral land. Rūnanga is a tribal council, assembly, board. Local Papatipu Rūnanga has the status of manawhenua with kaitiaki status (guardianship) over land and water within their territory (takiwā).

Council may also resolve that written suggestions may not martially assist in the preparation of the management plan (Section 41(5A)) and forego the first round of public consultation.

Where Council considers any change to its management plan, not involving a comprehensive review, it **may**, if it thinks fit, follow the procedure specified in sections 41(5) and 41(6), or resolve to amend the plan via a resolution.

It is anticipated that the Ashburton District Reserve Management Plan will be formally reviewed every ten years to ensure details about the reserves is kept current[3].

2 Part 2: Statutory Context and Planning Context

2.1 Overview

The development and management of reserves and the implementation of this plan is guided by a range of legislation, statutory and non-statutory policies and Council plans and strategic documents. The main documents influencing the management of reserves are described in the following section.

It is important to note that where land is a reserve under the Reserves Act, the statutory decision-making context in this plan is the Reserves Act. Where the land is a park held under the LGA there are a number of different statutory considerations that may be relevant to decision-making.

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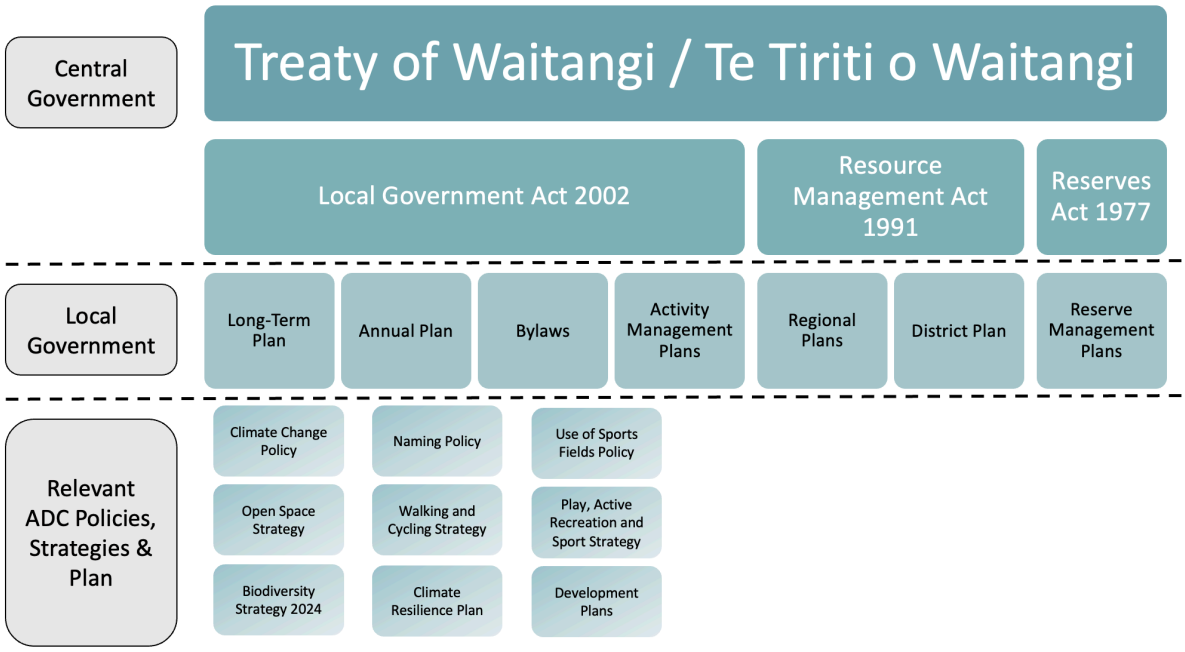


Figure 3 Legislative and statutory frameworks relevant to reserves

Nothing in this plan avoids the need for activities and development on reserves to comply with other relevant legislation. Applicants for a proposed activity may require separate regulatory

[3] Local Government New Zealand and Department of Conservation. 1999. Reserves Act Guide.

approvals and consents, such as under the Resource Management Act 1991, Building Act 2004 and Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014.

2.2 Statutory Frameworks

2.2.1 TE TIRITI / TREATY OF WAITANGI

Te Tiriti o Waitangi / the Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti) is the founding document of New Zealand. Section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987, which references the Reserves Act in its First Schedule, contains an obligation to give effect to the principles of the Te Tiriti.

In performing functions and duties under the Reserves Act, the Council must also interpret the Reserves Act to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti.

The principles of Te Tiriti likely to be most relevant in making decisions on the management of reserves are:

- **Partnership** – the mutual duties to act towards each other reasonably and in good faith are the core of the Treaty partnership.
- **Informed decision making** – being well-informed of manawhenua's interests and views. Early consultation is a means to achieve informed decision-making.
- **Active protection** – this involves the active protection of Māori interests retained under Te Tiriti. It includes the promise to protect te tino rangatiratanga (sovereignty and self-determination) and taoka (treasures).

Manawhenua continue to maintain a presence and relationship with their ancestral sites and landscapes of significance. This relationship also extends to the taoka, and sites where historic events occurred, often within the boundaries of reserves. One way to give practical effect to the principles of Te Tiriti is to enable iwi or hapū to reconnect to their ancestral lands.

The LGA also contains obligations to Māori, including to facilitate Māori participation in Council decision-making processes.

The Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga[4] of Arowhenua and Ngāi Tūāhuriri and Te Taumutu Rūnanga share manawhenua status and responsibilities in Ashburton District.

2.2.2 RESERVES ACT 1977

The purposes of the Reserves Act 1977 are:

- providing for the preservation and management of reserves for the benefit and enjoyment of the public;
- ensuring, as far as possible, the survival of all indigenous species of flora and fauna;
- ensuring, as far as possible, the preservation of access for the public;
- providing for the preservation of representative samples of all classes of natural ecosystems and landscape;

[4] Papatipu refers to ancestral land. Rūnanga is a tribal council, assembly, board. Local Papatipu Rūnanga has the status of manawhenua with kaitiaki status (guardianship) over land and water within their territory (takiwā).

- promoting the protection of the natural character of the coastal environment and the margins of lakes and rivers.

The objectives of the Act are:

- emphasise retention of open space for outdoor recreation;
- maximise freedom of access to reserves for all people, rather than just a few;
- encourage multiple use of reserve land and facilities when feasible and appropriate;
- facilitate greater involvement of the public in reserves administration and decision-making.

The policies in this document should be read in conjunction with the Reserves Act.

2.2.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2002

The Local Government Act 2022 (LGA) is the primary legislation enabling and governing Ashburton District Council as a local authority.

The LGA states the purpose of local government, provides a framework and powers for local authorities to decide which activities they undertake and the manner in which they will undertake them.

It also promotes the accountability of local authorities to their communities; and provides for local authorities to play a broad role in promoting the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of their communities whilst taking a sustainable development approach.

The Long Term Plan and Annual Plans, local bylaws, activity management plans and development of Council policy are all undertaken in accordance with the LGA.

For reserves held under the LGA there is no statutory process for determining the land's primary purpose. The land is simply held under the LGA and utilised as open space. However, these parks also have unique attributes that shape how the land is used and valued.

2.2.4 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991

The Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) is the main piece of legislation that regulates the management of New Zealand's land, air and water, including the use, development and protection of these. The RMA provides councils with specific powers, functions and duties in giving effect to the purpose of the RMA. The RMA applies to all land from a regulatory perspective, e.g. a requirement for a resource consent where the council is undertaking works on a reserve.

2.3 Regional and Local Planning Framework and Policies

2.3.1 REGIONAL STRATEGIC GOALS

Environment Canterbury's strategic direction "Te Aronga Rautaki" has identified four transformational opportunities which are relevant to reserve management:

- accelerate regeneration of the natural environment;
- facilitate diversification of land use;

- build community engagement and action;
- lead climate change resilience.

2.3.2 THE LONG TERM PLAN - LOCAL STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Council's strategic direction consists of a vision, community outcomes and guiding principles. This direction is outlined in the Council's Long- term plan. The Council's vision is that Ashburton is the district of choice for lifestyle and opportunity. Community Outcomes look to the future and take a 'whole of community' view. They integrate social, cultural, environmental and economic well-being. The guiding principles set out how Council will function and deliver activities and services to local communities.

The four community outcomes identified by Council are:

- a prosperous economy based on innovation and opportunity;
- a district of great spaces and places;
- residents are included and have a voice;
- a balanced and sustainable environment.

2.3.3 DISTRICT PLAN

The Ashburton District Plan became fully operational in 2014 and sets a framework for the development and management of resources in the district. It establishes objectives and policies for managing the environmental effects of development in accordance with the Resource Management Act 1991. It defines the various zones (residential, rural, business, open space, etc.) and the rules for activities and land uses. In this way the District Plan has a very strong influence over all activities that occur in the district.

2.3.4 OPEN SPACE STRATEGY 2016

Council's Open Space Strategy was produced in 2016 with a 10-year time frame. It seeks to ensure the open spaces in the district are equitably distributed and funded, managed efficiently, are effective in meeting community needs and enhance the district by providing an attractive community environment and improving recreational opportunities.

The development of this reserve management plan delivers on these principles and subsequent objectives and actions in the strategy. A review of the strategy actions was initiated in 2022.

2.3.5 PLAY, ACTIVE RECREATION AND SPORT STRATEGY 2022

This strategy was adopted by Council in August 2022. It aims to guide Council decision making on the district's play, active recreation and sport facilities. Specifically, it seeks to ensure that community facilities, spaces and places are accessible and well utilised. It also aims to ensure that the district's built and natural environment continues to provide new and unique play, active recreation and sport opportunities.

2.3.6 WALKING AND CYCLING STRATEGY 2020-2030

This strategy provides a framework for making walking and cycling (for transport and recreation) safer and more attractive, with the aim of increasing the number of people using the walking and cycling network.

Two goals are of particular relevance for the reserve management plan:

Goal 2

A quality, fit for purpose recreational walking and cycling network that connects to key destinations. This means:

- networks meet the needs of people with varying abilities and allow for the use of different mobility devices;
- networks are good quality for their purpose;
- people can use the network to travel between key destinations.

Goal 3

Ensuring the urban and rural walking and cycling networks integrate to create an accessible district. This means:

- there is adequate wayfinding signage and map information available for the networks;
- rural and urban networks are unified including linkages.

Reserve management plan policies seek to reflect the goals and objectives of the Walking and Cycling Strategy. Where implementation actions related to specific locations are identified in the strategy, these are reflected in the individual reserves sections in Volumes 2-5 of the plan.

2.3.7 CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY

This policy seeks to:

- enable the Council to respond in a more integrated manner to climate change by ensuring the sustainability of Council assets and services for the present and future resilience and well-being of the Ashburton District.
- enhance the resilience and preparedness of present and future Ashburton District households and businesses; and
- manage the carbon emissions of the Council to provide an example of effective climate change.

Policies in the reserve management plan will need to consider the impact of climate change and how reserve management plan policies can positively influence a reduction in carbon emissions and mitigate the effects of climate change.

2.3.8 NAMING POLICY

The policy applies to the naming of roads, open spaces and rights-of-way in the District. It seeks to provide clarity and consistency in the naming of assets vested or intended to vest in Council and ensure names are appropriate and do not duplicate or cause confusion with existing names. It also aims to allow residents the opportunity to suggest names which are significant and relevant to the

community, the local area and/or the District, and allow developers the opportunity to suggest names in line with the theme of developments to ensure coherency and consistency.

2.3.9 SPORTS FIELDS AND DOMAINS USAGE POLICY

The objectives of this policy are to:

- ensure a consistent approach is undertaken with regard to the management, development and maintenance of Council owned or managed sports fields and domains in the District;
- strengthen participation and engagement in community and recreational activities; and
- ensure leases and licences are managed fairly, processes are transparent, and Council has the flexibility to respond to community needs.

2.3.10 BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY 2024

The strategy aims to protect, restore, and enhance the indigenous biodiversity of Ashburton District, fostering a sustainable and balanced environment. It seeks to engage the community in conservation efforts, enhance climate change resilience, and ensure a deep, respectful connection with nature. Through collective action and shared responsibility, involving residents, local government, and stakeholders, the strategy supports a community-wide initiative to sustain the natural heritage and ecosystem services vital for the district's economy and the well-being of future generations.

The vision of the Strategy is; "A district where biodiversity is protected and enhanced from the mountains to the sea (ki uta ki tai) by an engaged community that values and cares for it."

2.3.11 ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

Activity Management Plans provide detail about each of the separate activities Council undertakes such as public toilets, cemeteries, and reserves and open spaces. The plans are used as the basis of work programmes and budgets included in the Long Term Plan.

Specifically, they provide the following information:

- Description of the activity and the assets needed to undertake the activity.
- The level of service Council will provide to the community over the ten-year period from when the plan was prepared.
- Performance measures used to monitor whether the activity is delivering the level of service we set out to achieve.
- How the activity will be funded.
- Details of any new project or expenditure planned for the next ten years.
- Assumptions used in preparing the plan and the uncertainties and risks involved in undertaking the activities.

2.3.12 BYLAWS

The Council has a number of Bylaws which are relevant for reserve management. Where a bylaw exists, the reserve management plan will defer to the bylaw and not develop separate policy that could potentially be in conflict with a bylaw. Bylaws[5] relevant to reserves include:

- Advertising Signage in Public Places Bylaw 2017
- Alcohol Control Bylaw 2017 (Review date 17 May 2023)
- Cemeteries Bylaw 2017
- Dog Control Bylaw 2016
- Explanatory Bylaw 2016
- Keeping of Animals, Bees and Poultry 2016
- Open Spaces Bylaw 2016
- Solid Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw 2018 (Review date 13 December 2023)
- Stormwater Bylaw 2022
- Trading in Public Places Bylaw 2022
- Transportation and Parking Bylaw 2021
- Water Races Bylaw 2019
- Wastewater Drainage Bylaw 2021
- Water Supply Bylaw 2016

2.4 Reserves Classification – the Starting Point for Reserve Planning

The classification of a reserve under the Reserves Act 1977 defines the purposes for which a particular parcel of reserve land is held and managed. It is a mandatory process under Section 16 of the Reserves Act and involves assigning a primary purpose to each land parcel included in the plan. There are seven types of reserve classifications, which are defined in sections 17 to 23 of the Reserves Act: recreation, historic, scenic, nature, scientific, government, and local purpose.

There are also a number of local purpose reserves held for cemeteries, utilities, community use, car parking, access ways, and esplanade purposes.

The Reserves Act does not require a management plan be prepared for local purpose reserves; however where they are associated with a reserve covered by this plan they have been included to ensure a consistent approach to the entire reserve area.

A large number of land parcels were identified as being unclassified or inappropriately classified during the process of preparing this management plan and a classification/reclassification procedure took place prior to notification of the plan.

Recreation Reserves are for;

> *"…the purpose of providing areas for the recreation and sporting activities and the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public, and for the protection of the natural environment and beauty of the countryside, with emphasis on the retention of open spaces and on outdoor*

[5] Bylaws are available from the Council's website

recreational activities, including recreational tracks in the countryside." (Reserves Act 1977, Section 17 (1))

Scientific Reserves are for:

"…the purpose of protecting and preserving in perpetuity for scientific study, research, education, and the benefit of the country, ecological associations, plant or animal communities, types of soil, geomorphological phenomena, and like matters of special interest." (Reserves Act 1977 Section 21 (1))

Local Purpose Reserves are held:

"For the purpose of providing and retaining areas for such local purpose or purposes as are specified in any classification of the reserve" (Reserves Act 1977. Section 23 (1)). These areas of land (or land and water) are suitable for a specified local educational or community purpose which does not duplicate any other purpose. Secondary purposes are to manage and protect scenic, historic, archaeological, biological or natural features, and/or maintain soil, water and forest conservation areas.

2.5 District Plan Considerations Relevant to Reserve Management

Under the Resource Management Act 1991, Council has to prepare a District Plan, which is to ensure the sustainable management of all natural and physical resources in the district. These resources must be managed in a way to avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects on the environment.

The Operative Ashburton District Plan established Zones, as well as Schedules of Activities and Designations which aid in the management of land use.

2.5.1 OPEN SPACE ZONES

The Operative Ashburton District Plan currently uses two open space zones, Open Space Zone A and Open Space Zone B.

2.5.1.1 OPEN SPACE A ZONE

The Open Space A Zone is intended to provide for areas such as neighbourhood reserves, and the Ashburton Domain. These areas provide relief from the built environment and a space for people to undertake passive activities such as walking within close proximity of their place of residence. The zone also includes the range of green strips of land which are valued for their contribution to landscaping - for example the central area within Ashburton (Kapuka).

Activities within the Open Space A Zone are strictly controlled to ensure limited building development occurs and the openness of the area is retained. The enhancement of visual amenity is of importance within the zone, in particular where it is directly visible from the main thoroughfares through Ashburton (State Highway 1, the Main Trunk Railway and East Street) and Rakaia (State Highway 1). This also provides a visual relief to the building developments established in Business Zones along East Street and State Highway 1.

2.5.1.2 OPEN SPACE B ZONE

The Open Space B Zone applies to those areas of open space that provide for recreational activities, and may need to provide buildings accommodating changing sheds and indoor sports facilities. For example, Argyle Park is dominated by recreational activities including playing fields that provide an important function within that community. This zone recognises that importance and seeks to retain the recreational character of such sites.

Ideally, all reserves in the District should be held under one of the above Open Space zones, or under an open space designation (see below) however, some are currently held for other land use purposes, such as Residential or Rural Zones. Updates to zoning or designations can only be undertaken as part of a review of the District Plan or via a Plan Change process.

2.5.2 DESIGNATIONS AND SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

2.5.2.1 OPEN SPACE DESIGNATIONS

A number of open spaces are under a recreation designation within the Operative District Plan. Often these areas are not zoned Open Space. For areas with designations, the District Plan zoning and associated zone rules and regulations will not apply (provided the proposed use is consistent with designated purpose), however, there may be specific conditions relating to the operation of a designation, which will have the effect of rules. Once a site is designated it may not be used for any other activity (including permitted activities within the underlying zone) without the consent of the requiring authority.

Designations have been put in place for former Domains (now managed by Reserve Boards and administered by Council), which generally do not have an open space zone. The exception to this is Ashburton Domain, which is zoned as Open Space A.

2.5.2.2 SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

A number of facilities on open spaces are managed as Scheduled Activities under the Operative District Plan. An example of this is the Plains Historic Village at Tinwald Domain. The scheduled activity allows for activities that would otherwise have to comply with the standards for open space zones to continue to operate and allow for their expansion in line with an approved development plan.

Other activities managed as scheduled activities are car parking set backs for recreational facilities such as Tinwald Golf course.

3 Part 3: General Objectives and Policies

3.1 Reserves and Open Space Network Objectives

1. To partner with manawhenua in the management of the reserves and open space network to recognise taoka (treasures), their special relationship with the whenua (land) and their rohe (territory) within Ashburton.
2. To protect and potentially enhance the cultural, ecological, geological and landscape values that underpin why these areas were created as reserves.
3. To encourage and facilitate the use of reserves for the well-being and enjoyment of the public, including providing for a range of recreation that meets the different interests, age groups, and abilities of the local communities the reserves' serve.
4. To provide places to be active, come together, connect with nature, or find respite.
5. To recognise the important role reserves play in providing connections to water, the coast, natural areas and neighbourhoods, both for ecological linkages and providing walking and cycling opportunities.
6. To allocate land within reserves for a variety of sporting and active recreational pursuits, optimising the use of infrastructure required to support this by encouraging the development of shared or multi-use facilities across the district where required.
7. To manage the reserves network in a sustainable way, considering:
    a. the approach to design, development and management of reserves and life-cycle of the products used;
    b. responding and adapting to the impacts of climate change;
    c. recognising and being flexible to the changing demands of communities, including being open to change as new activities emerge and established activities decline.

3.2 General Reserves and Open Space Network Policies

3.2.1 MANAWHENUA PARTNERSHIPS

Policies

1. Work with manawhenua to understand their aspirations and priorities for reserves across the Ashburton District.
2. Work with manawhenua to identify ways to give effect to partnering on the planning and management of reserves, that takes account of tikaka (protocols) and enables practical expression of kaitiakitaka (guardianship), including:
    a. developing memorandums of understanding or relationship agreements;
    b. identifying and assessing manawhenua values and, sites and landscapes of significance, and understanding how these are best protected.

3. Explore opportunities to support manawhenua associations and the expression of their identity within reserves including for example:
    a. the inclusion of te reo Māori names and stories for reserves or reserve features;
    b. acknowledgement of manawhenua connection to the whenua (land) through interpretation and storytelling;
    c. restorative programmes, including recognition of mātauranga Māori (traditional Māori knowledge);
    d. incorporating Māori design in reserve developments and wayfinding;
    e. supporting customary activities and practices such as mahika kai (traditional food and resource gathering).

Explanation

As one of the Acts under the first Schedule of the Conservation Act 1987, the Reserves Act requires Council to give effect to the principles[6] of the Treaty of Waitangi/ Te Tiriti. In performing functions and duties under the Reserves Act, the Council must also interpret the Act to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti.

How manawhenua are involved in decision making and who is responsible for the day-to-day management of taoka, should be considered on a case-by-case basis[7]. Considerations for the level of involvement of manawhenua in decision making may include requirements to protect the environment and its ecosystems, the nature and strength of the manawhenua relationship with a place, manawhenua priorities and the public interest.

As Te Tiriti partners, manawhenua will have meaningful opportunities to have input into how our reserves are developed and managed. Reserves provide opportunities for manawhenua to express kaitiakitaka (guardianship) over the land including the restoration, protection and enhancement of natural areas, biodiversity and cultural heritage sites, and landscapes.

Council will continue to work with iwi authorities in developing agreements regarding how Māori will be engaged in future reserve management.

3.2.2 CULTURAL AND HISTORIC HERITAGE

Policies

1. Sites of historical significance will be protected, preserved, and maintained as resources permit.
2. Any development work carried out on or adjacent to historic structures shall be sympathetic to their historical context and carried out in liaison with Heritage New Zealand Pohere Taonga and manawhenua.
3. Work (repairs, maintenance and alterations) carried out on historic structures will be informed and carried out by appropriately skilled consultants and contractors and be in accordance with the principles of the ICOMOS[8] New Zealand Charter for the Conservation of Places of Heritage Value.

[6] The Treaty principles include partnership, informed decision making and active protection.
[7] Waitangi Tribunal, Ko Aotearoa Tēnei (Wai 262, 2011) at 341.
[8] International Council on Monuments and Sites

4. In the case of development work on reserves that has the potential to impact on known or suspected archaeological sites, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga will be consulted at as early a stage as possible, and an archaeological authority will be obtained if one is required.
5. Where archaeological sites or other places or items of Māori origin are discovered during reserve operations or development, manawhenua will be consulted in the first instance and the established accidental discovery protocols (2003) will be followed.
6. Encourage the use of historic buildings where use does not compromise the historic values of the building. This will benefit reserve visitors and the wider community.

Explanation

It is important to recognise and retain heritage features, which may include historic structures and archaeological sites. Such sites provide physical evidence of historical events and add to the depth of experience for visitors and local residents when they visit reserves. Some heritage features are protected through being listed in the Schedule of Heritage Building/Items in the District Plan.

In addition, the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 provides legal protection for all pre-1900 archaeological sites (including recorded and non-recorded) and those post 1900 sites gazetted for protection under the Act. An archaeological authority from Heritage New Zealand is required to modify or destroy any archaeological site.

3.2.3 BIODIVERSITY

Policies

1. Protect, enhance and restore indigenous terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems from the mountain to the sea (ki uta ki tai), including habitat for threatened species, giving particular focus to those reserves identified as regional priorities in relevant regional and local strategies.
2. Support a coordinated and integrated approach to restoration, enhancement, and biosecurity programmes on the district's reserves, recognising the importance of the Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan 2018-2038 and Council's Biodiversity Strategy (including any subsequent updates), and giving priority to:
    a. the importance of existing indigenous biodiversity values associated with sites of Significant Indigenous Vegetation or Areas of Significant Nature Conservation Value identified in the District Plan.
    b. supporting work undertaken in reserves by recognised volunteer groups.
    c. collaborate with Canterbury Regional Council and other relevant management agencies to co-ordinate and compliment efforts across the Ashburton District.
    d. engage with manawhenua when planning restoration of natural habitats and planting within reserves, including identifying opportunities to enhance taoka species and mahika kai.
3. Any plantings undertaken on reserves will:
    a. be consistent with the overall character and function of the reserve and, where applicable, their classification under the Reserves Act 1977.
    b. utilise species appropriate to soil and microclimatic conditions.

c. generally be indigenous and sourced from the same ecological district.

d. generally be nurturing natural regeneration, be low maintenance and self-sustaining.

e. give regard to retaining and enhancing significant views from the reserve.

f. consider Crime Prevent Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles.

4. Use interpretation such as signage, displays, guided walks, and other tools to promote greater public awareness and understanding of ecological and natural values, and Māori tikaka and taoka in reserves.

5. Naturally occurring native trees on reserve land will not be pruned or removed to create or maintain private views.

6. Consideration may be given to the planting of exotic species[9] where there is:

   a. consistency with the reserve classification under the Reserves Act (e.g. not in Scenic, Scientific or Nature Reserves);

   b. a desire for a deciduous species;

   c. a need for a fast-growing species to control erosion; or

   d. an advantage to planting fruit or specimen feature trees or hedging.

7. Where reserves traverse waterways, maintain and enhance water quality and minimise and mitigate the impacts of climate change, on rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, springs and indigenous aquatic ecosystems, through but not limited to:

   a. riparian buffer planting of appropriate width and ecologically appropriate indigenous species and restoration of waterways for the provision of shade and management of flood water;

   b. avoiding earthworks near waterways;

   c. planting steep slopes to prevent erosion and sedimentation;

   d. replacing stormwater infrastructure with naturalised waterways e.g. through restoration of streams that have previously been piped (daylighting), reforming of streams and other appropriate methods;

   e. providing for green stormwater infrastructure, such as wetlands, as part of integrated improvements to reserves.

8. On a case-by-case basis, using adaptive management, strengthen the resilience of indigenous species, habitats and ecosystems to the adverse effects of events, such as climate change or new incursions of pests or pathogens.

9. Enable a range of programmes to address and manage disease, pests and pathogen incursions such as public awareness, phytosanitary measures, research and surveillance, weed risk assessments prior to planting of new species, treatment, and if required, addressing access through the upgrade or realignment of tracks and temporary or long-term track closures / rāhui or quarantining of areas.

[9] Exotic species will not include any species identified in the Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan or considered to be an ecological weed threat.

Explanation

The network of reserves within the district is important for the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and ecological values. Many of Council's reserves abut lakes or riparian margins of braided river systems. Some also adjoin remnant and/or regenerating indigenous bush. These environments are important for their natural character values, contribution to biodiversity, the role they can play in educating about natural resource and natural history of the District i.e. what the Plains looked like prior to most of the vegetation having been removed for farming. They can also play an important role in reducing the impacts of climate change. The Council has an opportunity to demonstrate best practice in ecological restoration and the protection and enhancement of natural values through the management of its reserves.

Council's District Plan contains provisions for protecting natural heritage and biodiversity and identifies Areas of Significant Nature Conservation Value (ASCV).

Ashburton District Council Biodiversity Strategy 2024 is a commitment by Council to protect, restore and enhance biodiversity, and work in collaboration with the community.

Council currently partners with the community and other agencies to undertake biodiversity restoration and enhancement projects at Wakanui Beach, Lake Camp/ Clearwater, Harris Scientific Reserve and Ashton Beach (see Volumes 2-5 of this plan for reserve specific information).

Indigenous biodiversity and ecosystem functions can be significantly threatened by some introduced plants and animals. The Canterbury Regional Council, in its responsibility for biosecurity within the region, has developed the Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan 2018-2038 in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 1993. In implementing this plan, the Regional Council's role is education, inspections, control, advice, monitoring and compliance to protect the region from the harm pests can cause. In addition, the non-statutory Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy has been developed. This outlines a shared vision and regional approach to the protection and restoration of Canterbury's indigenous biodiversity. Together they provide a strategic and statutory framework for the management of pest plants, animals and pathogens.

3.2.4 SPECIMEN TREES

Policies

1. Specimen tree planting in reserves will take into account:
    a. landscaping considerations;
    b. the public interest regarding the reserve's amenity value;
    c. the need to provide shade and shelter, especially around playgrounds, and delineate areas of the reserve;
    d. the likely effects trees will have on neighbouring properties and reserve users;
    e. the likely effects on underground and overhead services;
    f. the appropriateness of providing fruit and nut trees for public harvest noting that they may require additional funding and resourcing to maintain.
2. The felling of trees within a reserve will only be considered when this is:
    a. necessary for the proper management or maintenance of the reserve, i.e. the tree has reached end of life;
    b. for the management or preservation of other trees or bush;

c. in the interests of the safety of persons or property on or near the reserve;

d. where removal of trees is approved this will be undertaken to minimise impact. Provision will be made for restoration of the affected area or replanting, if appropriate for the location.

3. Council will consider requests from adjoining landowners or occupiers for the pruning or removal of trees that have been planted on reserve land, which have significantly grown over time and where the tree:

    a. is significantly impacting the adjoining property or affecting the applicants day to day living, or;

    b. has potential to cause significant damage to buildings and other property;

    c. the tree is the sole cause of the issue;

    AND

    d. the issue is not able to be mitigated through general maintenance by the property owner e.g. clearing gutters of leaves, and;

    e. where no alternative measures (including engineering solutions) can be used to mitigate the problem.

    Applications will be treated on a case-by-case basis. During the decision-making process Council officers will ascertain the duration of the identification of any proposed negative effect. Often a property purchaser has failed themselves in completing due diligence in assessing possible negative effects on their new property from existing and surrounding natural features such as trees. The decision will be made by Council officers and any decision shall be final and not subject to appeal or further challenge. If approved, the costs, including for obtaining any resource consents required under the Operative District Plan, are to be covered by the person requesting the tree work. Tree work is to be carried out in accordance with Council's instruction by an arborist registered with the NZ Arboriculture Association.

Explanation

Trees are a desirable feature of reserves, contributing to biodiversity, carbon sequestration and to amenity values. They provide shade and shelter, break up large spaces, provide variety and relief on the skyline, screen buildings and car parking, provide play spaces, and can be of botanical and historical interest. Treed amenity areas also add to the desirability, liveability, and property value in suburbs containing such features.

The Operative Ashburton District Plan contains a schedule of protected trees including individual trees, and groups of trees (Section 12 Heritage Values and Protected Trees). Their significance can arise from historical, scientific or landmark value. Often these trees will be exotic rather than indigenous.

Trees on reserves are also protected under the Open Space Zone of the Operative Ashburton District Plan (Section 6 Open Space Zones). Any work on trees needs to comply with the relevant objectives and rules of the Operative Ashburton District Plan. For removal or pruning of trees a resource consent is likely to be required.

Trees can also be a nuisance. Adverse effects can include unwanted shading, loss of views, damage caused by roots, leaf litter, and overhanging branches. Public safety must also be a consideration as trees can present risks such as falling branches as they age.

3.2.5 CLIMATE CHANGE AND NATURAL HAZARDS

Policies

1. Reduce carbon emissions and improve carbon sequestration through a variety of methods including:
    a. implementing ecological restoration and pest control programmes and managing biosecurity threats;
    b. identifying areas for new plantings and choosing species that will tolerate anticipated climatic conditions such as drought, heat, and flooding;
    c. supporting the use of sustainable transport to reserves;
    d. supporting options for sustainable design of buildings and reserve development including reductions in embodied carbon and their emissions.;
2. Minimise greenhouse gas emissions in the operation, maintenance, and development of reserves, by preferencing:
    a. low or no-build options and nature-based solutions in lieu of new infrastructure;
    b. energy efficiency and alternatives to fossil fuels for new or replacement services and assets, and;
    c. renewable and reusable materials in reserve design.
3. Decision making in response to the impacts of natural hazards on reserves and reserve infrastructure should be consistent with:
    a. best practice guidance for hazard risk management;
    b. the outcomes and policies in the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement and national guides on climate change projections and adaptive planning;
    c. Council's Climate Change Policy 2022 and Climate Change Resilience Plan 2022 and subsequent updates of these and any other coastal or river erosion and land instability response policy, and;
    d. any site-specific hazard assessment, including, but not limited, the risks to people, reserves land, infrastructure, and values.
4. Adaptation to climate change and management of natural hazards on reserves should consider options to minimise interference to natural processes and natural resources, including giving preference to soft engineering solutions to retain a natural buffer and to strengthen natural features.
5. When assets are affected by the impacts of climate change through erosion, land instability, or frequent flooding, and where access becomes unsafe, physically impractical, or is cost prohibitive to retain, consider restricting access, relocate assets to less vulnerable sites, remove assets entirely rather than repair, undertake managed retreat of infrastructure, and undertake planting and/or naturalisation of affected areas.
6. Recognise the risk of increased drought or flooding in design and subsequent maintenance costs of reserve assets such as playing fields.

Explanation

Climate change will result in changes to natural processes, ecosystems and habitats. As per Council's Climate Change Policy, climate projections for Canterbury by 2100 include a rise in sea

level, an increase in annual mean temperatures, heightened risk of wildfires in hotter, drier summers particularly impacting rural areas, a potential increase in drought, a rise in the number of hot days and a decrease in cold days, less snow days, increased wind speed, a projected 20% increase in summer rainfall in inland Canterbury Plains, a gradual reduction in rainfall towards coastal areas, and a higher likelihood of severe storms occurring more frequently.

Altered weather patterns may have negative impacts on reserves and other areas, such as an increase in plant and animal pests, and the spread of pathogens. Some reserves may experience natural hazards such as coastal inundation and river erosion, flooding and land instability with sea levels rising and an increase in the frequency and severity of storms. Examples of this in the District include Wakanui Beach and Ashburton Dog Park.

Climate change could also bring about increased risks to reserve infrastructure, requiring updates in reserve operation and maintenance approaches. There may also be a need to consider health impacts and potential changes in recreational behaviours and changes in recreational access to areas if the ground is saturated for longer periods. Additionally, planning for new assets should prioritize sustainability and resilience in the face of changing environmental conditions.

Council adopted its Climate Change Policy in 2022. The focus of the policy is to ensure the sustainability of Council assets and services, improve community and business resilience and preparedness and reduce its own carbon emissions to provide an example of effective climate change mitigation. Council will manage climate change by focussing on mitigation and adaptation. This is essential to protect our communities and ensure the long-term resiliency of the district. The policies provide a basis for actions that reduce vulnerabilities, as well as the future costs incurred related to climate events.

Planting programmes across the reserves network will support the resilience of reserves by maximising the carbon sink benefits and assist with flood control.

The underlying principle for control of coastal and river erosion will be to understand as fully as possible the natural processes affecting the particular coastline or riverbank and to work with natural methods as far as is practicable. These natural methods shall include the avoidance, wherever possible, of hard protection measures and the encouragement and preservation of natural planted systems to give a buffer zone. Monitoring the impacts of changes in coastal and river processes will be important. In some reserves there will be a need to plan for managed retreat of infrastructure.

3.2.6 SUSTAINABILITY

Policies

1. Ensure that sustainable management practices are taken into account in the design, operation, maintenance and development of the reserves within the district. This may include:
    a. enhancing biodiversity as set out in policy 3.2.3
    b. taking into account the life cycle of products used for reserve development and maintenance;
    c. considering renewable and reusable materials in reserve design elements;
    d. considering low energy efficient devices, such as solar lighting, for new or replacement services;
    e. low impact design practises for stormwater management;

f. building designs that incorporate features to minimise the environmental impact of buildings e.g. passive energy design, utilisation of stormwater;

g. conservation and adaptive re-use of all forms of heritage items, as well as buildings, structures, fixtures such as paving, and trees, where appropriate.

Explanation

Sustainability is a process of ensuring all resources are used and managed for a balance of environmental, social, cultural and economic wellbeing. It means meeting the needs of today without adversely impacting the needs of future generations.

There is a suite of sustainable practises that can be employed on reserves from choosing materials for reserve developments that have greater longevity and reduced maintenance costs, to utilising environmental friendly technologies to reduce energy costs. These will evolve over time and Council needs to keep abreast of new innovations in this space.

3.3 Recreation and Use Policies

3.3.1 GENERAL RECREATIONAL USE AND ENJOYMENT

Policies

2. Facilitate recreational use of reserves where this is compatible with:
    a. the reserves' classification, where held under the Reserves Act;
    b. the policies in this Management Plan and any conditions set out in Council's bylaws, such as exercising dogs;
    c. The special values identified in the individual reserves in Volumes 2 – 5 of this reserve management plan.
3. Provide for and manage the impacts of recreational use through a range of mechanisms, including, but not limited to:
    a. identifying the range of recreational opportunities sought from the community through the categorisation of reserves outlined in the Open Space Strategy which explains how reserves are intended to be managed to support specific types of recreation.
    b. managing recreational use on a network wide basis, recognising not all opportunities can be provided in every reserve;
    c. utilising bylaws or codes of conduct to set parameters or conditions on activities;
    d. utilising a booking system to manage the allocation of reserve land;
    e. requiring the authorisation of activities that have the potential to impact the reserve's values or other reserve users (see policies 3.3.5 onwards).
4. Enable recreational use and enjoyment of reserves through:
    a. responding to shifts and changes in demand for recreational activities,
    b. activating reserves through events, programmes and other initiatives including authorised activities;
    c. developing or naturalising reserves to increase their resilience and capacity;

d. promoting opportunities that may broaden reserve user's experiences, such as public art and interpretation;

e. recognising the value of reserves in providing respite.

Explanation

Reserves are provided for the public's general use and enjoyment. They cater for a wide range of recreational opportunities from informal activities such as walking and picnicking to highly organised activities such as sporting events. All recreational activity needs to be managed to minimise the impact on reserve's values and other users, and is consistent with the reserve classification (where the reserve is held under the Reserves Act).

Most everyday activities on reserves are allowed as of right. However, some activities on reserves that have the potential to impact either the environment or other users, or require the temporary allocation of space, may be allowed subject to meeting conditions. These may be by way of a bylaw or a code of conduct.

Some activities will require specific permission or authorisation which may be granted by way of occupation agreements such as a lease or licence or a permit for an event. The general range of activities anticipated on each reserve is indicated in the individual reserve sections in Volumes 2-5.

3.3.2 ACCESS

Policies

1. Provide and maintain safe and accessible routes to and through reserves and to facilities located on reserves.
2. Support the development of tracks and trails through reserves that provide connectivity to the wider community, that form attractive networks for active recreation and include good directional signage.
3. When renewing or developing reserve infrastructure that supports access, consider catering for multiple forms of active transport, micro mobility solutions and all-ability access.
4. Consider the provision of bike stands to support cycling to and within reserves.
5. The alignment of paths and any adjacent planting will generally be designed to consider user safety and security following CPTED10 principles.
6. Horses and motorcycles are prohibited from pedestrian tracks unless specifically identified.
7. Council will retain the discretion to limit vehicular and/or pedestrian access to reserves, subject to the provisions of Section 40 and Section 48 of the Reserves Act 1977 or any bylaw requirements, including where:
    a. limiting vehicular access at night is desirable,
    b. an activity or event has been granted the right to restrict public access as part of its conditions of authorisation,
    c. maintenance works are being carried out on the reserve,
    d. there are unfavourable ground conditions or a biosecurity risk,

[10] Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

e. the reserve or area requires remediation, for example to address a physical hazard or to undertake field renovations,

f. a rāhui is in place.

g. E-bike and scooter use on reserves is limited to speeds below 25 kmph for the safety of riders and other reserve users.

Explanation

Access applies to arriving at a reserve, travelling through the reserve and accessing what the reserve offers. Good access and connectivity enhance reserve utilisation, support active recreation and enjoyment by reserve user. Pedestrian access and circulation within a reserve need to be coherent and appropriate to the site and safe. It is important that access points are clear and where applicable, clearly define a direct route through a reserve to makes users feel comfortable.

Council is committed to increasing the use and enjoyment of reserves by people with limited mobility, the aged and those with young children. This can be achieved by reducing physical or design barriers that compromise access to and within a reserve.

Paths and tracks in reserves should be constructed in a way to remain durable and resilient to high use. The development of future access needs to consider the increasing trend in cycling and use of electric bikes and scooters, so design should cater to these.

For safety reasons and/or in order to better manage reserve use it may be desirable or warranted to limit or exclude access to a reserve or part of a reserve at certain times. This includes restricting vehicle access at night to reduce undesirable behaviour or restricting access to a reserve or an area of a reserve at certain times of the year, as a result of authorised activities, requirements to undertake maintenance or remedial works, or to recognise or protect the reserve's natural and/or cultural values. Council will use its discretion to best manage the balance between public access and reserve management.

3.3.3 SPORTS AND ACTIVE RECREATION

Policies

1. Support the development of sports facilities on reserves where enabled in reserve management plans and in line with the reserve classification under the Reserves Act, if applicable, and reserve specific policies, reserve values, and potential impacts on other reserve users.
2. Support the development of a legible network of pathways for active transport to and through reserves and for active recreation in line with Council's Walking and Cycling Strategy.
3. Work with Reserve Boards and community groups to ensure facilities are fit for purpose. Where specialised surfaces and infrastructure are required, work in partnership with sports associations and users to provide these surfaces.
4. Wherever possible, encourage the consolidation, co-siting and shared use of sporting facilities.
5. Ensure reserves are dynamic spaces that respond to the changing makeup and demand of the community they serve.
6. Fees and charges may be payable for the use of sports fields in line with Council's Fees and Charges Schedule and the Sports Field and Domains Usage Policy, except where the

Council has determined that no or a reduced rent is payable. This includes fees set by Reserve Boards.

Explanation

There is plenty of research that testifies to the benefits of physical activity on well-being. Council is seeking to support communities to be active in a range of ways by providing and promoting these opportunities.

The Council currently provides limited sports fields as some clubs within the district own and maintain their own facilities. As the district grows there may be more demand for the development of sporting facilities on reserve land. Ashburton is in a unique position to ensure any new facilities built on reserve land are multi-purpose and planned to accommodate a range of sporting needs to encourage community participation and manage operating costs.

The Council's Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy guides decision making on the district's play, active recreation and sport facilities. It seeks to ensure that community facilities, spaces and places are accessible and well utilised. It also aims to ensure that the district's built and natural environment continues to provide new and unique play, active recreation and sport opportunities.

In addition, Council's Walking and Cycling Strategy provides a framework for making walking and cycling safer and more attractive, with the aim of increasing the number of people using the walking and cycling network. Its goals include the creation of a quality, fit for purpose recreational walking and cycling network that connects to key destinations, including reserves.

The Sports Fields and Domains Usage Policy aims to ensure a consistent approach for the management, development and maintenance of Council owned or managed sports fields and domains , strengthen participation and engagement in community and recreational activities; and ensure leases and licences are managed fairly, processes are transparent (see Policy 3.3.10 in this document for guiding policies for issuing occupation agreements such as leases and licences), and Council has the flexibility to respond to community needs.

Fees and charges for the use of sports fields are set in the Ashburton District Council Schedule of Fees and Charges, which is reviewed regularly. Fees and charges are used to assist the operation and maintenance of a variety of services provided to the community. They are determined based on the size of the field and level of activity and benchmarked against industry best practice. Fees may be discounted or waived for groups who assist with field/ surface maintenance and upkeep. Reserve Boards can set their own fees, however fees must be guided by the Council's fees and charges. Council must be consulted by Reserve Boards when setting fees and if there are variations from Council fees.

The Ashburton Recreation Facilities Utilisation Study, which investigated the current utilisation of Council and private recreation facilities within the Ashburton district, provides recommendations for future facility planning and inclusion within relevant funding processes e.g. Council's Long Term Plan.

All recreational activity needs to be managed in a way that enriches people's experience while minimising adverse impacts on others, and on natural, and historic and cultural heritage values. Where the reserve is held under the Reserves Act, recreation activity must be consistent with the reserve's classification.

3.3.4 PLAY

Policies

1. The development of new play facilities or redevelopment of existing ones will take into account:
    a. meeting the local community needs for play opportunities;
    b. the effect the play infrastructure will or does have on other reserve users;
    c. siting with regard to sun, shade and shelter from wind, and ability for passive surveillance by other reserve users and passers-by;
    d. diversity of play opportunities, including providing for different age ranges and abilities across the network, and;
    e. universal design to make the play as accessible as possible.
2. All new play equipment and associated safety surfaces and renewal of play areas shall be designed, constructed and maintained to conform to New Zealand standards NZS 5828:2015 for playground equipment and surfaces or any subsequent update to these standards.
3. Consider provision of shade over playgrounds where required and as resourcing allows, with a preference for planting shade trees, rather than built structures.
4. Consider developing more spaces to engage young people (rangatahi) including skate parks and basketball (half) courts.
5. Explore opportunities to provide more natural play that encourage exploration.
6. Play facilities may be removed or rationalised, in consultation with the local community, where play facilities are located within 500m of existing playgrounds and where there is insufficient demand to justify the continued maintenance and/or renewal of the playground.

Explanation

Reserves provide important open space areas for children, teenagers and families to play, whether this is through using natural features, or the provision of formal playgrounds, skate reserves and biking circuits. These are important community facilities that provide areas for families and children to come together, be active and relax.

In 2017, NZS 5828:2015 was set as the New Zealand standard for playground equipment and surfacing. For all playgrounds outside the education sector this standard is recognised as the industry ‘best practice’. The Council needs to consider their statutory obligations and responsibilities to demonstrate that the structures, equipment and surfacing are safe and meet the relevant criteria.

3.3.5 AUTHORISATION AND APPROVALS

Policies

1. Ensure a consistent approach is taken to assessing proposed activities requiring authorisation, including;
    a. the requirement for a permit or approval under the Reserves Act 1977;

b. compatibility with the reserve classification, if applicable (defined under the Reserves Act);

c. compatibility with the reserve values and where applicable specific management or development intentions;

d. consideration of the capacity of the reserve to accommodate the activity, the current use of the reserve and all potential impacts on the environment and other reserve users.

2. Activities will need to be authorised if they:

a. require authorisation or a permit under the Reserves Act 1977;

b. require exclusive use of a reserve or an area of a reserve (which could be in the form of a permit for an event);

c. change the physical environment, e.g. ground disturbance, plant removal or planting;

d. require a temporary or permanent building or structure to be built or installed;

e. are commercial in nature, are for private gain or financial reward, such as a coffee carts or commercial filming; or

f. create an interest in land in favour of a third party, such as a lease, licence or an easement.

Explanation

Some people or groups will want to use reserve space for activities that might have a lasting or temporary impact on the reserve, or might prevent others from also using the reserve. Under these circumstances people will need to apply for specific permission or an 'authorisation' to use the reserve. Throughout the life of this plan new activities may arise which have not been contemplated or addressed within this plan, or in other Council policies or bylaws. This policy provides a framework for considering their authorisation.

The purpose of an authorisation is to ensure impacts on the reserve and it's users are considered and managed, and a consistent and balanced approach is taken to assessing proposals to ensure the reserve is protected.

The likely impact of that activity will be determined by the type of activity, how long it will take, how many people might be involved, what effect it will have on the reserve itself, and whether the reserve will be able to recover easily. Higher-impact activities will need more in- depth assessments.

As one of the Acts under the first Schedule of the Conservation Act 1987, the Reserves Act requires Council to give effect to the principles[11] of the Treaty of Waitangi/ Te Tiriti. In performing its functions and duties under the Reserves Act, the Council must give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti. How decisions are made and who is responsible for the day-to-day management of taonga, should be considered on a case-by-case basis[12] (also see policy 3.2.1 Manawhenua partnerships).

In some cases, formal public consultation will also be required by legislation, either under the Reserves Act or the LGA. Even if legislation does not require public notification, the Council may choose to speak to key stakeholders or, if it believes it is in the public interest, undertake public consultation to better understand the wider community's views.

[11] The Treaty principles include partnership, informed decision making and active protection.
[12] Waitangi Tribunal, Ko Aotearoa Tēnei (Wai 262, 2011) at 341.

3.3.6 COMMERCIAL USE

Policies

1. Any proposed commercial use of a reserve will be assessed in accordance with the criteria in authorisation policy 3.3.5 and consider whether the activity:
    a. assists in the public use and enjoyment of the reserve, and not disadvantages other users, and;
    b. activates or encourages general use of the reserve, and;
    c. is compatible with or will avoid or mitigate any potential adverse effects on neighbours, and;
    d. will not adversely affect the general character and amenity of the reserve.
2. Council may grant a permit or licence to approved commercial operators, which will:
    a. specify the nature of the activities the commercial operator can provide;
    b. define the area within which the activity is to be carried out;
    c. specify the times (over the year and during the day) during which the permit holder or licensee can operate;
    d. define the signage (if any) permitted in association with the permit or licence;
    e. specify the fee and/or bond amount, and;
    f. will not be transferable to another operator.
3. Permits or licences may provide for the exclusive use of part of a reserve for a specific period.
4. The applicant will be responsible for ensuring that they fully comply with any statutory requirements, the District Plan and any relevant bylaws.

Explanation

Reserves are for the use and enjoyment of the public. In general, reserves provide respite from commercial facilities and provide opportunities for families, groups and individuals to pursue recreational activities away from commercial environments. From time to time, however, there will be temporary and/or permanent recreation-related commercial activities that are fully compatible with the purpose of the reserve and that can assist or enhance the use and enjoyment of the reserve for a significant number of users. Council will consider applications for commercial use on reserves and where appropriate provide for such activities as an adjunct to the reserve.

Revenue gained from any fees related to commercial activities can assist with the ongoing maintenance of a reserve or renewal or development of its assets. Public notification of a commercial proposal may be necessary and other approvals such as a resource consent or approval under a Bylaw such as special alcohol licences or hawkers licences, may also be required.

3.3.7 DRONES AND REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS

Policies

1. Remotely piloted aircraft systems, such as drones, may only be operated in Council reserve, in accordance with the Open Spaces Bylaw 2021.

2. Drones and remotely piloted aircraft systems may be used by Council (and persons authorised by Council) for reserve operations and management purposes.
3. Flying of RPAS for commercial purposes requires permission from Council in line with the Approvals and Authorisations Policy (3.3.5).

Explanation

Unmanned aircraft, also known as unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV), remotely piloted aircraft systems (RPAS), unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) or also referred to as drones can be flown for fun or operated commercially, for example for filming. They can also have a number of applications for the management of reserves including aerial photography, plant and animal pest control, asset and tree inspections, etc. Semi-automated maintenance equipment may also be a future possibility.

Currently, rules or conditions for the use of unmanned aircraft are set out in:

- Civil Aviation Authority rules, and
- Open Spaces Bylaw 2021.

Under the Open Spaces Bylaw 2021, drones cannot operate in a number of reserve areas, including: over the Ashburton Domain sports field area, any other sports fields in use by others, within the 'No Fly Zone' in the Ashburton Domain specified in the bylaw, within 50m of any playground or paddling pools, and in Council cemeteries and camp ground areas.

Any person proposing to use a RPAS for commercial purposes, such as filming, must state this in their application and obtain the appropriate permission from the Council.

3.3.8 EVENTS AND FIREWORK DISPLAYS

Policies

1. Any proposed event on a reserve will be assessed by the delegated Council officer, in accordance with the authorisation policy in 3.3.5 and will consider:
    a. the nature and purpose of the event including how it will provide for public access and enjoyment;
    b. the date(s) and duration of the event;
    c. how provision for safety, security, and waste on the site will be managed, including the safe preparation and sale of food;
    d. the effect on neighbours and surrounding streets;
    e. the financial resources of the event organizer and/or its sponsors.
2. The cost of organising and running any approved event on a reserve will be the responsibility of the event organiser.
3. Any reserve used for an approved event will be left in the condition in which it was found prior to the event to the satisfaction of the delegated Council officer.
4. Council will retain the right to require a refundable bond from any event organizer and retain the discretion to expend the bond to reinstate the reserve should this be required.
5. Event organisers for any approved event will be fully responsible for securing in advance all consents and approvals for the operation of the event and will ensure they respect any relevant bylaws or District Plan requirements (such as noise controls).

6. Where any event covers 2-3 days the event organiser is encouraged to provide security personnel to patrol overnight.
7. Where provided for on a reserve any organisation wishing to present a fireworks display shall make written application to the Council at least one calendar month before the event. The organisation must seek the prior permission from Fire and Emergency New Zealand and provide proof of public liability insurance.
8. Council may place whatever conditions it finds appropriate on an approval for a fireworks display, for example conditions may relate to the management of fire risk, safety and noise.

Explanation

Events can enhance the public use and enjoyment of reserves and contribute to the diversity and vibrancy of the community. Events with large numbers of people and activities can also adversely affect the reserve and its neighbours. Council therefore needs to retain full discretion over the number, nature and organisation of any event on reserve land.

From time-to-time Council receives requests from organisations wishing to use a reserve for a fireworks display. Such displays are governed by the Health and Safety at Work (Hazardous Substances) Regulations 2017, and require the permission of Fire and Emergency New Zealand.

Fireworks displays can generate adverse effects in relation to vegetation, wildlife habitat, animals, and neighbours. They also create a potential fire risk that needs to be managed. Many reserves in the Ashburton District are inappropriate locations for public firework displays. Such displays are therefore not permitted on reserves except where it is expressly identified and then subject to Council approval as well as to any conditions that Council may wish to impose.

3.3.9 CAMPING

Policies

1. Prohibit camping in all reserves other than in areas defined in a reserve management plan (see Volume 2 – 5 of this plan and Appendix D).
2. Use of areas designated for camping is subject to site rules, relevant bylaws and legislation.

Explanation

It is recognised that reserves provide prime parking destinations for self-contained vehicles as they often provide desirable water edge locations with great views, a peaceful setting and a level of security. However, use by campers can also affect the enjoyment of reserves by the local community and other users, taking up space, occupying parts of a reserve with leisure furniture, washing and the like, generating noise, depositing rubbish and affecting neighbours.

Overnight accommodation on reserves can be regulated by the Council through a combination of the Reserves Act 1977, Local Government Act 2002, Freedom Camping Act 2011, and any bylaws made under these Acts.

Council's Open Space Bylaw states rules for camping in public places and identifies areas where camping is allowed and prohibited within the district.

Section 44 of the Reserves Act does not permit use of a reserve for personal accommodation, including camping, without the consent of the Minister of Conservation, or in areas defined in reserve management plans.

Section 53 of the Reserve Act gives an administering body of a recreation reserve powers to set apart, with the prior consent of the Minister of Conservation, areas for campgrounds. Section 54 provides for an ability to lease areas for campgrounds set aside under Section 53(1)(h).

Volumes 2-5 of this plan identifies individual sites where temporary personal accommodation is permitted in line with relevant sections of the Reserves Act and other legislation. Areas identified include campgrounds and areas set aside for camping in tents or self-contained vehicles. For ease of reference, a summary of the sites is provided in Appendix D.

3.3.10 OCCUPATION AGREEMENTS (LEASES, LICENSES AND EASEMENTS, OTHER THAN GRAZING

Policies

1. Any proposed occupation of a reserve will be assessed in accordance with authorisation policy 3.3.5 and the following considerations:
    a. alignment of purpose and activities of any group to be consistent with Council's strategic direction and reserve specific policies and intentions in this plan;
    b. multi-use of buildings will be given preference;
    c. demonstrated support and need within the community for the activity or usage;
    d. the viability of the proposed activity or usage.
2. Any permanent use of a reserve, including buildings, will be subject to a lease or licence agreement.
3. Where a lease or licence is not contemplated in this management plan, Council shall give public notice, in accordance with Section 119 of the Reserves Act, specifying the lease or licence proposed to be granted and give full consideration to all objections and submissions received in relation to the proposal.
4. The lessee/licensee will cover the costs to prepare the agreement.
5. Unless otherwise agreed to, the maintenance of buildings such as clubrooms and associated facilities are the responsibility of individual clubs and organisations. These buildings will be maintained to a high degree of visual amenity determined by Council staff.
6. Council holds the discretion to charge a rent for leases, licences or easements. Rental for commercial lease may be set at market levels.
7. Council will not provide compensation for improvements at the termination of a lease/licence, unless otherwise agreed in the lease/licence document.
8. Where an occupation agreement has expired or been terminated, Council will, subject to the requirements of the lease/licence, retain the right to:
    a. require the occupier to remove or dispose of any facility they are responsible for, at the occupier's expense, in line with their occupation agreement and the First Schedule of the Reserves Act 1977;
    b. remove the facility and on-charge the costs of removal and disposal, or;
    c. allocate use of the facility to other users within the community and no compensation for facilities will be payable in this instance.

9. All members of the public have the right to join a club leasing reserve land.
10. An easement or formal agreement will be required for every pipe, cable, or discharge and all third party underground utilities on a reserve. All legal costs and the costs of formation and maintenance to the Council's satisfaction shall be borne by the grantee (also see Policy 3.3.12.Public and Private Utilities).

Explanation

A variety of activities undertaken on Council reserves require a specific authorisation for the occupation of space. Leases, licences or easements are the most common forms of authorisation granted by Council to a person, organisation, or company that is occupying or using part of a reserve long term.

One of the principles of the Reserves Act is to preserve public access to reserve land. This directive must be explicit in the leasing arrangements.

The Reserves Act also emphasises the retention of open spaces and the public accountability of reserve management. The intent is that any type of agreement for the use of a reserve should be granted only where it will:

- result in recreational opportunities for the public;
- facilitate the full use and enjoyment of the reserve and its facilities;
- benefit the management of the reserve;
- not greatly hinder public access.

Council will only enter into lease agreements when the intended use is deemed appropriate to the principles of the Reserves Act and to the individual reserve.

Changing demographics and interest in leisure activities can result in clubs disbanding, amalgamating or becoming inactive. Where this results in the abandonment of facilities Council needs the power to have such facilities removed or turned to the use of other users.

3.3.11 GRAZING LEASES AND LICENCES

Policies

1. Grazing of undeveloped recreation reserve land will be permitted and encouraged as a management tool until Council is ready to develop the reserve.
2. Where grazing leases or licences are granted Council will provide guidance on:
    a. the type of stock to be grazed in accordance with good animal husbandry and stock control practices;
    b. the cost implications to Council of options for site management, in order to provide adequate safeguards for those features and values (e.g. archaeological values) in existence on the land, and;
    c. whether public access is to be provided and how this will be managed.

Explanation

Grazing can be a useful management tool for reserves that are not, for the time being, required for the purpose for which they have been classified. Grazing can be an economic alternative to mowing that also provides useful land for agricultural use on a time limited basis. At the same

time, grazing use must be managed to minimise impacts on reserve values. Special consideration needs to be given to the protection of natural and cultural values and on adjoining waterways.

Public access is to be retained where practicable. In this regard stock selection is important as some stock can be incompatible with public access.

Income generated from such leases or licences is to be used the cost of maintenance and operation of reserves.

3.3.12 PUBLIC AND PRIVATE UTILITIES

Policies

1. Council as landowner, does not want internal or external infrastructure, utilities and service assets to be located on reserve land (unless it is associated with an authorised project for the benefit of the reserve). However, in cases where it is clearly demonstrated that no other viable alternatives are available, applications will be considered.
2. Where utilities, other than those required for servicing the reserve, are proposed to be located through or over a reserve, or where existing utilities are to be upgraded, the authority responsible will undertake early (i.e. at the preliminary scoping stage) and full consultation with the Council's delegated officer.
3. Any proposed utility structures or services on a reserve will be assessed in accordance with authorisation policy 3.3.5 and consider minimising the potential impacts on the use, enjoyment or general amenity of reserve by:
    a. locating the utility underground where possible;
    b. avoiding locations that compromise the reserve's function or future development and use of the reserve or recreation access to and from water;
    c. minimising the footprint or scale of utility structures where feasible;
    d. clustering around the perimeter of the reserve or co-siting with existing compatible reserve and utility structures;
    e. considering how the utility will be accessed for servicing.
4. Council will utilise agreements such as a licence or easement to formalise Council's decision to approve utilities and to specify conditions related to pre-construction, construction and post-construction phases.
5. All third party underground utilities require an easement to provide for the ongoing occupation of the reserve by the utility. Easements are required to be surveyed and registered post construction, at the cost of the applicant.
6. All costs associated with the location of services through or over a reserve including the cost of fully making good the affected area as well as any mitigation and/or remediation works shall be borne by the authority undertaking the works to the satisfaction of the Council's delegated officer.

Explanation

In general, Council does not support the use of reserves for public and private infrastructure. Reserves are often identified as convenient locations for the placement of utilities' infrastructure and services. Individually and cumulatively, these can have significant impact on a reserve both by impacting on the character and amenity and by restricting the scope of development possible and

thereby the reserve's use. Once in place utility facilities can restrict activities on, and management of the reserve.

Any siting of network utilities on reserves is subject to the provisions of Section 48 and 48A of the Reserves Act. Approval under Section 23(3) of the Reserves Act may also be required if a reserve closure is required to construct the utility.

Proposals for the location of new or upgraded utilities through or over a reserve should be fully considered, including the identification of alternative sites or alignments and ways to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the reserve.

Any approvals granted by Council to locate utilities on reserves will be formalised through an occupation agreement such as a licence or an easement that will specify conditions of ongoing use, maintenance, repair, upgrade and removal at the end of the agreement.

Council will utilise registered easements and the requirement to provide as-built plans to update its mapping system to identify the location of approved utilities.

3.4 Development Policies

3.4.1 GENERAL RESERVE DEVELOPMENT

Policies

1. Reserve development should consider the following:
    a. the land status of the reserve, including classification under the Reserves Act;
    b. outcomes and recommendations of concept plans and /or relevant specialist assessments;
    c. the potential to work with partners, such as Reserve Boards, to deliver the reserve development;
    d. the impact the location and design of infrastructure has on the natural, cultural, landscape and amenity values of a reserve;
    e. opportunities to work with manawhenua to identify any cultural features or landscapes that may be acknowledged in the development;
    f. technologies, materials or design that enable greater, more flexible use and consider health promoting environments, and the impacts of climate change;
    g. minimising the opportunities for vandalism and crime including using Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles;
    h. universal design and how people of all ages and abilities use, access and enjoy the reserve.
2. Development proposals for reserves may require a concept or development plan. These shall be approved by the Ashburton District Council.
3. Council may develop a concept plan to guide development of a reserve where this is not sufficiently detailed in this management plan and the reserve development requires a coherent approach to the reserves wider use, balancing complex matters and protecting its environmental values.
4. The extent of public consultation on development will be guided by Council's Community Engagement Policy and the relevant legislative requirements under the Reserves Act and Local Government Act.

Explanation

Reserve development can protect and enhance the landscape and natural values, assist with activating a reserve and enhance community appreciation and enjoyment of the reserve. This covers many aspects, from designing and developing reserves in new subdivisions or upgrading existing reserves.

Council needs to ensure that reserves are developed to meet the community's aspirations and deliver the types of recreational experiences they are seeking, whilst ensuring the natural and other values of the reserve are retained and potentially enhanced. For a number of key reserves across the district this may include the future development of a concept plan that will provide a more detailed guide as to how the development of the reserve will be approached and co-ordinated. Reserves requiring a concept plan have been identified in Volume 2-5 of this plan. However, this will not preclude the Council choosing to undertake the development additional concept plans as further demands are placed on reserves.

3.4.2 BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Policies

1. In proposing to locate a new building or structure on a reserve (by Council or by others), or when considering proposals for the extension or upgrade of an existing building or structure, the following shall be considered:
    a. the Reserves Act classification of the land and whether the development is contemplated for in the individual reserve sections of this plan (Volumes 2-5);
    b. the need for the building or structure to be located on reserve land, taking into account evaluation of other sites, the potential to co-locate the activity in an existing building, to adapt an existing building and the opportunity to cluster buildings, if a separate building is required;
    c. the scale of the proposed building or structure in relation to the reserve and its potential impact on foreseeable use of the reserve for recreation, the amenity of the reserve and the conservation of open space, views, significant vegetation and significant landscape features and values;
    d. the siting, design, materials and colour of the proposed building or structure;
    e. the financial position of the applicant to properly construct and maintain the buildings and structures, and ongoing associated costs, including the potential impacts generated by ancillary activities used to provide ongoing funding;
    f. the effects of providing access to, parking and service areas for the proposed building or structure;
    g. the ability of the applicant to construct and operate the proposed activity in accordance with generally accepted safety protocols and consequently indemnify Council from any claims arising as a result of their presence and/or activity, including holding and maintaining appropriate insurance cover;
    h. the assessment criteria in the District Plan.
2. Where Council determines to approve the location and design of any building or structure on reserve land, the applicant will be responsible for obtaining all necessary resource and building consents before any work commences on site. In addition the applicant must comply with all bylaws, regulations and statutes pertaining to the construction and operation of the building or structure.

Explanation

Buildings and structures are necessary to facilitate public use of reserves and include club rooms, halls, changing rooms, public toilets, bridges, viewing platforms or lookouts, etc. Buildings on reserves can provide a place for other core functions the Council delivers or supports, including community halls. They can, however, also reduce the open space character and amenity of reserves and need to be carefully sited and designed to complement the reserve. Buildings and structures represent significant investment and require ongoing maintenance. Duplication of such facilities should be avoided. Council's preference is for joint use, management and funding of facilities.

3.4.3 CAR PARKING

Policies

1. Provide, where possible, adequate car parks on reserves for vehicles associated with legitimate car parking needs by reserve users during non-peak use of the reserve.
2. Long-term or regular overnight parking of vehicles is not permitted.
3. Parking cars on areas other than designated parking areas is not permitted.
4. Exclusive use of car parks may be allowed for special events subject to the following conditions:
    a. organisers will need to apply to Council for exclusive use;
    b. if successful, Council will arrange for public notification where required and may set an appropriate charge.
5. If a new car park is to be developed the general reserve development policies in 3.4.1 and the following will be considered:
    a. the site should not create a need for extensive internal roading;
    b. the site should permit development of easy foot access to other parts of the reserve;
    c. the site should not include any areas of highest recreational or natural value;
    d. the design should minimise visual impact and construction problems by using suitable landscape forms, planting, and materials.

Explanation

Any use of reserve land can create a demand for car parking. Council intends to provide car parking that will be relevant to the purpose and meet the likely demand from reserve users.

Car parks can alienate significant areas of open space from a reserve. Parking cars on areas not intended for that purpose can damage reserve land and adversely affect the amenity value.

3.4.4 LIGHTING

Policies

1. Council may provide lighting on Council-owned land, where there is regular use of the reserve after dark and clear public benefit, following an assessment of need in line with the principles of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPDET) and safety considerations.
2. When considering the renewal or development of reserve lighting consider the relevance of Policy 3.4.1General Reserve Development and the following:
    a. the level benefit to the public of providing lighting;
    b. CPTED principles and/or the result of a CPTED audit for the reserve;
    c. impact on the reserve environment including wildlife;
    d. impact on open space character, physical features and reserves assets;
    e. potential to attract inappropriate use;
    f. impact of light pollution on the neighbours and the wider night sky;
    g. technology and design that enables greater, more flexible use, health and safety for reserve users and energy efficiency.

3. Where lighting is provided, this will be designed to minimise the effects of light pollution and lighting spill by:
    a. using 'full cut off fixtures' that point light downwards and prevent light emitting above the horizontal plane (other than for limited time controlled decorative amenity lighting);
    b. where flood lighting is required for sports use or security, that lights are either controlled by motion sensors or time controlled to minimise light pollution and nuisance. Operating hours shall be approved by Council, if required through resource consent;
    c. where area or path lighting is required, that lights have a maximum colour temperature of 3000 Kelvin to minimise impacts on astronomy, wildlife and human health;
    d. decorative amenity lighting shall be time controlled. The operating hours shall be approved by Council;
    e. electrical supply cables for lighting (other than for tree bud lighting) be installed underground.
4. Council may designate reserves as a 'dark sky place' and seek accreditation by the International Dark Sky Association for some or all reserves including preparing a light management plan which may place further restrictions on the use of lights in designated reserves.

Explanation

Council is sometimes asked to provide lighting to improve the safety and functionality of reserves, or to extend the period for which the reserve can be used. Good lighting design can reduce the impact of lighting on neighbours and the environment and significantly enhance the safety, use and appearance of reserves.

There is a growing awareness of the need to protect the night sky from light pollution and to minimise the effects of uncontrolled light on human health and wildlife. Reserves are intrinsically dark places and should generally be maintained as such.

Consideration of new lighting will be assessed in accordance with Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles. In some instances, perceived or real safety issues cannot be addressed by lighting alone. In these cases, lighting may encourage people to enter a reserve, where it may be unsafe to do so and the installation of lighting may not be advisable.

3.4.5 RESERVE FURNITURE

Policies

1. Reserve furniture may be provided at key locations to facilitate public use and enjoyment of a reserve. The design and location of this will take into account:
    a. minimising the range and styles of reserve furniture. As defined and specified in the Reserves and Reserves Street Furniture Guide (September 2022);
    b. siting furniture to take advantage of views and orientating it with regard to sun and shelter from the wind.

2. The Council may remove furniture where the condition of the furniture is below an acceptable standard, where the furniture is not in keeping with the reserve, or where there is no longer a demonstrated need.

Explanation

Reserve furniture such as seating, picnic tables, barbeques and drinking fountains encourages people to gather within reserves, supports a variety of activities, encourages a longer length of stay and plays an important role in public health.

It is important to manage reserve furniture and take the time to consider its installation. If unmanaged, reserve furniture can add to visual clutter and detract from landscape and amenity values.

3.4.6 SIGNS AND INTERPRETATION

Policies

1. All signs located within reserves will comply with Council's brand guidelines to ensure consistent sign styles, branding and information throughout the district.
2. Signs will generally be grouped or clustered within a reserve to avoid visual clutter and to assist visitors with orientation and to easily access relevant information.
3. Any new permanent signage to be located within a reserve should be sensitively placed within the surroundings while remaining in clear public view.
4. Reserve occupiers wishing to erect signs on buildings they occupy will require approval from the Council's delegated officer and be responsible for obtaining all relevant statutory consents and meeting the costs of producing, erecting, maintaining and replacing signs relating to their activity.
5. No commercial signs will be permitted on reserves except with the approval of Council delegated officers (including acknowledgement of sponsorship). Council may permit advertising signs on recreation reserves developed as sports grounds where these will not detract from the character and amenity of the reserve or adversely affect neighbours. The cost of such signs, any associated resource consents, and the regular maintenance of any such sign will be borne by the advertiser.
6. Council retains the right to request the removal of and/or to remove any inappropriate, poorly located or maintained, or obsolete signs.
7. On-site interpretation signage will be utilised to:
    a. contribute to people's understanding and appreciation of a reserve's significant values, history or features;
    b. increase awareness of manawhenua's role as kaitiaki (guardians) and their connection to a reserve;
    c. raise awareness of environmental issues, community-led activity or restoration programmes.

Explanation

Signs are necessary to identify reserves, assist access and orientation within reserves, encourage the appropriate use of reserves and to provide for the safety of reserve users. Signs provide an opportunity for Council to 'brand' public land and clearly identify public resources. However, signs

can individually or cumulatively detract from the amenity of a reserve and need to be designed, located and maintained to avoid visual clutter.

Interpretation on reserves can enhance the visitor experience by increasing awareness of a reserve's history and special features and inspire visitors to explore the reserve. This can be achieved in a number of ways, such as, through signs, displays, audio visuals, activation and public art, which can also contribute to the unique character of an area.

Signs can be located in reserves by others and clear guidelines are needed for the provision of such signs within a public area. The Operative Ashburton District Plan limits the type, location and size of signs on reserves, including commercial signs.

3.4.7 FENCING

Policies

1. Council will meet its obligations under the Fencing Act 1978 where reserves adjoin private property.
2. Council will encourage boundary fencing consistent with best practice standards and will provide information about these on request. Preference is for use of lower or visually permeable fencing, to encourage passive surveillance of reserves that fits within the surrounding landscape setting.
3. Hedges are not permitted on reserve boundaries, due to the requirement for ongoing maintenance, potential shading and passive surveillance issues.
4. Pedestrian gates in boundary fences for residents to access the reserve will be allowed entirely at the owner's expense.

Explanation

Council will meet its obligations under the Fencing Act 1978 where reserves adjoin private property, unless exempt by a fencing covenant.

Where private land abuts reserve land there is the potential for encroachment to occur if the legal boundary is not clearly defined. Definition of the boundary assists Council's maintenance and reduces incremental encroachment over time. It also helps to reduce the perception of 'privatisation' due to the nature of adjacent residential development.

Surveillance over reserves from adjacent residential properties assists the security of reserves and their safety. High fences should be avoided and desirable surveillance and access into reserves encouraged.

3.5 Administration Policies

3.5.1 NAMING OF RESERVES

Policies

1. Undertake naming of reserves and reserve features in line with Council's current naming policy, noting that names can be a powerful means to acknowledge history and create a sense of identity and belonging.

Explanation

When new reserves are created or when existing reserves have names that are poorly related to the area, cultural connections, purpose or nature of the reserve or to its community use, it is desirable for the reserve to be named, or renamed, to ensure naming is consistent and reserves are easily identified.

Reserve names should tell the story of the place and reflect the area's natural and cultural heritage and identity.

3.5.2 GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

Policies

1. Council will consider requests from individuals and/or organisations within the community for the sponsorship, partnering and/or gifting of reserve features including the appropriate recognition of the benefactor. Any such proposals will be assessed using the following criteria:
    a. the compatibility of the proposed feature's location, scale and nature in relation to the character and use of the reserve;
    b. the significance of the person or event being commemorated;
    c. the benefit to the reserve users;
    d. the ease and cost of maintenance and who is responsible;
    e. the relevance of the feature to the community and its appropriateness.
2. Where a gift or the sponsorship of a reserve feature is approved by Council, the benefactor may generally be acknowledged through the appropriate attachment of a small plaque associated with the feature. Other arrangements for acknowledging the donor will be considered on a case by case basis in relation to the nature of the gift.
3. Where a significant gift is involved, Council and the donor will develop a protocol that sets out the principles of the gift.
4. The gifting of an asset does not infer a permanent right of occupation and the Council may remove any gifted asset without compensation where the condition of the asset is below an acceptable standard, where it is no longer in keeping with the reserve, or where there is no longer a demonstrated need.

Explanation

Council is keen to work with community groups or individuals which are interested in offering their resources for the benefit of the public at large.

Members of the public frequently make requests to place features on reserves. Whilst such commemorations can help in developing community values and mark important historic events, the location and number of features needs to be managed in the long-term for each reserve.

Commemorative features can also add cost to the ongoing maintenance of reserves, and can cause difficulties when the features are damaged, vandalised or require significant maintenance. They may also create a feeling of exclusivity.

Council needs to be able to control the nature, number and location of features; allowing them where they enhance a reserve and do not detract from the natural setting or a feeling of commemorative elements taking over a reserve.

3.5.3 COMMEMORATIVE TREES

Policies

1. Where an individual or organisation wishes to plant a commemorative tree to mark a significant community event or other event of national or international significance, this will be subject to approval by Council. Council staff shall provide guidance on appropriate species, planting grade and locations of the tree/s.
2. Commemorative plaques will only be permitted for trees planted under policy 3.5.3 (1).
3. Commemorative plaques identifying a deceased person shall only be permitted in a designated cemetery, unless policy 3.5.3 (1) applies.
4. Where a significant planting of commemorative tree(s) is involved, Council and the donor group will develop a protocol that sets out the principles of the gift.

Explanation

Memorial tree plantings can improve the natural character of a reserve. Over time, these plantings can take on a historic significance, i.e. a record of past events. They need to be properly identified, recorded and maintained to a standard that reflects their status. An example of this is the Ashburton Domain, which has an extensive collection of commemorative trees.

However, commemorative trees can also cause problems for reserve maintenance as they age, become diseased, or are vandalised. In some instances trees may need to be removed to enable the use or ongoing development of the reserve. The “over use” of commemorative trees in reserves can change the character of a reserve. Memorials for individuals are more appropriate in the district cemeteries.

3.5.4 ENCROACHMENTS

Policies

1. When reviewing existing encroachments onto reserve land, Council will prioritise addressing those which:
    a. present public health or safety issues;
    b. are relatively new or can be easily removed, such as gardens or temporary structures like trampolines or moveable sheds;
    c. prevent or constrain use, development or enhancement of a reserve;
    d. impact adversely on public use or access of a reserve, especially along and waterways;
    e. impact adversely on heritage or cultural sites, natural character or ecological processes.
2. Encroachments will be required to be removed by the encroaching landowner, at their cost, and the reserve reinstated to the satisfaction of the Council.
3. Where a structure cannot be removed easily, Council may agree to a managed removal process, which may include authorising occupation for a finite period of time. The agreement may require the removal of the encroachment/s in the event of sale, subdivision or development of the encroaching property.

4. In rare situations, Council may consider formalisation of an existing encroachment, or incorporating the encroaching structure into the reserve as a Council asset without reimbursement, where the integrity of the reserve is maintained. This includes protection of natural or ecological features, and the public's enjoyment of the reserve.

Explanation

In many places reserves abut private property. From time to time private encroachments into reserves happen. Examples of this are temporary structures like gardens, landscaping, fences being built in reserves, or temporary occupation with trampolines, vehicles or boats into reserves can impact access and the amenity of a reserve. More permanent structures like buildings, driveways, decks, swimming pools or boat ramps may also encroach.

This can exclude the public and discourage them from using that part of the reserve.

It is important that new encroachments are prevented and, where determined, the removal of historical encroachments is managed over time.

3.5.5 PUBLIC ART

Policies

1. Permanent public art may only be installed in reserves with the formal approval of the Council in accordance with policy 3.3.5 on authorisations and approvals and:
    a. the location of any public art installation must be in keeping with the scale and values of the reserve;
    b. must not unduly impact on the cost of reserve maintenance and operational activities, or;
    c. must not detract from reserve use, and;
    d. meet any required resource or other consents.
2. Explore opportunities to engage with manawhenua and Māori artists to provide art pieces on reserves.

Explanation

Public art is one of the more visible and accessible forms of art. Some forms of public art, such as permanent installations like sculptures, or carving can often be best appreciated if located in reserves. However, public art can be emotive and controversial, and if located in the wrong place, can conflict with the primary purpose of the reserve.

Council may require that applications to install public art are accompanied by a landscape assessment, detailing how the public art will fit within the proposed setting. Public art may also be received as a gift to the community. In this case, a written agreement will be established with Council and the 'gift giver' following the acceptance of the gift and finding of a suitable location. Also refer to Policy 3.5.2 on Gifts and Memorials.

3.5.6 PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

Policies

1. The design, development and management of reserves will take into account public safety and promote the appropriate use and protection of the reserve and its users.

2. The security of the private property of any member of the public visiting or using a reserve remains the responsibility of the visitor/user. Council will retain the right to limit access to any reserve, or advise the public, through appropriate signage, where any security issue within a particular reserve is of concern e.g. theft from cars.
3. All Council owned playgrounds and most sports fields in the district are smokefree and vapefree zones. A mix of education and signage will be used to promote this. For a current list of public areas that are smokefree see the Ashburton District Council website.
4. Council will provide shade in high use reserves, primarily through tree planting, where practical and as resources permit.
5. Council will seek compliance with appropriate legislation and standards for the provision of drinking water at community facilities.

Explanation

Vandalism and security is a problem in some reserves. Increasing surveillance and bringing more activity to (activating) a reserve is key to improving this. Residents can be encouraged to participate in reserve design, maintenance, and ultimately this may encourage a sense 'ownership' and associated feeling of security.

Where security has been identified as a problem, for example in parking areas, Council may install signs to warn the public about not leaving valuables in their cars. Council will work with the NZ Police and other agencies to promote the security of reserve users.

Council has introduced smoke- and vape-free policies that apply to outdoor areas. This aims to protect young people from the negative role modelling of smoking and vaping. The less young people see smoking and vaping around them, the less 'normal' it becomes and the less likely they are to take this up themselves.

Being smoke- and vape-free also makes reserves healthier places for people to recreate. All Council owned playgrounds and most sports fields are smoke and vapefree. For a current list of public areas that are smokefree see the Ashburton District Council website.

The public is now more aware of the need to limit their exposure in the sun and seek out shade. Council can assist by providing shade in reserves where this is practical. This will generally be through tree planting, but may also be in the form of shade structures where this is appropriate.

Provision with safe drinking water is an issue within many rural areas in New Zealand. The Water Services Act and supporting Drinking Water Standards came into force in 2021 and 2022 respectively and aim to ensure that communities receive safe drinking water.

3.5.7 ASHES AND WHENUA (PLACENTA)

Policies

1. Prohibit the scattering or placement of ashes from cremation or burying of whenua (placenta) in gardens, or in any place within reserves that is easily or frequently accessed by the public.

Explanation

The scattering of ashes from cremation is a deeply significant experience for a loved one's family and friends, however it can be alarming for people working in or using a reserve to realise that they may have inadvertently disturbed ashes from cremation.

The burying of whenua (placenta) on reserves can also cause difficulty for reserve management. Families who have buried placenta on reserves may be concerned if sites are disturbed during redevelopment.

For this reason, the scattering of ashes or whenua (placenta) will only be accommodated in areas dedicated for this purpose, such as a cemetery.

3.5.8 FIRE CONTROL

Policies

1. Lighting of fires is prohibited on Council reserves. Council will work with Fire and Emergency New Zealand and local fire services to prevent, detect, control and suppress fire within reserves.
2. Council will take all reasonable measures to ensure reserves are kept clear of fire hazards, including, during high fire risk periods, restricting field operations that pose a risk of fire, such as use of machinery that generate sparks.
3. Ensure all long term planning for capital development and renewals considers fire risk, for example, car parks and facilities are accessible by fire trucks, have access to water supply and plan for fire defensibility.

Explanation

All fires, whether lit naturally, accidentally or deliberately can pose a risk to reserve visitors, native vegetation, species, historic places, reserve assets, and adjoining property. The risk of fire is likely to increase as with climate change, our climate is likely to be hotter and drier on average.

Education about the dangers, restrictions on certain activities and adding conditions to permission given for activities also helps minimise the risk of fires starting.

3.5.9 BYLAWS AND ENFORCEMENT

Policies

1. Council will focus on educating the public about appropriate behaviour on reserves and where offences occur, use warnings to obtain compliance where offenders can be identified.
2. Education signage may be erected in areas which are prone to offences.
3. Individuals committing offences against reserve property may be prosecuted in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977 and relevant Council bylaws.

Explanation

Unacceptable activity can occur on reserves. Sometimes this is includes wilful damage, like dumping rubbish, at other times it involves using a reserve in inappropriate ways that causes a safety hazard to other users. An example of this is golf ball driving in a reserve.

Sections 93 to 105 of the Reserves Act outline Offences and Infringement Offences under the Act, including what constitutes an offence (see Appendix C for a summary of the provisions of the Reserves Act). They also give councils powers of enforcement, including penalties that may be applied.

Council also uses bylaws to make rules about a range of behaviours and activities on reserves to help ensure public safety and enjoyment of reserves by all who want to use them. These include the Open Space Bylaw, Dog Control Bylaw, Advertising Signage in Public Places Bylaw, Alcohol Control Bylaw, and Trading in Public Places Bylaw.

Education and signs will be used to encourage good behaviour. Council may pursue prosecution in serious cases.

3.5.10 WASTE MANAGEMENT

Policies

1. Council will promote "rubbish-free" reserves and encourage people to take rubbish away with them.
2. Council may install or remove litter bins as required to minimise waste issues within reserves and to encourage users to take responsibility for their waste. New litter bins will only be installed where:
    a. litter or dog-waste is being generated by reserve users; and
    b. there is a clearly demonstrated need; and
    c. insufficient litter bins currently exist and where it has been determined that a rubbish-free policy will not operate.
3. Council will seek to prosecute perpetrators of illegal dumping on reserves, where these can be identified.
4. Where a reserve is used for an event or tournament, the organisers will be responsible for the collection and approved disposal of all associated litter and waste.
5. Charity type recycling centres and clothing bins will not be located on reserves.

Explanation

Council adopted a Waste Management and Minimisation Policy in July 2022, with the aim to reduce, recycle, reuse waste across the district.

Litter is unsightly and unpleasant, can be hazardous, and may have significant negative impacts on the environment. The provision of litter bins in reserves enables the convenient disposal of waste. However, it also has a number of negative effects including:

- the high cost of providing, emptying and maintaining litter bins,
- visual effects of litter bins and potential waste overflows during peak times,
- encouraging vermin such as possums, wasps and rodents,
- lack of waste separation/recycling.

Generally, Council will adopt a sinking lid policy on serviced litter bins, reduce the provision of bins over time and encourage reserve users to take their own rubbish away.

Dumping domestic refuse, trade waste, garden refuse, rubble or debris on a reserve without Council approval is prohibited and an offence pursuant to Section 94 of the Reserves Act which can carry fines.

Appendices

Appendix A – Schedule of reserve land in scope

The following schedule identifies land administered by Council, both under the Reserves Act 1977 and the Local Government Act 2002, and in scope of this plan. The list also includes three areas of legal road to which the Council will apply the general polices in this reserve management plan.

For land held under the LGA, the general polices in this plan apply to this land as if it was administered under the Reserves Act 1977.

The general policies in this plan will apply to other sites, not specifically listed below, if they are held under the Reserves Act and require a management plan.

Ref #	Name	Physical Address	Volume	Page #
1	**Allan Lochhead Green - North**	Camrose Avenue / Mount Hutt Station Road - intersection, Methven	**Volume 5** – Reserves in Methven	5
2	**Allan Lochhead Green**	Grace Ireland Drive, Methven	**Volume 5** – Reserves in Methven	6
3	**Chambers Park**	26 Spaxton Street, Methven	**Volume 5** – Reserves in Methven	7
4	**Cushmor Drive Park**	Cushmor Drive, Methven	**Volume 5** – Reserves in Methven	8
5	**Equus Park Linkage**	Mount Hutt Station Road, Methven	**Volume 5** – Reserves in Methven	9
6	**Kakariki Linkage**	28 Westward Way, Methven	**Volume 5** – Reserves in Methven	10
7	**Lochhead Crescent Park**	16 Lochhead Crescent, Methven	**Volume 5** – Reserves in Methven	11
8	**Methven Cemetery**	Methven Chertsey Road, Methven	**Volume 5** – Reserves in Methven	12
9	**Methven Dog Park**	61 Dolma Street, Methven	**Volume 5** – Reserves in Methven	14
10	**Methven Domain**	Methven Chertsey Road, Methven	**Volume 3 –** Reserves Managed by Reserve Boards	3
11	**Methven Skate Park**	24-26 McMillan Street, Methven	**Volume 5** – Reserves in Methven	15

Ref #	Name	Physical Address	Volume	Page #
12	**Thyme Stream Walkway**	2 Mount Harding Road, Methven	**Volume 5** – Reserves in Methven	16
13	**Cawton Grove Linkage**	Tarbottons Road, Tinwald	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Tinwald	6
14	**Cawton Grove Reserve**	1 Jag Way, Tinwald	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Tinwald	7
15	**Clark Park**	Nursery Drive, Tinwald	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Tinwald	8
16	**Ferrier Place Park**	28 Nixon Street, Tinwald	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Tinwald	9
17	**George Glassey Park**	Agnes Street, Tinwald	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Tinwald	10
18	**Harland Street Park**	74 Harland Street, Tinwald	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Tinwald	12
19	**Oaklea Linkages**	Whiteoak Grove, Tinwald	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Tinwald	13
20	**Oaklea Tinwald Domain Linkage**	Roxburgh Place, Tinwald	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Tinwald	14
21	**Oaklea Whiteoak Grove Linkage**	Waterford Place, Tinwald	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Tinwald	15
22	**Parkland at Archibald Street/ SH 1**	Archibald Street, Tinwald	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Tinwald	16
23	**Parkland at Melcombe Street, Tinwald**	Melcombe Street, Tinwald	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Tinwald	18
24	**Tinwald Domain,**	62 Maronan Road, Tinwald	**Volume 3 –** Reserves Managed by Reserve Boards	9
25	**Wisteria Place Park**	Wisteria Place, Tinwald	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Tinwald	20
26	**Argyle Park**	158 Middle Road, Allenton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	23
27	**Ashburton Cemetery**	Seafield Road, Netherby	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	25
28	**Ashburton Dog Park and Robilliard Park**	The Terrace, Ashburton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	27
29	**Ashburton Domain and Gardens**	337 West Street, Ashburton	**Volume 2** – Ashburton Domain and Gardens	Volume 2

Ref #	Name	Physical Address	Volume	Page #
30	**Ashburton Motorcycle Park**	Trevors Road, Hampstead	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	30
31	**Ashburton Skate Park**	70 West Street, Ashburton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	32
32	**Baring Square East**	Baring Square East, Ashburton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	33
33	**Baring Square West**	Baring Square West, Ashburton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	35
34	**Braebrook Drive Linkage**	Braebrook Drive, Netherby	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	37
35	**Braebrook Drive Park**	Braebrook Drive, Netherby	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	38
36	**Clark Street Park**	23 Clark Street, Allenton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	39
37	**Coniston Drive Farm Road Linkage**	35 Coniston Drive, Allenton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	41
38	**Coniston Drive Linkage**	Coniston Drive, Allenton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	42
39	**Creek Road Pages Road Linkage**	Pages Road, Allenton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	43
40	**Davis Crescent Park**	56 Davis Crescent, Netherby	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	44
41	**Devon Park**	Kelvin Crescent, Allenton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	45
42	**Digby Park**	284 Cameron Street, Ashburton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	46
43	**Digby Place Park Linkages**	Pages Road, Allenton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	48
44	**EA Networks Centre**	River Terrace, Ashburton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	50
45	**East Street Green - CBD**	East Street, Ashburton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	53
46	**Fairfield Road Reserve**	16 Fairfield Road, Fairton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	55
47	**Friedlander Park**	Nelson Street, Hampstead	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	57
48	**Geoff Geering Drive Linkage**	Geoff Geering Drive, Netherby	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	59
49	**Grigg Park**	21 Leeston Street, Hampstead	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	61
50	**Hillier Park**	Hillier Place, Allenton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	63

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51	**Magnolia Drive Park**	Magnolia Drive, Hampstead	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	65
52	**Mania-O-Roto Park**	2 Chalmers Avenue, Hampstead	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	66
53	**Miller Avenue Park**	32 Miller Avenue, Allenton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	68
54	**Mona Square**	Mona Square, Ashburton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	69
55	**North Park Reserve**	SH 1, Netherby	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	71
56	**Osborn Grove Park**	14 Osborn Grove, Allenton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	73
57	**Parkland at 2 Havelock Street**	2 Havelock Street, Ashburton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	74
58	**Parkland at 475 West Street**	475 West Street, Allenton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	76
59	**Parkland at 828 East Street**	East Street, Netherby	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	78
60	**Parkland at Bremners Road**	Bremners Road, Netherby	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	79
61	**Parkland Corner SH1 and Kermode Street**	West Street, Ashburton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	81
62	**Patching Street Park**	Albert Street, Netherby	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	82
63	**Pioneer Park**	140 Kermode Street, Ashburton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	83
64	**Sealy Street Park**	Sealy Street, Ashburton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	85
65	**SH1 Ashburton River North East**	East Street, Ashburton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	86
66	**Smitheram Street Park**	Smitheram Street, Allenton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	87
67	**Tucker Street Park**	Middle Road, Allenton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	89
68	**Turton Green Linkages**	Hanrahan Street, Allenton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	90
69	**West Street Mill Creek**	414 West Street, Allenton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	91
70	**Westpark Close Park**	14 Westpark Close, Allenton	**Volume 4 –** Reserves in Ashburton	92

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71	**Huntingdon Ave to West Bay Place Walkway**	Huntingdon Ave, Lake Hood	**Volume 4 –** Reserves at Lake Hood	94
72	**Huntingdon Ave Playground Reserve**	Torbay Avenue, Lake Hood	**Volume 4 –** Reserves at Lake Hood	95
73	**Lake Hood Drive Reserves**	Lake Hood Drive, Lake Hood	**Volume 4 –** Reserves at Lake Hood	96
74	**Torbay Avenue Reserve**	8 A Torbay Avenue, Lake Hood	**Volume 4 –** Reserves at Lake Hood	97
75	**Village Green - Lake Hood Linkages**	Village Green Drive, Lake Hood	**Volume 4 –** Reserves at Lake Hood	98
76	**Waterton Point Parks**	Waterton Point, Lake Hood	**Volume 4 –** Reserves at Lake Hood	99
77	**Witney Lane Reserves**	Ludlow Drive, Lake Hood	**Volume 4 –** Reserves at Lake Hood	100
78	**Alford Forest Cemetery**	Alford Forest Cemetery Road, Alford Forest	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Western Ward	18
79	**Alford Forest Domain**	4941 Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road, Alford Forest	**Volume 3 –** Reserves Managed by Reserve Boards	23
80	**Awa Awa Rata Reserve**	423 Mclennans Bush Road, Pudding Hill	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Western Ward	19
81	**Barrhill Cemetery**	Lauriston Barrhill Road, Barrhill	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Western Ward	21
82	**Bowyers Stream Rest Area**	Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road, Mount Somers	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Western Ward	23
83	**Greenstreet Domain**	749 Ashburton Staveley Road, Greenstreet	**Volume 3 –** Reserves Managed by Reserve Boards	26
84	**Highbank Cemetery**	166 Highbank Cairnbrae Road, Highbank	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Western Ward	25
85	**Highbank Domain**	166 Highbank Cairnbrae Road, Highbank	**Volume 3 –** Reserves Managed by Reserve Boards	28

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86	**Ōtuatari / Lake Camp**	Hakatere Potts Road, Ashburton Lakes	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Western Ward	27
87	**Mayfield Domain**	2016 Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road, Mayfield	**Volume 3 –** Reserves Managed by Reserve Boards	31
88	**Mount Somers Cemetery (open)**	67 Hood Road, Mount Somers	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Western Ward	30
89	**Mount Somers Domain,**	Hoods Road, Mount Somers	**Volume 3 –** Reserves Managed by Reserve Boards	34
90	**Ruapuna Cemetery**	Coskeries Road, Ruapuna	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Western Ward	32
91	**Ruapuna Domain**	4 George Ross Road, Ruapuna	**Volume 3 –** Reserves Managed by Reserve Boards	43
92	**Sharplin Falls Recreation Reserve**	Flynns Road, Staveley	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Western Ward	34
93	**Taylors Stream Reserve**	4734 Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road, Alford Forest	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Western Ward	36
94	**Valetta Bridge Recreation Reserve**	Mayfield Valetta Road, Valetta	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Western Ward	37
95	**Westerfield Cemetery**	Westerfield School Road, Westerfield	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Western Ward	39
96	**Ashton Beach**	Lower Beach Road, Ashton	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	42
97	**Chertsey Cemetery**	Rakaia Highway, Chertsey	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	45
98	**Chertsey Domain**	5 Doigs Road, Chertsey	**Volume 3 –** Reserves Managed by Reserve Boards	46
99	**Chertsey War Memorial**	King Street, Chertsey	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	47
100	**Cochranes Road Pistol Range**	47 Cochranes Road, Elgin	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	49

Ref #	Name	Physical Address	Volume	Page #
101	**Dorie Domain**	1356 Mainwarings Road, Dorie	**Volume 3 –** Reserves Managed by Reserve Boards	48
102	**Ealing Domain**	34 Ealing Road, Ealing	**Volume 3 –** Reserves Managed by Reserve Boards	50
103	**Harris Scientific Reserve**	409 Lovetts Road, Maronan	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	50
104	**Hinds Cemetery**	Isleworth Road, Hinds	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	52
105	**Hinds Domain**	3 Isleworth Road, Hinds	**Volume 3 –** Reserves Managed by Reserve Boards	53
106	**Kyle Cemetery**	Corner Dobsons Ferry Road and Lambies Road, Dorie	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	53
107	**Lynnford Recreation Reserve**	1544 Boundary Road, Hinds	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	55
108	**Maronan Recreation Reserve**	883 Swamp Road, Maronan	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	57
109	**Parkland at Railway Terrace West and East, Rakaia**	Railway Terrace West and Railway Terrace East, Rakaia	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	59
110	**Parkland at South Town Belt, Rakaia**	Burrowes Road, Rakaia	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	61
111	**Parkland at Main South Road, Rakaia**	Main South Road, Rakaia	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	63
112	**Parkland at Peters Street, Hinds**	Peters Street, Hinds	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	65
113	**Pendarves Domain**	1032 Chertsey Kyle Road, Pendarves	**Volume 3 –** Reserves Managed by Reserve Boards	56
114	**Rakaia Cemetery**	Baker Road, Rakaia	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	66
115	**Rakaia Domain**	24 Rakaia Barrhill Methven Road, Rakaia	**Volume 3 –** Reserves Managed by Reserve Boards	58
116	**Rakaia Salmon Site**	73 Elizabeth Avenue, Rakaia	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	68

Ref #	Name	Physical Address	Volume	Page #
117	**Riverstone Park**	Eliza Way, Rakaia	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	70
118	**Seafield Domain**	1673 Seafield Road, Pendarves	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	67
119	**Wakanui Beach**	251 Wakanui Beach Road, Wakanui	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	71
120	**Waterton Cemetery**	Grahams Road, Eiffelton	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	75
121	**Winslow Cemetery**	Hinds Highway, Winslow	**Volume 5** - Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward	76

Appendix B – Schedule of land out of scope of this plan

Below is a list of parks and reserves in the Ashburton District that are not within the scope of this plan. The list provides reasons for why the land is not in scope.

Council owned or managed

Name	Location	Reason for Exclusion
Accessway Barkers Road to Gleniffer Place	Gleniffer Place, Methven	Held as local purpose reserve. Does not require a reserve management plan.
Barrhill Hall	24 Sycamore Avenue, Barrhill	2 held as local purpose reserve. Do not require a reserve management plan.
Drummond and Ethridge Walkway	Company Road, Ashburton	Held as local purpose reserve. Does not require a reserve management plan.
Garden of Harmony	South Belt, Methven	Primarily stormwater function, not held under the Reserves Act.
Gravel Pits[13]	Throughout district	Generally held as local purpose reserve. Does not require a reserve management plan.
Kelvin Crescent Accessway	Kelvin Crescent, Ashburton	Held as local purpose reserve. Does not require a reserve management plan.
Lagmhor Westerfield War Memorial Hall	Valetta	Not a reserve under the Reserves Act 1977.
Lake Clearwater	Hakatere Potts Road, Mount Somers	Not a reserve under the Reserves Act 1977.
Lake Hood – Lanz Vale Reserves	Lanz Vale Lane, Lake Hood	Held as local purpose reserve. Does not require a reserve management plan.
Lake Hood – Parkland at Kennedy Quay	Kennedy Quay, Lake Hood	Held as local purpose reserve. Does not require a reserve management plan.
Methven Town Centre Parkland	Main Street, Methven	Not a reserve under the Reserves Act 1977.
Methven Township Memorial Hall	Main Street, Methven	Not a reserve under the Reserves Act 1977.
Open space at Hakatere Huts	Hakatere	Held as local purpose reserve. Does not require a reserve management plan.
Parkland at Arrowsmith Drive	Arrowsmith Drive, Methven	Primarily stormwater function.
Plantation Reserves[13]	Throughout district	Generally held as local purpose reserve. Does not require a reserve management plan.

[13] Included in plan by exception only.

Name	Location	Reason for Exclusion
Rakaia Gorge Camp Ground	6686 Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road, Mount Hutt	Not a reserve under the Reserves Act 1977.
Rangitata Camp Ground/ Rangitata Huts North	Coldstream	Not a reserve under the Reserves Act 1977.
Singletree Site	Alford Forest on Arundel - Rakaia Gorge Road	Not a reserve under the Reserves Act 1977.
South Rakaia Huts	Kingsbury Road, Dorie	Not a reserve under the Reserves Act 1977.
White Oak Grove Parks	Waterford Place, Tinwald	Primarily has stormwater function.

Land not owned or managed by Auckland Council

Name	Location	Reason for Exclusion
Ardamine Hall	1356 Mainwarings Road, Dorie	Not Council owned.
Barrhill Hall	24 Sycamore Avenue, Barrhill	2 land parcels not vested in Ashburton District Council. ADC is not administering body.
Hakatere Huts	Wakanui	Not Council owned.
Kongutu Recreation Reserve	Ashton Beach	Managed by Department of Conservation (DOC)
Mt Somers Village Green (McClimont's Green)	Pattons Road, Mt Somers	Not Council owned[14].
Ng King Bros Chinese Market Garden Settlement	128 Allens Road, Allenton, Ashburton	Not Council owned.
Pudding Hill Scenic Reserve	390 Mclennans Bush Road, Pudding Hill	Managed by Department of Conservation (DOC)
Sharplin Falls Scenic Reserve	239 Flynns Road, Staveley	Managed by Department of Conservation (DOC)

[14] Title correction required.

Appendix C – Schedule of Reserves Act Offences

The following table summarises the provisions of sections 93 to 105 of the Reserves Act. This is not an exhaustive list of all the powers under these sections of the Reserves Act. For full information, please refer to the Reserves Act itself.

Section/ Offences	Summary of Provision
Definitions (Section 93)	Provides definitions for terms used throughout the Act, ensuring clarity and consistency in interpreting its provisions.
Unauthorized activities on reserves (Sections 94, 97 to 99)	Prohibits various unauthorized activities on reserves, including lighting fires outside designated areas, allowing animals to trespass, releasing animals, planting or introducing plants or substances, damaging property or natural features, removing or damaging objects, excavating sod, occupying land without permission, disturbing fauna or flora, depositing dangerous or offensive substances, erecting structures, carrying out activities requiring concession, lease, license, or permit, or interfering with reserves. Unauthorized entry by non-officers or non-holders of permits is also covered.
Failure to comply with removal orders or notices (Section 94)	Requires compliance with removal orders or notices issued by the Minister, Commissioner, or administering body regarding the removal of animals, vehicles, boats, or aircraft illegally on reserves. Failure to comply constitutes an offence.
Unauthorized possession or use of firearms or weapons (Section 94)	Prohibits possession, discharge, or shooting of firearms, weapons, traps, nets, or similar objects within reserves without proper authorization from the Minister, Commissioner, or administering body. Shooting from outside the reserve at fauna or objects within it is also covered.
Unlawful disposal of materials removed from reserves (Section 94)	Makes it an offence to use, receive, sell, or dispose of any material unlawfully removed from reserves, including wood, timber, bark, flax, minerals, gravel, kauri gum, protected New Zealand objects, relics, or any other substance or thing, with knowledge of its unlawful origin.
Cost recovery for removal of deposited objects and damages (Section 94)	Authorises the Minister, Commissioner, or administering body to remove objects deposited unlawfully on reserves and recover the removal costs from the offender. Additionally, offenders convicted under this section may be required to pay twice the full market value of removed substances or damages to the reserve, assessed by a District Court Judge, recoverable as fines.
Offences relating to permits and leases (Sections 100 to 102)	Covers offences related to the contravention of permit or lease conditions, including carrying out unauthorized activities, failing to comply with permit conditions, or providing false information in applications. Penalties may include fines or cancellation of permits.
Obstruction, false information, and counterfeit	Prohibits obstruction of authorised officers, providing false information, or issuing counterfeit permits, leases, licenses, or

Section/ Offences	Summary of Provision
documents (Sections 103 to 105)	other documents required by the Act. Offences are subject to penalties, including fines or imprisonment.

Appendix D – Schedule of reserve land where camping is permitted

Below is a list of reserves where camping or using the reserve for overnight accommodation is permitted in accordance with section 44(1)(e) of the Reserves Act 1977.

Unless specified as Specific Conditions in the table below, operational decisions such as maximum length of stay, the requirement for self-containment or whether tent camping is permitted will be determined on a site specific basis. Camping is subject to change, based on seasonal demand, capacity of existing facilities, impacts on the environment and other visitors' use and experience.

All camping is subject to site rules, relevant bylaws and legislation.

Volume	Name	Physical Address	Special Conditions
Volume 3	Alford Forest Domain	4941 Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road, Alford Forest	In designated area.
	Mayfield Domain	2016 Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road, Mayfield	Self-contained vehicle camping only, in the vicinity of the toilet block.
	Mount Somers Domain	Hobbs Road, Mount Somers	In designated camp ground area between hall, sports fields and museum.
	Tinwald Domain	62 Maronan Road, Tinwald	Area set aside for the Ashburton Holiday Park and Lodge.
Volume 5	Bowyers Stream Rest Area	Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road, Mount Somers	Self-contained camping only in the designated area.
	Ōtuatari / Lake Camp	Hakatere Potts Road, Lake Clearwater	Camping, including in tents, in the area surrounding the existing toilet block on the northern- eastern side of Lake Camp. Camping is not permitted on the southern side of Lake Camp.
	Taylor Stream Rest Area	4734 Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road, Alford Forest	Self-contained camping only in the designated area.

Appendix E – Glossary (including Te Reo Māori)

Term	Explanation
Aquatic	Relating to water
Biodiversity	The variety of animals, plants, fungi, and even microorganisms like bacteria that make up our natural world.
Council	Refers to governing body responsible for administering and managing local affairs within a specific geographic area, such as a city, district, or region. Councils are established under the Local Government Act 2002 and are comprised of elected representatives. If this documents refers to decisions that are made by Council, this includes those delegated to committees and staff.
Ecosystem	A community or group of living organisms that live in and interact with each other in a specific environment.
Indigenous biodiversity	The living organisms that occur naturally in New Zealand, and the ecological complexes of which they are part, including all forms of indigenous. flora, fauna, and fungi, and their habitats.
Kai	Food/ meal
Kaitiaki	Guardian
Kaitiakitaka	The exercise of customary custodianship, in a manner that incorporates spiritual matters, by takata whenua who hold Manawhenua status for particular area or resource.
Kati Huirapa	Reference to “Kāti Huirapa” and “Manawhenua” should be interpreted as including the whānau who whakapapa to Te Rūnaka o Arowhenua and whānau of other Papatipu Rūnaka who share interests with Te Rūnaka o Arowhenua.
Ki uta ki tai	Mountains to sea
Kōura	Crayfish
Mahika kai	Places where food is produced or procured.
Mana	Authority, prestige, influence
Manawhenua	Those who exercise customary authority or Rakatirataka (Chieftainship, decision making rights).
Mauri	Essential life force or principle; a metaphysical quality inherent in all things both animate and inanimate (Ngāi Tahu Fresh Water Policy).
Mātauranga Māori	Traditional Māori knowledge
Rangatahi	Youth

Term	Explanation
Riparian	Relating to or living or located on the bank of a natural watercourses; rivers, stream or stockwater races
Riparian area	Land adjacent to streams, rivers and other bodies of water like ponds and lakes
Rūnaka	Local representative group or community system of representation.
Takiwā	Area, region, district
Tamariki	Children
Taoka	Treasure
Tapu	Sacred
Terrestrial	Living or growing on land.
Te tino rangatiratanga	Sovereignty and self-determination
Tikaka	Customary values, practices
Waterway	Rivers, streams, ponds, lakes, wetlands and springs