
REPORT 3
(1215/52/IM)

TOWN BELT LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY FRAMEWORK REVIEW – FEEDBACK ON CONSULTATION ON THE TOWN BELT GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Purpose of Report

This report presents the results of consultation on a set of draft guiding principles for the Town Belt Management Plan. It seeks Committee agreement to recommend updated guiding principles to Council for adoption, and to recommend that the review of the Town Belt Management Plan and Town Belt Reinstatement Policy commences.

2. Executive Summary

The Wellington Town Belt comprises 387 hectares managed in accordance with the 1873 *Town Belt and Basin Reserve Deed* (the key document giving the Council legal authority over the Town Belt) and subsequent legislation.

In 1995, the Wellington City Council adopted the Town Belt Management Plan which translated the intent of the deed into a set of operational practices through two statements of purpose (Aims) and a number of policies on how different aspects of the Town Belt should be managed.

In early 2010, a high level analysis of the legislative and policy framework for the Town Belt indicated that there was:

- A need for clearer ‘Statement of Purpose’ or ‘guiding principles’ in the Town Belt Management Plan to help ensure that community aspirations were reflected in the policies and, through that, the operational practice.
- A need to clarify how the Council’s ongoing relationship with *mana whenua* with respect to the Town Belt should be incorporated in the Town Belt Management Plan.

Following a number of deliberative workshops, discussions with stakeholders, market research and additional research, a draft set of guiding principles was developed and released for consultation between Tuesday 19th July 2011 and Friday 9 September, 2011.

158 written submissions and 29 oral submissions were received on the proposed guiding principles. Following analysis of submissions, an updated set of guiding principles for the Town Belt Management Plan was developed. It is proposed that updated set of guiding principles is adopted.

Following adoption of these guiding principles, it is also proposed that the Town Belt Management Plan (and the associated Town Belt Reinstatement Policy) is reviewed under section 41(5) of the Reserves Act.

3. Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Committee:

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note that a total of 158 written submissions on the draft guiding principles for the management of Town Belt were received. 29 oral submissions were heard on 11, 13 and 14 October 2011.*
3. *Note that a summary of proposed new principles or amendments to the draft guiding principles is attached as Appendix 1, and a summary of issues raised by submitters (and officers' responses) is attached as Appendix 2.*
4. *Recommend to Council that it adopt a revised set of guiding principles for the Town Belt Management Plan (and explanatory text) as outlined in Appendix 3.*
5. *Recommend to Council that it approve the Town Belt Management Plan being reviewed in accordance with section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 through the preparation of a draft management plan for consultation with the community in 2012.*
6. *Recommend to Council that it approve a simultaneous review of the associated Town Belt Reinstatement Policy.*
7. *Note that public notice of Council's intention to review the plan is not required (under the Reserves Act) and will not materially assist in preparation of the plan.*
8. *Agree that the Mayor and Chief Executive be delegated the authority to include any amendments to the guiding principles agreed by Committee and any associated minor consequential edits prior to going to Council for approval.*
9. *Note that the Town Belt Management Plan (and the associated Town Belt Reinstatement Policy) will be reviewed following adoption of the guiding principles taking into account the submissions received on the draft guiding principles, and an updated draft of the Town Belt Management Plan will be developed for consultation with the community in 2012.*

4. Background

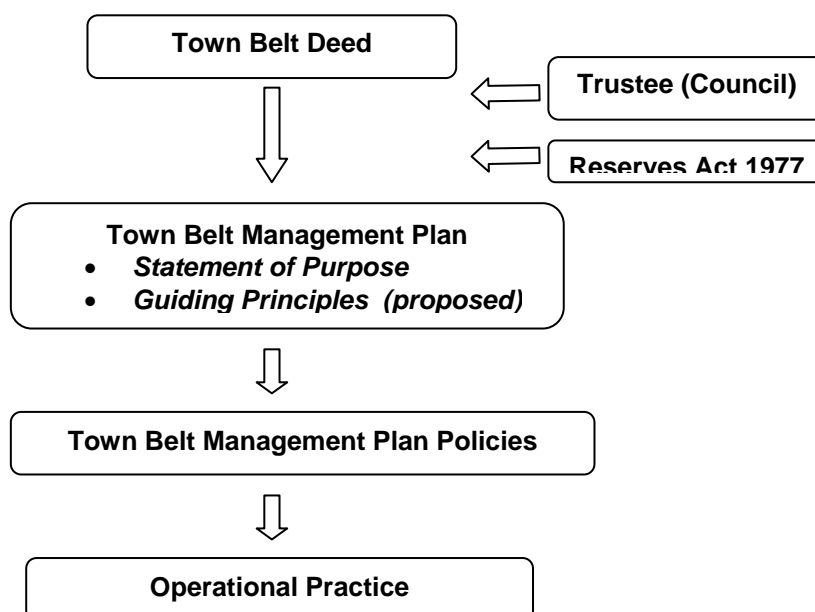
4.1 The Current Town Belt Legislative and Policy Framework

The Wellington Town Belt comprises 387 hectares covered by the Town Belt Deed and an additional 11.5 hectares managed as Town Belt. The 1873 *Town Belt and Basin Reserve Deed* (the Deed) gave the land upon trust to:

The Mayor Councillors and Citizens of the City of Wellington (who with their Successors are hereinafter termed "the Corporation").

As the successor to the original trustee (the then Wellington City Corporation) the Council is now trustee under the deed.

The age, archaic language and nature of the deed, however, means that it is too general to provide clear guidance for the complex management decisions needed to be made on a regular basis. For this reason, (and to follow best management practice), Wellington City Council adopted the current Town Belt Management Plan in 1995. This attempted to translate the intent of the deed into a set of operational practices through two statements of purpose (Aims) and a number of policies on how different aspects of the Town Belt should be managed. The hierarchy of management, therefore, flows as follows:



4.2 The Town Belt Legislative and Policy Framework Review

In early 2010, officers completed a high level analysis of the existing legislative and policy framework. The findings indicated that there was:

- A need for clearer 'Statement of Purpose' or 'guiding principles' in the plan to help ensure that community aspirations were reflected in the Town Belt Management Plan policies and, through that, the operational practice.

- A need to clarify how the Council's ongoing relationship with *mana whenua* with respect to the Town Belt should be incorporated in the Town Belt Management Plan.

5. Discussion

5.1: Developing the guiding principles for the Town Belt Management Plan

Two deliberative Town Belt Management Plan Principle Workshops were held in early April 2011 and a subsequent hui/workshop for constituents of the Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust on 6 May 2011 to start the development of draft guiding principles. A draft set of guiding principles was developed, based on feedback from these workshops, discussions with stakeholders, market research and additional research.

The six draft principles released for consultation were as follows:

Under the Town Belt Deed of 1873:

- 1) There will always be a Town Belt in Wellington*
- 2) The Council will work in partnership with Mana Whenua to manage the Town Belt*
- 3) The Town Belt's natural character will be protected*
- 4) The Town Belt is for all to enjoy*
- 5) The Town Belt will be used for a wide range of recreation activities*
- 6) Management of the Town Belt will acknowledge historical and cultural links to the land*

Submissions on the draft principles were accepted between Tuesday 19th July 2011 and Friday 9 September, 2011. Two advertisements were placed in the 'Our Wellington' page of the Dominion Post. Social media pages were developed and maintained on 'Facebook' and 'Flickr'. Hard copies of the discussion document were mailed out to key stakeholders including resident associations and *mana whenua*. Copies were available online on the Council website and also distributed through all community centres, libraries and the service centre. In addition a public meeting was organised by the Northland Community, and a workshop was run for Wellington High School students carrying out a project in the Town Belt.

5.2 Feedback from consultation

In total, 158 written submissions were received on the proposed guiding principles. This included 20 submissions from a class of students from Wellington East Girls College and a petition with 18 signatures organised through the Boys and Girls Institute. A number of 'copy and paste' submissions from groups opposed to the review of the Town Belt Management Plan, the process and the need for guiding principles were also received.

Of those responding to question 1: **Do you feel that these principles appropriately reflect the community's aspirations for the Town Belt into the future?**

- 50 submissions agreed that the draft guiding principles appropriately reflected the community's aspirations
- 47 submissions did not agree that draft guiding principles appropriately reflected the community's aspirations
- 15 submissions were 'unsure'

46 submissions (including the 20 students from Wellington East Girls College and the Girls and Boys Institute petition) did not respond to question one.

A detailed summary of the submissions is attached (see Appendix 1-2)

5.3 Outcomes of the Consultation Process

The feedback from consultation provided justification for some amendments to the draft guiding principles. Recommended changes are set out in detail in Appendix 3, and are summarised below;

Principle 1: There will always be a Town Belt

The original draft principle stated that 'there would always be a town belt in Wellington' instead of '**the**' Town Belt in order to allow for the possibility of acquiring additional land for the town belt in the future (as well as good grammar) . It is recognised, however, that this may not sufficiently express the community's (and Council's) desire to protect the existing, publicly-owned, Town Belt land for use by the people of Wellington. It is, therefore, recommended that this principle be replaced by a new principle as follows:

Recommended amendment: The Town Belt will be protected for future generations

Principle 2: The Council will work in partnership with Mana Whenua to manage the Town Belt

No change

Principle 3: The Town Belt's natural character will be protected and enhanced

Following analysis of submissions, it is clear that the term 'natural character' is too generic and that further definition is required on what natural aspects of the town belt are to be protected and enhanced. It is, therefore, recommended that this principle be replaced with two, more specific, principles to encapsulate the 'landscape' and the 'indigenous biodiversity' as follows:

Recommended new principle: The Town Belt's landscape character will be protected and enhanced

The landscape character of the Town Belt reflects the modifications made since humans first interacted with the land several hundred years ago.

This outlines the Council's intention to maintain and strengthen the landscape character of the Town Belt into the future. The key features of the landscape character which the Council intends to protect and enhance are:

- *The continuous "horse-shoe" shape of hills between the central business district and surrounding suburbs*
- *The vegetated slopes interspersed with areas of open ground*
- *Undeveloped skylines (i.e. Te Ahumairangi and Mt Victoria/Te Ranga a Hiwi etc.)*
- *The contrast between the patchwork of native and exotic vegetation and the densely developed central business district.*

Recommended new principle: The Town Belt will support healthy populations of indigenous biodiversity

The Town Belt already has an important role in bringing nature to the city and with further restoration has the potential to expand that role by acting as a hub for indigenous biodiversity and improving the city's ecological resilience.

The key ways in which the Council intends to protect and restore indigenous biodiversity are:

- *Enhancing the connectivity of the indigenous vegetation to facilitate movement both within and through the Town Belt.*
- *Ensuring sufficient natural habitat (including streams and bush) to maintain native animal populations*
- *Ensuring pest species do not threaten indigenous biodiversity*

Principle 4: The Town Belt is for all to enjoy

No change

Principle 5: The Town Belt will be used for a wide range of recreation activities

No change to the principle however, the supporting text will be amended to clarify as follows:

The Town Belt should cater for a wide range of sporting and recreation activities managed in a way to minimise conflict between different users. Co-location and intensification of sports facilities within existing hubs is supported where appropriate.

Recommended new Principle:

The feedback also indicted a need to increase wider community participation in the management of the Town Belt. It is therefore recommended that a new principle be introduced as follows

The Council will encourage and support community participation in the management of the Town Belt

This recognises that Wellingtonians will have an ongoing role in the management of the Town Belt. The Council values community input and acknowledges the work of individuals and groups to protect, enhance and use the Town Belt. The Council will support and encourage community participation, which underpins long term sustainability.

Principle 6: Management of the Town Belt will acknowledge historical and cultural links to the land

No change.

5.4 Other Feedback from Consultation

Other key issues raised by submitters are outlined below. Many of the issues raised did not directly relate to the guiding principles but reflected opposition to the review of the Town Belt Management Plan, the process and the need for guiding principles by some groups. One group circulated an email declaring that a Local Bill was being drafted to over-ride the Deed. Other groups in opposition to the review coordinated submissions with variations of the same set of principles.

5.4.1 Issues raised outside the scope of this consultation:

These were issues that did not relate directly to the draft guiding principles and included:

- Guiding principles are not needed for the Town Belt Management Plan
- A local bill is being drafted to over-ride the deed
- The draft principles are contrary to the deed etc.

Most of these stemmed from groups opposed to the review and are addressed in Appendix 2.

Over thirty-five submissions (including 'cut and paste' submissions from the groups opposed to the review of the current Town Belt Management Plan) also opposed the Council working in partnership with *mana whenua* to manage the Town Belt (despite the fact that this intent is outlined in the current Town Belt Management Plan¹). Reasons provided included claims that *mana whenua* would have 'special privileges' (although what these 'special privileges' might be

¹ Maori Partnership (page 14): The Wellington City Council, in managing the Town Belt will facilitate and enable the exercise of *tiorangatiratanga* and *kaitiakitanga* by Wellington's *tangata whenua*

was not identified)' or have an unequal input into the management of the community asset.

The draft guiding principle proposes working with *mana whenua* at a management level to ensure that *mana whenua* values have equal consideration to non-Maori values in the management of the Town Belt. Officers' detailed responses to the issues are outlined in Appendix 2.

During the development of the guiding principles, some issues were also raised in submissions which dealt with the application of the guiding principles (i.e. Recreation hubs - where they are and policies around facility development, the definition of recreation and sporting activities and balance between activities, definition of 'Infrastructure' and where it can go and under what conditions etc.) as opposed to the actual guiding principles themselves. These will be covered in more depth during the review of the various management plan policies.

5.5 Proposed Next Steps

Once a final set of guiding principles for the Town Belt Management Plan is approved it is proposed to complete a review of the Town Belt Management Plan (and the associated Town Belt Reinstatement Policy).

The Town Belt is a "reserve" under the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977 and is managed under the Town Belt Management Plan 1995. The plan was prepared following the process outlined in section 41 of the Reserves Act. The process for review is outlined in section 41 of the Act and requires the Council to give public notice of its intention to review the plan and invite written suggestions on the proposed plan (s41(5) (a,b,c)). The Council can, however, waive this part of the review and go directly to preparation of a draft for review if written suggestions will not materially assist in its preparation (s 41(5A)). Public consultation would still be undertaken once a draft plan has been developed.

It is recommended that Council proceeds directly to a review of the current management plan as it has already received and analysed feedback on issues relating to the Town Belt through:

- An internet-based survey of 1000 Wellingtonians carried out in late 2009 to assess what people valued about the Town Belt, what they considered the major threats were, how they used it and what they liked and disliked about it.
- Two deliberative Town Belt Management Principle workshops held in early April 2011 and a subsequent hui/workshop for constituents of the Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust took place on 6 May 2011. The output from these workshops (and the other research work already mentioned) was used to prepare a draft set of guiding principles to guide the future management of the Town Belt.
- The development of the draft principles and public feedback received.

A review of policies in the Town Belt Reinstatement Policy will occur at the same time and policies incorporated into a revised management plan.

Key milestones for these next steps are:

- *December 2011 – The Council approves guiding principles*
- *January – May 2102 – Officers prepare the draft revised town belt management plan*
- *June 2012 – SPC approve draft revised management plan for consultation*
- *July – August 2012 – Consultation on draft revised management plan and any future legislative changes required*
- *December 2012 – Council approve final management plan and any future legislative changes required.*

5.6 Financial

There are no specific financial implications for Council associated with this policy.

5.7 Climate Change

There are no specific climate change implications associated with this policy.

6 Conclusion

Consultation on a draft set of guiding principles for the Town Belt Management Plan resulted in 158 written submissions and 29 oral submissions. After analysis of the submissions, Officers recommend that the updated guiding principles for the management of the Town Belt be adopted.

This report seeks Committee agreement to refer the updated guiding principles for the management of the Town Belt to Council for consideration and adoption.

7 Appendices

Appendix 1: Analysis of proposals for new principles and amendments to the draft guiding principles

Appendix 2: Summary of Issues raised in submissions

Appendix 3: Summary of updated guiding principles for the Town Belt Management Plan

Contact Officers: *Brian O’Sullivan, Senior Policy Analyst
and Mike Oates, Manager Open Space and Recreation Planning*

Supporting Information

1) Strategic Fit / Strategic Outcome

The policy supports Council's activities as a facilitator of recreation partnerships and provider of recreation services. Agreement to the policy will contribute to Council meeting the outcome of offering a diverse range of quality recreation and leisure activities

2) LTCCP/Annual Plan reference and long term financial impact

The project is contained in the Council Plan # A004 – Open Space Planning and its activities form part of the Community Environment Outcomes (section 2.2: provider and facilitator – green opens spaces [Town belts]). There are no financial impacts at this stage.

3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations

The proposed guiding principles help to clarify the Council's relationship with Mana whenua - with respect to the Town Belt – as per existing policy.

4) Decision-Making

Section 97(1) of the Local Government Act 2002 does not apply to the proposed decisions and the view of officers is that the proposed decisions are not "significant" in terms of Council's policy on significance and section 76(3)(b).

5) Consultation

a) General Consultation

Submissions on the draft principles were accepted between Tuesday 19th July 2011 and Friday 9 September, 2011. Two advertisements were placed in the 'Our Wellington' page of the Dominion Post. Social media pages were developed and maintained on 'Facebook' and 'Flickr'. Hard copies of the discussion document were mailed out to key stakeholders, resident associations and so on. Copies were available online on the Council website and also distributed through all community centres, libraries and the service centre.

b) Consultation with Maori

Mana whenua were provided with a copy of the draft principles and provided with an opportunity to make both written and oral submission.

6) Legal Implications

There are no specific legal implications in this report.

7) Consistency with existing policy

This report concerns a review of existing WCC policy.

Appendix 1: Analysis of Proposals for New Principles and Amendments to the Draft Principles

Background:

Guiding principles summarise common values shared by an organisation or a group of people for a **collective purpose**. Normally they are developed by organisations (such as companies, Councils etc.) to give their staff a clear and complete understanding of the organisation's priorities and guide them on how they should behave in the multitude of different situations they encounter daily in the work they do. In this case, Council is seeking proposals for guiding principles that can be used as a basis for the review of the Town Belt Management Plan.

What guiding principles are not:

Guiding principles are not rules or policies and do not dictate or set specific directives on how the Town Belt should be managed. Instead they are used to develop policies (or, in this case, review the existing policies) and guide decision making. For this reason, the principles tend to have the following characteristics):

- They are short (although explanatory wording can be included to clarify the intent)
- They are easy to understand

The draft guiding principles for the Town Belt were developed from the Council's interpretation of feedback on the wider community's values and aspirations for the Town Belt. They are relatively generic in that they are intended to represent a generally accepted view for the Town Belt from a number of widely different perspectives.

The consultation process is used as a mechanism to have the community test our understanding of the situation, let us know if we have missed anything and recommend changes.

Suggested New Principles from the Consultation Submissions

Proposed new principle	Response
<p>“to manage the Town Belt in accordance with the Deed”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first and primary principle should be that the Town Belt is managed in accordance with the deed of 1873. (Mt Vic Historical Society /Mount Victoria Residents Association Inc/ Elaine Hampton) • The Wellington Town Belt shall be managed in accordance with the principal intention of the town belt deed of 1873 to keep the Wellington Town Belt forever as a public recreation ground for the inhabitants of the city of Wellington (Friends of the Town Belt/ Mt Vic Historical Society/ Greta Ferrie/John Ferrie/ BJ Mitcalfe/ Joanna Newman/ Robert Lowe) • WCC policy should reflect the principle intention of the Deed., designed to keep the Town Belt forever as public recreation ground for Wellingtonians (Action for the Environment/Chris Greenwood/Anne McKinnon) • The Town Belt will be managed in accordance with the intention of the original deed of 1873 which is to keep the Town Belt land forever as a public recreation ground for the inhabitants of the city of Wellington (Joanna N Newman/Margaret Tobin) • The Town Belt It must be managed in accordance with the provisions of the deed for the use in perpetuity as a public recreation ground by all the inhabitants of the city of Wellington (Sue Watt) • The Town Belt should be managed in accordance with the principal intention of the original Deed (1873) to keep the Town Belt land forever (Matthias Seidenstuecker/Nicola Young) 	<p><i>The Town Belt Deed sets the legal governance for the Town Belt so, by definition, the Town Belt <u>has to</u> be managed in accordance with the Deed.</i></p> <p><i>This fact that the Town Belt is managed in accordance with the Deed is also clearly stated in the ‘Aims’ of the Town Belt Management Plan (TBMP).</i></p> <p><i>The proposals do not fulfil the requirements of a principle in that they merely state the obvious (i.e. they are equivalent to having a principle stating that the TBMP must adhere to the law).</i></p>

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Proposed new principle	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Wellington Town Belt is managed in accordance with the requirements of the 1873 deed (Michael Hartley) • The Town Belt should be managed in accordance with the Deed (Victor Davie) • All principles should be prefaced with "The WTB will be managed in accordance with the 1873 Trust Deed (Catherine Underwood.) • Make the Principles SUBJECT TO the Town Belt Deed of 1873 because the principles offer less protection than the Deed. Ideally there should be an Act of Parliament enacted to protect the Town Belt to give it added protection (Steve Dunn) • The Town Belt will be managed to keep it forever 'as a public Recreation ground for the inhabitants of the City of Wellington' which is the primary requirement of the Deed (Michael Taylor) • Future management of the Town Belt will be consistent in all respects with the intentions expressed in the Deed of 1873 – specifically that it will be for ever hereafter used and appropriated as a public recreation ground for the inhabitants of the city of Wellington (Forest & Bird) 	
<p>The Town Belt's multiple values will be recognised and managed in complementary ways. (Paul Blaschke)</p>	<p><i>This proposal accurately identifies the need to balance management of the different community requirements for use of the Town Belt with the need to protect and sustainably manage an important asset for the city. The use of complementary principles used in a holistic sense allows the community's multiple values to be recognised and managed in this way. This will be reflected in the explanation of how the principles will be used.</i></p>
<p>Permanent structures will not be built on the Town Belt and existing structures will be removed and not replaced when they are of no further use to the community (Forest & Bird)</p>	<p><i>This proposal is not a principle but a policy/rule. Policies in the TBMP will reviewed once the guiding principles are approved. Any potential amendments to existing policies will be distributed for consultation and comment following the review of the TBMP.</i></p>

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Proposed new principle	Response
<p>The Council will maintain a separation between its role as Trustee and its operational management of the Town Belt; the Board of Trustees will comprise non-operational staff from the legal office, the Mayor and several Councillors (Forest & Bird)</p>	<p><i>This proposal does not appear to be a principle to guide management of the Town Belt but a set of rules for governance and internal administration. The Council is the Trustee under the Deed).</i></p>
<p>Areas of the Town Belt that have exceptional ecological value will receive appropriate additional protection and management (Forest & Bird)</p>	<p><i>The term 'exceptional' could be ambiguous as it is a value-based judgement. It could, potentially, be replaced with 'recognised' or a similar term.</i></p> <p><i>This proposal is not a principle for guiding management of the Town belt but a policy/rule for prioritising resources.</i></p>
<p>The Council will work over time to restore the Town Belt to its original size, scope and natural condition and to extend it when opportunities arise (Forest & Bird)</p> <p>I would like to see a principle that commits to restoring the size of the town belt to its original size, recovering or replacing land taken for schools, hospitals, roads etc. (John Cleveland)</p> <p>I am particularly keen that (1) the area of the Town Belt is (a) restored to its original size; and (b) enlarged in the future to provide "the lungs" of the bigger city Wellington is likely to become (Ruth Pemberton)</p> <p>Opportunities should be investigated for expanding the Town Belt where it complements its existing extent in addition to expanding to the coast etc. (Bruce Geden)</p> <p>The Town Belt should be progressively restored to its original size (Nicci Wood)</p> <p>The physical size and continuity of the Town belt will be retained. It will be enhanced where possible (Dorothy Douglas)</p>	<p><i>Analysis of the submissions has identified the need for a clear and transparent policy for Council acquisition of land to add to the parks and reserves network. This will be considered as part of the review of the TBMP once the guiding principles have been approved. Any potential amendments to existing policies will be distributed for consultation and comment following the review of the TBMP.</i></p>
<p>The indigenous natural character of the Town Belt will be restored, enhanced and protected (Forest and Bird)</p> <p>Landscape and ecological values are maintained and enhanced to</p>	<p><i>Analysis of submissions has indicated that further clarity is required around the term 'natural character'. It is therefore recommended that this principle be replaced with two, more specific, principles to encapsulate the 'landscape' and the 'indigenous biodiversity' as</i></p>

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Proposed new principle	Response
<p>enrich biodiversity, in conjunction with a long-term objective of having green belts running between the Town Belt and the South Coast (Ruth Pemberton)</p>	<p><i>follows:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>The Town Belt's landscape character will be protected and enhanced</i> ➤ <i>The Town Belt will support healthy populations of indigenous biodiversity</i> <p><i>Additional clarification around these principles is included in Appendix 3.</i></p>
<p>The whole of the Town Belt is for all to enjoy and is to be accessible to all at all times (Forest and Bird)</p>	<p><i>This proposal is a variation of principle four with an additional policy directive on accessibility ("accessible to all at all times"). Policies in the TBMP will reviewed once the guiding principles are approved. Any potential amendments to current policy on "access" will be distributed for consultation and comment following the review of the TBMP.</i></p>
<p>The Town Belt will be used for outdoor recreational and leisure activities that do not compromise its peaceful open spaces values (Forest and Bird)</p>	<p><i>This proposal uses the words 'peaceful' and 'open space', both of which can be interpreted in a number of different ways. The proposal would also have the effect of prohibiting any 'indoor' recreational and leisure activities currently taking place on the Town Belt (e.g. tennis etc.).</i></p>
<p>The Council will work in partnership with Mana Whenua and community groups to ensure that historical and cultural aspects of the Town Belt are acknowledged and that historically important artefacts are protected (Friends of the Town Belt/ Robert Lowe)</p>	<p><i>This proposal groups Council's relationships with community groups and mana whenua whereas they are, in fact, different relationships. The Local Government Act (2002) specifically states that a local authority must establish and maintain processes to provide opportunities for Maori to contribute to the decision making processes of a local authority and the current proposal reflects that intent. The community of Wellington work directly with Council staff and their elected representatives.</i></p> <p><i>It is recommended that the importance of increasing community participation on the Town Belt will be reflected in a separate new principle.</i></p> <p><i>The Council will encourage and support community participation in the management of the Town Belt</i></p>

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Proposed new principle	Response
<p>Two overriding paramount principles.</p> <p>(a) The Town Belt is to be accorded a mana and a sanctity that places it supremely above all other public reserve and recreation areas.</p> <p>(b) Each generation of Wellington councillors and citizens honour the responsibility of protecting and enhancing the Town Belt as open recreational space for future generations in perpetuity (Civic Trust)</p>	<p><i>Guiding principles should, preferably, be equal as they reflect a general common agreement or value within the wider community on a number of different issues. Having 'paramount principles' above other principles would suggest that some values have precedence over another and not allow sufficient freedom for this to be managed at a policy level.</i></p> <p><i>(1) Words like 'mana' and 'sanctity' can be ambiguous in that they can be interpreted by different people in very different ways. Principles have to be clear and unambiguous to be effective.</i></p> <p><i>(2) This proposal is not a principle but a rule that, at a practical level, would be very difficult to administer.</i></p>
<p>The Town Belt will continue to be improved through provision of clearer information, signage and by reducing the gradient of tracks where it is feasible so that the town belts features are accessible and usable by everyone in the community. This includes: the able bodied, people pushing strollers, the elderly and people with impairments or disabilities (Accessibility Advisory Group)</p>	<p><i>This proposal is not a principal but a very specific policy/rule on accessibility. Policies in the TBMP will be reviewed once the guiding principles are approved. Any potential amendments to current policy on "access" will be distributed for consultation and comment following the review of the TBMP.</i></p>
<p>We need a guiding principle around preparing for climate-change-associated rising sea levels. (Margaret Gordon)</p>	<p><i>This proposal essentially outlines a potential strategic approach and response to climate change/natural disasters. Such a strategic approach would have to include all Council owned land – not just the Town Belt. It is not, therefore, a principle to guide how the Town Belt should be managed and outside the scope of this project</i></p>
<p>The Council will encourage community participation in protecting and managing the town belt (Shona McCahon)</p>	<p><i>This proposal reflects an increasing desire within the wider community participation in the management of the Town Belt. It is therefore recommended that a new principle be introduced as follows:</i></p> <p><i>The Council will encourage and support community participation in the management of the Town Belt</i></p>
<p>Should be a principle to include public input from only Wellingtonians for any policy changes in our Town Belt and for these to be reviewed</p>	<p><i>This proposal is a rule for – not a principle. It would be very difficult to administer in practice as it would preclude contributions from</i></p>

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Proposed new principle	Response
for effectiveness (Ellen Blake)	<i>national organisations (government departments etc.) who normally provide important contributions to the development of policy, people who are no longer resident in Wellington but have an affiliation to it, mana whenua who have a historical affiliation, as well as visitors to Wellington and people who are members of clubs and/or play sport on Town Belt who do not live in Wellington.</i>
None of the principles recognise the full ecological importance of the Town Belt (in addition to Natural Character) in terms of the city's water catchment and water management, flora and fauna habitat and vegetation corridors (Stephen Drakeford)	<p><i>This is not a principle but a list of issues that are considered to be best addressed through individual policies. Policies in the TBMP will be reviewed once the guiding principles are approved. Any potential amendments to current policy on "access" will be distributed for consultation and comment following the review of the TBMP.</i></p> <p><i>A specific principle on biodiversity has been developed to recognise its ecological values:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>The Town Belt will support healthy populations of indigenous biodiversity</i>
Should add to principle on natural character what this means - e.g. natural character is not just any trees it should mean Wellington appropriate flora with no built structures on skyline etc. (Ellen Blake)	<p><i>Following analysis of submissions, it is recommended that this principle (3) is replaced with two, more specific, principles to encapsulate the 'landscape' and the 'indigenous biodiversity' as follows:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>The Town Belt's landscape character will be protected and enhanced</i> ➤ <i>The Town Belt will support healthy populations of indigenous biodiversity</i> <p><i>Additional clarification around these principles is included in Appendix 3.</i></p>
Principle on 'the hope and intention to add to the Town Belt land previously alienated and additional land' (Laurie Grieg)	<i>Analysis of the submissions has identified the need for a clear and transparent policy for Council acquisition of land for addition to the parks and reserves network. This will be considered as part of the review of the TBMP once the guiding principles have been approved. Any potential amendments to existing policies will be distributed for</i>

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Proposed new principle	Response
	<i>consultation and comment following the review of the TBMP.</i>
Principle on the environmental suggestions in the draft guiding principles (Laurie Grieg)	<i>Unclear what is being proposed.</i>
There should be a specific principle that emphasises the area as a green vegetative ecology and an environmental carbon sink for the city of Wellington, with a principle that it be grown and expanded upon in order to counter declining private inner city green garden spaces, and the expansion of tarseal and concrete in the city's urban environment as a result of bigger roads....etc. (Tim Bollinger)	<i>This proposal suggests a strategic approach for land use that would, necessarily include, all Council held land. Such an approach is more suited to the Council's Environmental Strategy but is not suitable as a principle to guide the management of the Town Belt</i>
We suggest replacing principles 4 and 5 with one principle about fostering increased recreational use of the Town Belt while protecting the quality of open space visitor experiences (Wellington Bot Soc).	<i>Principle 4 is necessary to ensure that all Wellingtonians have equity of access to the Town Belt. The text of Principle 5 has been updated to clarify the principle.</i>
We would like to see a principle that no land can be alienated from the Town Belt (Gail Andrews)	<i>This proposal is not a principle but a policy/rule. Policies in the TBMP will reviewed once the guiding principles are approved. Any potential amendments to existing policies will be distributed for consultation and comment following the review of the TBMP.</i>
There should be no construction on the Town Belt although existing toilet, walking track and drinking fountain facilities can be maintained. (Rosie Crocker)	<i>This proposal is not a principle but a policy/rule. Policies in the TBMP will reviewed once the guiding principles are approved. Any potential amendments to existing policies will be distributed for consultation and comment following the review of the TBMP.</i>

Amendments to draft guiding principles suggested in submissions

Principle 1: There will always be a town belt

Proposal	Response:
<p>The Town Belt will be managed in accordance with the principle intention of the original Deed of 1873, which is to keep the TB land forever 'as a public recreation ground for the inhabitants of the City of Wgtn. (Action for Environment/ Margaret Tobin/ Lorraine Smith /John Fernie /Matthias Seidenstuecker/ Ron Turner/ Anne McKinnon/ Nicola Young/Ronald Henry/ Jennifer Lewis/ Kenneth Simpson/Jillian Wellings/Lorraine Smith)</p> <p>The Wellington Town Belt based on the vision of 1839 and the 1840 plan, given in trust in perpetuity by the 1873 Deed to the Mayor, Councillors and Citizens of Wellington will be preserved in perpetuity for future generations. (Joan Quinn)</p> <p>The Town Belt as shown on the 1840 plan for Wellington settlement and formalised in the 1873 Deed will be held in trust in perpetuity by the Mayor, Councillors and Citizens of the city of Wellington (Friends of the Town Belt/ Robert Lowe)</p>	<p><i>The Town Belt Deed and subsequent legislation sets the legal governance for the Town Belt so, by definition, the Town Belt <u>has to</u> be managed in accordance to these.</i></p> <p><i>This fact that the Town Belt is managed in accordance with the Deed is also clearly stated in the 'Aims' of the TBMP.</i></p> <p><i>The proposals do not fulfil the requirements of a principle in that they merely state the obvious (i.e. they are equivalent to having a principle stating that the TBMP must adhere to the law).</i></p>
<p>The Wellington Town Belt will be retained in perpetuity (Michael Hartley)</p> <p>The Town Belt must remain in perpetuity (Laurie Grieg)</p> <p>WCC commitment should read "<i>this reflects the Councils commitment to ensuring that the existing Town Belt will be retained in perpetuity</i>". (Catherine Underwood)</p>	<p><i>The original draft principle stated that 'there would always be a Town Belt in Wellington' instead of 'the' Town Belt in order to allow for the possibility of acquiring additional land for the Town Belt in the future (as well as good grammar). It is recognised, however, that this may not sufficiently express the community's (and Council's) desire to protect the existing, publicly-owned, Town Belt land for use by the people of Wellington.</i></p> <p><i>It is, therefore, recommended that this principle be replaced by a new principle as follows:</i></p> <p><i>The Town Belt will be protected for future generations</i></p>

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Proposal	Response:
<p>The Council will work over time to restore the Town Belt to its original size, scope and natural condition and to extend it when opportunities arise. (Forest and Bird)</p> <p>I do think what could be better reflected is the principle that the town belt should grow. As public land becomes available, or private, bordering the existing Town Belt it should be investigated for inclusion in the belt. (Ian Apperley)</p>	<p><i>Analysis of the submissions has identified the need for a clear and transparent policy for Council acquisition of land for the parks and reserves network. This will be considered as part of the review of the TBMP once the guiding principles have been approved. Any potential amendments to existing policies will be distributed for consultation and comment following the review of the TBMP.</i></p>
<p>We'd like to see this principle replaced by two principles requiring council to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) increase the size of the Town Belt (2) improve the ecological integrity of the Town Belt. (Wellington Botanical society) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) <i>Analysis of the submissions has identified the need for a clear and transparent policy for Council acquisition of land for the parks and reserves network. This will be considered as part of the review of the TBMP once the guiding principles have been approved. Any potential amendments to existing policies will be distributed for consultation and comment following the review of the TBMP.</i> (2) <i>This proposal includes the term 'ecological integrity' could be considered ambiguous unless it is clearly defined. This is more effectively covered in the two proposed new principles clarifying 'natural character' (see Appendix 3)</i>
<p>There will always be <u>the</u> Town Belt (Arch Centre)</p> <p>There will always be <u>the</u> Town Belt and Wellington, held in trust for the citizens of Wellington in perpetuity. It needs to be emphasised that there will always be the Town Belt not 'a town belt' and that the boundaries be defined as those established in 1840 (Civic Trust)</p>	<p><i>The original draft principle stated that 'there would always be a Town Belt in Wellington' instead of 'the' town belt in order to allow for the possibility of acquiring additional land for the town belt in the future (as well as good grammar) . It is recognised, however, that this may not sufficiently express the community's (and Council's) desire to protect the existing, publicly-owned, town belt land for use by the people of Wellington.</i></p> <p><i>Council, therefore, proposes to replace this principle with another stronger principle as follows:</i></p> <p><i>The Town Belt will be protected for future generations</i></p> <p><i>Analysis of the submissions has identified the need for a clear and transparent policy for Council acquisition of land for public use. This</i></p>

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Proposal	Response:
	<p><i>will be considered as part of the review of the TBMP once the guiding principles have been approved. Any potential amendments to existing policies will be distributed for consultation and comment following the review of the TBMP</i></p>

Principle 2: “The Council will work in partnership with mana whenua to manage the town belt”

Proposal	Response:
<p>The Wellington City Council will work in partnership with the citizens of Wellington through community organisations including local Maori groups to manage and protect the Wellington town Belt (Joan Quinn)</p> <p>Principles two and six seem to overlap and could perhaps be incorporated into a single principle: The Council will work with mana whenua and community groups to ensure that historical and cultural aspects of the town belt are acknowledged and the historically important artefacts are protected (Forest and Bird)</p> <p>The Council will work in partnership with Mana whenua and acknowledge the value of the Town Belt to Wellington by actively consulting with other guardian groups in the community that have maintained a long lasting commitment to protecting and managing the town belt (Civic Trust)</p> <p>The Wellington City Council will work in partnership with local community groups, including Mana whenua to ensure management of the Town Belt is in accord with the aspirations of the citizens of Wellington (FOTB)</p> <p>The council will work in partnership with the citizens of Wellington, including Mana whenua, in the management of the Town Belt (Michael Hartley/David Zwartz)</p> <p>Council will continue to work with all residents of Wellington to manage and monitor the Town Belt. (Rosamund Averton)</p>	<p><i>Principle two reflects the current intent in the TBMP and a general acceptance within the community for Council to work in partnership with mana whenua to ensure that local Maori values receive equal consideration to non-Maori values in the management of the Town Belt.</i></p> <p><i>The input of the community is also recognised in a proposed new principle.</i></p> <p><i>The Council will encourage and support community participation in the management of the Town Belt</i></p>

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Proposal	Response:
<p>Council will work in partnership with <i>mana whenua</i> who have expressed a wish to be more involved in the future management of the Wellington town belt and other community groups to manage the Wellington Town Belt (BJ Metcalfe)</p> <p>The Council will work in partnership with <i>mana whenua</i> and other interested groups to manage the Town Belt (Gail Andrews)</p> <p>All citizens of Wellington will have an equal and ongoing role - the management of the town belt (Michael McKee)</p> <p>Council will work with Taranaki Whanui ki te Upoko o te Ika to manage the town belt in partnership and recognising practical application of the treaty principle of rangatiratanga (Kim Skelton)</p>	

Principle 3: The Town Belt's natural character will be protected and enhanced

Proposal	Response:
<p>The Wellington Town Belt's natural character of green open space and visual beauty will be protected and enhanced (Joan Quinn)</p> <p>The natural character of open space and visual beauty of the Wellington town belt will be protected and enhanced (FOTB).</p> <p>The Town Belt's natural character of open space and visual beauty will be protected and enhanced (Civic Trust)</p> <p>The indigenous natural character of the Town Belt will be restored, enhanced and protected (Forest and Bird)</p> <p>I think it desirable for this principle to include a specific reference to bird life (Murray Grant)</p> <p>The Town Belt's natural character will be retained and enhanced (NZTA)</p> <p>The Town Belt's natural values and landscape character will be protected and enhanced' (Shona McCahon)</p> <p>Should add to principle on natural character what this means –</p>	<p><i>Following analysis of submissions, it is clear that the term 'natural character' is too generic and that further definition is required on what natural aspects of the Town Belt are to be protected and enhanced. It is, therefore, recommended that this principle be replaced with two, more specific, principles to encapsulate the 'landscape' and the 'indigenous biodiversity' as follows:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>The Town Belt's landscape character will be protected and enhanced</i> ➤ <i>The Town Belt will support healthy populations of indigenous biodiversity</i>

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Proposal	Response:
<p>natural character is not just any trees it should mean Wellington appropriate flora with no built structure on skyline etc. (Ellen Blake)</p> <p>The Town Belts natural character will be protected and enhanced with indigenous species (Michael Herd)</p>	

Principle 4: The Town Belt is for all to enjoy

Proposal	Response:
<p>The Wellington Town Belt will be freely available for all to enjoy commercial activities are not compatible. (Joan Quinn)</p>	<p><i>Analysis of the submissions has identified a need to establish a policy for 'commercial activities' on Council owned land. A key part of this policy would be to clearly establish what is meant by 'commercial', whether there are situations where 'commercial' activities provide public benefit (or not) etc. Policies in the TBMP will reviewed once the guiding principles are approved. Any potential amendments to current policy on "access" will be distributed for consultation and comment following the review of the TBMP</i></p>
<p>The Town Belt is for all to enjoy and is to be freely accessible at all times (FOTB)</p> <p>The whole of the Town Belt is for all to enjoy and is to be accessible to all at all times (Forest and Bird)</p> <p>The Town Belt is for all to enjoy and is to be freely accessible at all times. To this end, buildings and car parks will be kept to a minimum and, over time, be Council-owned and operated as multipurpose facilities available to a wide variety of recreational groups. (Civic Trust)</p>	<p><i>These proposals amend principle four to introduce an additional rule/ policy on accessibility ("accessible to all at all times"). Policies in the TBMP will reviewed once the guiding principles are approved. Any potential amendments to current policy on "access" will be distributed for consultation and comment following the review of the TBMP</i></p>
<p>The NZTA suggest expanding principle 4 and its explanatory text to</p>	<p><i>This proposal concern text in the discussion document as opposed to</i></p>

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Proposal	Response:
<p>replace 'utilities' with 'infrastructure' so that roading is included Further, that the explanatory text is amended from 'essential city infrastructure' to essential city and national infrastructure to recognise the important role that the State highway fills in the vibrant composition of Wellington (NZTA).</p>	<p><i>the principle or its associated explanatory text and is best addressed through individual policies within the TBMP as opposed to the principles. Policies in the TBMP will reviewed once the guiding principles are approved. Any potential amendments to current policy on "access" will be distributed for consultation and comment following the review of the TBMP</i></p>

Principle 5: The Town Belt will be used for a wide range of recreation activities

Proposal	Response:
<p>The Town Belt will be used for a wide range as possible of appropriate and sustainable recreational activities with an emphasis on outdoor, informal, public recreation (Action for Environment/ Mt Vic Historical Society/ Greta +John Ferrie/ Matthias Seidenstuecker /Nicola Young/Ron Turner /Anne McKinnon/ Lorraine Smith/ Margaret Tobin/)</p> <p>The Town Belt be used for a wide range of recreation activities with the emphasis on outdoor, informal public recreation' (Mt Vic Historical Society)</p> <p>The Town Belt will be used for public casual and organised outdoor recreation activities without compromising the protected outdoor open space values (FOTB)</p> <p>The Wellington Town Belt is a public recreation ground with an emphasis on informal activity and outdoor activity. (Joan Quinn)</p> <p>The Town Belt will be used for a wide range of recreational activities, with an emphasis on outdoor, informal, public recreation. (Joanna M.A. Newman)</p> <p>The Wellington Town Belt will be used for a wide range of informal, outdoor recreation activities and existing formal activities that do not</p>	<p><i>Community derived guiding principles, generally, should be as inclusive as possible. To place an 'emphasis' on outdoor recreational activities requires clarification on what form that 'emphasis' might take, in what situations it might apply and whom it might exclude. This detail is, therefore, best formulated at the policy level.</i></p> <p><i>Although the principle remains the same, it is proposed to amend the wording to clarify the intent as follows:</i></p> <p><i>"The Town Belt should cater for a wide range of sporting and recreation activities managed in a way to minimise conflict between different users. Co-location and intensification of sports facilities within existing hubs is supported where appropriate."</i></p> <p><i>The term 'open space', although popular, has been found to be very unclear with different definitions used by different organisations</i></p>

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Proposal	Response:
<p>compromise the values of public open space (Catherine Underwood)</p> <p>The Town Belt shall be used for a wide range of outdoor non-commercial recreation activities (Michael Heard)</p> <p>The Town Belt will be primarily used for casual and organised outdoor recreation activities, without compromising its natural character (Civic Trust)</p> <p>The Town Belt will be used for outdoor recreational and leisure activities that do not compromise its peaceful open-space values. (Forest and Bird)</p> <p>The Town Belt will be used for all manner of recreation activities with the emphasis on outdoor informal, public recreation [implying open space]) (Victor Davie)</p> <p>I think the reference to preservation of open space should be incorporated into the wording of the principle (David Zwartz)</p> <p>There is no reference to open space in the principles which is a basic underlying principle of the deed (Steve Dunn)</p> <p>The town belt will be used for as wide a range as possible of open outdoor, informal and public recreational activities (Phil Shepherd)</p>	
<p>Motorised recreation is not permitted (Forest and Bird)</p>	<p><i>This proposal is a rule/policy – not a principle. Policies in the TBMP will reviewed once the guiding principles are approved. Any potential amendments to current policy on “access” will be distributed for consultation and comment following the review of the TBMP</i></p>

Principle 6: Management of the town belt will acknowledge all historical and cultural links to the land

Proposal	Response:
<p>The Town Belt will be celebrated for its historical and cultural importance to all the citizens of Wellington (FOTB)</p> <p>The Town Belt is to be celebrated for its long-standing historical cultural importance to Maori and Pakeha alike. (Civic Trust)</p> <p>The Wellington Town Belt is to be celebrated for its historic, social and cultural importance to all citizens of Wellington. (Joan Quinn)</p> <p>Management of the TB will acknowledge the historical and cultural links to the land to all Wellington citizens". (Catherine Underwood)</p>	<p><i>All of these proposals are already covered by the current draft principle through the use of the word 'all'.</i></p> <p><i>The proposed restriction - through the use of the word 'citizens' - would exclude some mana whenua with historical and cultural links to the Town Belt as well as Wellingtonians who are no longer living in the city but who also have links to, or associations with, the city.</i></p>

APPENDIX 2: Summary of Issues Raised in Submissions

Issues raised in submissions outside the scope of consultation:

Issues Raised	Submitters	Officer Response
<p>Guiding Principles are not needed for the Town Belt Management Plan</p>	<p>Action for the Environment/ Mt Vic Historical Society/Sue Watt +Jo Turner/ Ron Turner/ John Bickerton/ Chris Gray/ Pauline and Athol Swann/ Boyden Evans/ Forest and Bird/ Michael Taylor/Alana Bowman/ Anne McKinnon/ Janet Coburn/Greta+John Ferrie/Michael Taylor</p>	<p><i>The Council recognised the need for guiding principles when first approving the draft guiding principles for consultation. Principles are not about protection. They are <u>a guide to decision making</u>.</i></p> <p><i>The archaic language of the 1873 deed means that it is too general to provide clear guidance for the complex management decisions needed to be made on a regular basis. The current TBMP attempted to translate the intent of the deed into a set of operational practices through the use of two statements of purpose (Aims) and, from this, developed a number of policies on how different aspects of the Town Belt should be managed.</i></p> <p><i>A review indicated that there was a need for clearer statements of purpose or ‘guiding principles’ to help ensure that community aspirations were reflected in the Town Belt Management Plan and related policies.</i></p> <p><i>It is good practice for community-developed principles (or values) to be used to ensure that the community’s views guide the management of a land asset. Most modern land management plans tend to have these. Community-developed principles also help to ensure that the views and aspirations of the <u>wider</u> community are incorporated and reflected in the Town Belt Management Plan and related policies and not just those of particular groups.</i></p>
<p>A Local Bill is being drafted to over-ride the Deed</p>	<p>Action for the Environment/ Mount Vic Residents Assn/Mt Vic Historical Society/Sue Watt + Jo Turner/ Ron</p>	<p><i>The Council is not working on a ‘Wellington Town Belt Bill to “replace the various powers and limitations in the deed” and no Bill has been considered or developed as part of the Town Belt Legislative</i></p>

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Issues Raised	Submitters	Officer Response
	Turner/Victor Davie/ John Bickerton/ Joan Quinn/ Civic Trust/ Nicola Young/Greta +John Ferrie	<p><i>and Policy Framework Project.</i></p> <p><i>It is believed this claim refers to the draft 'Wellington Town Belt Bill' prepared ten years ago as a possible mechanism to reinstate land into the Town Belt (ex-Town Belt land that was recovered by Council) and remove land from the Town Belt (those minor sections where legal anomalies exist). This draft Bill was never approved by Council and the project was put on hold until the Port Nicholson Block (Taranaki Whanui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika) claim settlement negotiations were completed.</i></p> <p><i>The review of the TBMP policies will clarify what (if any) legislation is required to implement those policies.</i></p>
The draft principles are contrary to the Deed	Mt Vic Historical Society/ Mount Vic Residents Assn/Elaine Hampton (same author as MVRs submission)/ Sue Watt/ Victor Davie/Michael Hartley/Greta +John Ferrie	<p><i>None of the draft guiding principles are contrary to the Deed. They help to define community values that are consistent with, and subject to, the Deed and subsequent legislation. In particular the principles are consistent :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• with governance of the Town Belt in trust by the Council</i> <i>• with its use as a "recreation ground"</i>
A reference to the fact that the Town Belt should be managed in accordance to the Deed should be included in the Principles	Action for the Environment /Mt Vic Historical Society (Elaine Hampton)/Mount Victoria Residents Association Inc/ Chris Greenwood/ Joanna N Newman/ Victor Davie Catherine Underwood/ Matthias Seidenstuecker /Michael Hartley/ / Steve Dunn/ Michael Taylor/Forest & Bird	<p><i>The Town Belt Deed (and subsequent legislation to the Deed) set the legal governance for the Town Belt so, by definition, the Town Belt <u>has to</u> be managed in accordance with these. The inclusion of such a statement as a principle is equivalent to having a principle stating that the TBMP will adhere to the law. The principles provide guidance to decision makers regarding the management of the Town Belt.</i></p> <p><i>This was outlined in the discussion document. However, further clarity can be included in the background explanation of the TBMP</i></p>

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Issues Raised	Submitters	Officer Response
		<i>by rewording the current preamble which says "Under the Town Belt Deed of 1873" to "subject to the 1873 Deed".</i>
The public require an outline of the legislative changes that will be sought	Wellington Civic Trust	<i>The deed and subsequent legislation will continue to be the key legislative framework for the Town Belt. It is not possible, however, to confirm what legislation is required to implement these policies until the review of the TBMP (and policies) has taken place.</i>
There should be local legislation to enshrine the town belt deed before the review and principles	Friends of the Town Belt/ Boyden Evans/ Robert Lowe	<i>The Council has decided that a review of the management plan should happen first with any consequential legislation developed once all of the issues have been identified through the review of management plan policies.</i> <i>It is Council's intention to continue to manage the Town Belt in accordance with the Deed of 1873 and subsequent legislation.</i>
The history outlined in the discussion document is incorrect	John Robinson/ Mt Vic Historical Society	<i>The Council used wording from the following recognised sources as the basis of the 'historical' section in the Town Belt Legislative and Policy Review discussion document. These were:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Te Whanganui a Tara me ona Takiwa: Report on the Wellington District (The Waitangi Tribunal)</i> • <i>Wellington Inner Town Belt Management Plan – Background Report 3 – European History Component: Walter Cook (1992).</i>
The principles must be flexible enough to allow for all members of the community to indulge in formal and informal recreational and sporting activities	Athletics Wellington/ Bruce Geden	<i>The updated guiding principles (see Appendix 3) will allow for a wide range of recreational and sporting activities to be managed in a way to minimise conflict between different users.</i>
Principle 5 marks an intention to develop the	Action for the Environment/ Mt Vic Historical	<i>Principle 5 does not mark an intention to develop the Town Belt. It recognises that <u>all</u> citizens have a right to recreational activities on</i>

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Issues Raised	Submitters	Officer Response
Town Belt	Society/Victor Davie/ Catherine Underwood/ Steve Dunn/ Wellington Botanical Society / Rosamund Averton/Phil Shepherd/Alana Bowman/ Matthias Seidenstucker/ Nicola Young/Jo Turner/ Ron Turner/ Greta +John Ferrie	<i>the Town Belt – not just select groups. Interpretation of this principle must align with the intent of other principles such as principle 3 which concerns the protection of the Town Belt. The policies in the revised town belt management plan will clarify how co-location and intensification apply to existing recreation hubs etc .</i>
Council should not work in partnership with <i>mana whenua</i> to manage the Town belt (delete principle 2)	John Bickerton/ Action for the Environment/David Zwartz/ John O'Meara/ Dinna O'Meara/ Dorothy Douglas/ Michael McKee/Chris / Greta +John Ferrie/ Sue Watt/ Greenwood/Margaret Tobin)/ Ronald Henry/ Mt Vic Historical Society (Judy Southworth)	<i>The current TBMP (1995) already clearly indicates Council's intention to work in partnership with Maori. Specifically, it states:</i> <i>The Wellington City Council, in managing the Town Belt, will facilitate and enable the exercise of tinorangatiratanga and kaitiakitanga by Wellington's tangata whenua”</i> <i>Mana whenua did not have the opportunity to do so until 2009 with the establishment of an iwi mandated body (PNBST) to work with Council.</i>
<i>Mana whenua</i> will have 'special privileges'/'greater rights'	Neil Harrap/Athletics Wellington/ Michael Taylor/ Dean Benvenuti	<i>It is unclear what 'special privileges' on the Town Belt mana whenua would have as opposed to other citizens. Submissions making this claim did not identify what these entail.</i>
Giving <i>mana whenua</i> input into the management of the Town Belt allows them more influence than Community Groups, or it could be considered to give <i>mana whenua</i> an unequal/discriminatory input into the management	Mt Vic Historical Society Action for the Environment/ Mount Vic Residents Assn/ John Robinson/ Kenneth Simpson/Roger Blaylock/ Michael McKee/ Matthias Seidenstuecker/ Nicola Young/Ron Turner/David Zwartz	<i>The values of the wider Wellington community for the Town Belt are incorporated through the Town Belt's governance arrangements (through the democratically elected Mayor and Councillors), the ongoing and regular interaction with key groups by Parks and Gardens and also through the Council's consultative processes. This will also be reflected in an additional principle setting out the role of the wider community in supporting the Council in the management of the Town Belt.</i> <i>The Local Government Act (2002) states that a local authority must</i>

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Issues Raised	Submitters	Officer Response
of the community asset		<i>establish and maintain processes to provide opportunities for Maori to contribute to the decision making processes of a local authority. The draft guiding principle proposes working with mana whenua at a management level (not a governance level) to ensure that mana whenua values are incorporated and have <u>equal</u> consideration to non-Maori values.</i>
Having co-management with <i>mana whenua</i> is undemocratic (oral submission)	Elaine Hampton	<i>Co-management allows mana whenua to ensure that management decisions for the Town Belt incorporate mana whenua values as well as non-Maori values. Mana whenua will work with Council officers as directed by Council and any management decisions through this process will require approval from the Trustee (the Council - through the democratically elected Mayor and Councillors of Wellington). Council already works with a variety of different community groups on management issues of land including all clubs with leases on Town Belt lands, sporting codes, local restoration groups and recreational groups such as the Trails Alliance.</i>
Stop the 'Maorification' of Wellington	John Robinson/ Michael McKee	<i>The presence of Maori culture in Wellington reflects some of the cultural diversity within the city and the increasing role of mana whenua following settlement of historic claims.</i>
This transfers governance rights to a select, unelected and unaccountable, and in some circumstances non-citizens body	Elaine Hampton/ Catherine Underwood/ Michael Hartley	<i>This does not transfer governance rights to any non-citizens body. Governance arrangements for the Town Belt remain with the Trustee (the Council through the democratically elected Mayor and Councillors of Wellington)</i>
Such a principle could lead to a situation where the Council shares management of the Town Belt with a non-Council,	Joanna Newman	<i>The Council already works at a management level with a variety of different non-Council, non-representative, non-accountable community groups on management issues of land including all those clubs with leases on Town Belt lands, sporting codes, local restoration groups and recreational groups such as the Trails</i>

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Issues Raised	Submitters	Officer Response
non-representative, non-accountable corporate entity		<i>Alliance.</i>
Only the Council has the right to manage the Town Belt	Action for the Environment/ Kenneth Simpson/Mt Vic Historical Society (Judy Southworth/Ron Turner	<i>The Council oversees the management of the Town Belt and must use its best judgement in how this is done to ensure that the land is managed in accordance with the deed.</i>

Issues raised about the draft guiding principles

Issues Raised	Submitters	Officer Response
Principle 1: 'The' Town Belt versus 'a' Town Belt	Shona McCahon Wellington Civic Trust/Shona Packer/ Boyden Evans/Janet Coburn Shona McCahon/ Elaine Hampton/ David Zwartz/ Catherine Underwood/ Rosamund Averton/ Chris Greenwood/ Action for the Environment/ PNBST Tim Bollinger/ Bruce Geden/ Janet Coburn	<p><i>The original draft principle stated that 'there would always be a Town Belt in Wellington' instead of 'the' Town Belt in order to allow for the possibility of acquiring additional land for the Town Belt in the future (as well as good grammar) . It is recognised, however, that this may not sufficiently express the community's (and Council's) desire to protect the existing, publicly-owned, Town Belt land for use by the people of Wellington.</i></p> <p><i>The Council, therefore, proposes to replace this principle with another stronger principle as follows:</i></p> <p><i>'The Town Belt will be protected for future generations'</i></p> <p><i>Analysis of the submissions has identified the need for a clear and transparent policy for Council acquisition of land for public use. This will be considered as part of the review of the TBMP once the guiding principles have been approved.</i></p>

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Issues Raised	Submitters	Officer Response
Principle 3: A clearer definition of “natural character” is required.	Wellington Botanical Society/ Boyden Evans/ Shona McCahon/ PNBST/Tim Bollinger/Judith Aitken	<p><i>The draft principle 3 stated: the Town Belt’s natural character will be protected and enhanced.’</i></p> <p><i>It is clear, however, that the term ‘natural character’ is too generic and that further definition is required on what natural aspects of the town belt are to be protected and enhanced. Following analysis of submissions, it is therefore recommended that this principle be replaced with two, more specific, principles to encapsulate the ‘landscape’ and the ‘indigenous biodiversity’ as follows:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• The Town Belt’s landscape character will be protected and enhanced</i> <i>• The Town Belt will support healthy populations of indigenous biodiversity</i> <p><i>Additional clarification around these principles is included in Appendix 3.</i></p>
The Town Belt should have its own Curator	Forest and Bird	<p><i>Management of the Town Belt is currently the responsibility of the Parks and Gardens Business Unit who implement the policies in the TBMP. The Council will review how best to implement policies in the management plan once it is approved in 2012.</i></p>
There is a need for clarity of commercial use of/activities on Town Belt land	Rosamund Averton/ Judith Aitken/Chris Gray/ Margaret Gordon/Geoff Henry/Arthur Stone/ Elaine Hampton	<p><i>Analysis of the submissions has identified a need to establish a policy for commercial activities on Council owned parks and reserves. A key part of this policy would be to clearly establish what is meant by ‘commercial’, whether there are situations where ‘commercial’ activities provide public benefit (or not) etc.</i></p> <p><i>This is an issue that impacts on all Council owned parks and reserves – not only the Town Belt This will be considered as part of the review of the TBMP once the guiding principles have been approved.</i></p>

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Appendix 3: Summary of recommended changes to the Principles

Principle 1: There will always be a Town Belt

The original draft principle stated that 'there would always be a town belt in Wellington' instead of 'the' Town Belt in order to allow for the possibility of acquiring additional land for the town belt in the future (as well as good grammar) . It is recognised, however, that this may not sufficiently express the community's (and Council's) desire to protect the existing, publicly-owned, Town Belt land for use by the people of Wellington. It is, therefore, recommended that this principle be replaced by a new principle as follows:

Recommended new Principle 1: The Town Belt will be protected for future generations

Principle 2: The Council will work in partnership with Mana Whenua to manage the Town Belt

No change

Principle 3: The Town Belt's natural character will be protected and enhanced

Following analysis of submissions, it is clear that the term 'natural character' is too generic and that further definition is required on what natural aspects of the town belt are to be protected and enhanced. It is, therefore, recommended that this principle be replaced with two, more specific, principles to encapsulate the 'landscape' and the 'indigenous biodiversity' as follows:

Recommended new principle: The Town Belt's landscape character will be protected and enhanced

The landscape character of the Town Belt reflects the modifications made since humans first interacted with the land several hundred years ago. This outlines the Council's intention to maintain and strengthen the landscape character of the Town Belt into the future. The key features of the landscape character which the Council intends to protect and enhance are:

- *The continuous "horse-shoe" shape of hills between the central business district and surrounding suburbs*
- *The vegetated slopes interspersed with areas of open ground*
- *Undeveloped skylines (i.e. Te Ahumairangi and Mt Victoria/Te Ranga a Hiwi etc.)*
- *The contrast between the patchwork of native and exotic vegetation and the densely developed central business district.*

Recommended new principle: The Town Belt will support healthy populations of indigenous biodiversity

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The Town Belt already has an important role in bringing nature to the city and with further restoration has the potential to expand that role by acting as a hub for indigenous biodiversity and improving the city's ecological resilience.

The key ways in which the Council intends to protect and restore indigenous biodiversity are:

- *Enhancing the connectivity of the indigenous vegetation to facilitate movement both within and through the Town Belt.*
- *Ensuring sufficient natural habitat (including streams and bush) to maintain native animal populations*
- *Ensuring pest species do not threaten indigenous biodiversity*

Principle 4: The Town Belt is for all to enjoy

No change

Principle 5: The Town Belt will be used for a wide range of recreation activities

No change to the principle however, the supporting text will be amended to clarify as follows:

The Town Belt should cater for a wide range of sporting and recreation activities managed in a way to minimise conflict between different users. Co-location and intensification of sports facilities within existing hubs is supported where appropriate.

Principle 6: Management of the Town Belt will acknowledge historical and cultural links to the land

No change.

Proposed New Principle:

The feedback indicated a need to increase wider community participation in the management of the Town Belt. It is therefore recommended that a new principle be introduced as follows

The Council will encourage and support community participation in the management of the Town Belt

This recognises that Wellingtonians will have an ongoing role in the management of the Town Belt. The Council values community input and acknowledges the work of individuals and groups to protect, enhance and use the Town Belt. The Council will support and encourage community participation, which underpins long term sustainability.

Recommended: Final Set of Proposed Guiding Principles for the Town Belt Management Plan:

The final set of guiding principles for the Town Belt Management Plan proposed, therefore, is as follows:

a) The Town Belt will be protected for future generations

This reflects the Council's commitment to ensuring that the Town Belt will be protected for Wellingtonians to enjoy.

The physical size and continuity of the Town Belt will be retained and enhanced.

The Town Belt will continue to be governed in trust by the Mayor and Councillors

b) The Council will work in partnership with Mana Whenua to manage the Town Belt

This recognises that mana whenua will have an ongoing role in the management of the Town Belt, consistent with our current relationship.

c) The Town Belt's landscape character will be protected and enhanced

The landscape character of the Town Belt has changed and been modified since humans first interacted with it. The Council will protect and enhance the key features of this landscape character (acknowledging that vegetation change will occur over time), which are:

- The continuous "horse-shoe" shape of hills between the central business district and surrounding suburbs
- The vegetated slopes interspersed with areas of open ground
- Undeveloped skylines (i.e. Te Ahumairangi and Mt Victoria/Te Ranga a Hiwi etc.)
- The contrast between the patchwork of native and exotic vegetation and the densely developed central business district.

d) The Town Belt will support healthy populations of indigenous biodiversity

The Town Belt already has an important role in bringing nature to the city and has the potential to expand that role by acting as a hub for indigenous biodiversity and improving the city's ecological resilience. Key factors for supporting healthy populations of indigenous biodiversity include:

- The connectivity of the indigenous vegetation to facilitate movement both within and through the Town Belt.
- Sufficient natural habitat (including streams and bush) to maintain native animal populations
- Ensuring pest species do not threaten indigenous biodiversity.

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e) The Town Belt is for all to enjoy

This concerns equity of access and use of the Town Belt. The Council believes that the Town Belt should be available for all Wellingtonians to enjoy.

f) The Town Belt will be used for a wide range of recreation activities

The Town Belt should cater for a wide range of sporting and recreation activities managed in a way to minimise conflict between different users. Co-location at, and intensification of, existing sites will be used to manage the demand for new facilities.

g) The Council will encourage and support community participation in the management of the Town Belt

This recognises that Wellingtonians will have an ongoing role in the management of the Town Belt. The Council values community input and acknowledges the work of individuals and groups to protect, enhance and use the Town Belt. The Council will support and encourage community participation, which underpins long term sustainability.

h) Management of the Town Belt will acknowledge historical and cultural links to the land

The Town Belt has a rich and diverse history and the Council recognises that the historical link of mana whenua to the land has not been well acknowledged in the past. The Council intends to take significant historical and cultural values into account when making decisions about the Town Belt.