

Urban Design

ACTION PLAN 2008



The aim of the Tasman District urban design action plan is to improve awareness of and ensure the implementation of sound urban design throughout the District. A quality built environment will complement the unique natural environment of the District.

Urban design is concerned with the design of buildings, places, spaces and networks that make up our towns, and the way people use them. It ranges in scale from the townscape to the street, public space or even a single building. Urban design is concerned not just with appearances and built form but with the environmental, economic, social and cultural consequences of design.

The Council plan aims to draw together different sections of the Council and designers and will affect both the decision-making process and design outcomes.

As a signatory to the New Zealand Urban Design Protocol, the Council has developed this Action Plan which focuses on:

- Strategy and Policy Initiatives
- Decision Making
- Delivery of Capital Works
- Promotion and Awareness
- Building Capacity

The New Zealand Urban Design Protocol identifies seven essential design qualities that create quality urban design that the Council will be endeavouring to foster through its Urban Design Action Plan:

- Context – acknowledging the relationship between buildings, spaces and networks
- Character – reflecting and enhancing the distinctive character, heritage and identity of our urban environments
- Choice – ensuring diversity in lifestyle and transport options
- Connections – ensuring accessibility
- Creativity – allowing for expressions of creativity and encouraging innovative and imaginative solutions
- Custodianship – creating sustainable design solutions that will endure
- Collaboration – communicating and sharing knowledge across sectors, professions and with communities



Tasman District Council Urban Design Action Plan 2008

	Timeframe	Who will take responsibility	Priority
1. Strategy and policy initiatives			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review design objectives, policies and rules in Tasman Resource Management Plan. 	2009	Policy	Medium
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to produce and improve design guidelines for building and subdivision in key areas. 	Ongoing	Policy	Medium
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include reference to urban design in the sustainability section of the Long Term Council Community Plan. 	LTCCP 2009	Strategic Policy Manager	High
2. Decision making			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enable design review of resource consents through design panel preferably at pre-application stage. 	March 2009	Design panel (with assistance from Consents); Urban Design Champion	High
3. Delivery of capital works			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure project briefs for Council construction projects consider urban design issues and impacts. 	Ongoing	Engineering; Community Services; Property Manager	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue streetscaping plan programme for town centres and other areas. 	Ongoing	Engineering; Community Services; Policy	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure service providers have sound design capabilities. 	Ongoing	Council project managers	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council leads by example by incorporating good urban design in its capital projects. 	Ongoing	All Council managers	High
4. Promotion and awareness			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appoint Urban Design Champion. 	Completed April 2008	Full Council	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council has an assigned staff member responsible for implementing urban design action plan. 	Nov 2008	Policy Planner	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publicise urban design initiatives on Council website and other media e.g. Gateway projects. 	Ongoing	Policy	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create an urban design category in Council's Environment Awards. 	2009	Environmental Education Officer; Policy	Medium
5. Building capacity within and outside council			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure training on urban design for councillors and staff. 	Ongoing	Human Resources; Policy	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foster sound working relationships on design matters across Council teams 	Ongoing	CEO	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foster relationships with other design professionals across the region. 	Ongoing	E&P Manager	High

For more information about Urban Design in Tasman District please contact:

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