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## Submission on Napier City Proposed District Plan

### Form 5 Submission on publically notified proposal for policy statement or plan, change or variation

*Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991*

**To:** Napier City Council - Planning Unit

**Date received:** 07/12/2023

**Submission Reference Number #:**72

This is a submission on the following proposed plan (the **proposal**): Napier City Proposed District Plan

**Submitter:**

Survey Spatial Hawkes Bay

**Address for service:**

Sam Hartree  
Survey and Spatial - Hawkes Bay  
PO Box 611 Hastings 4156  
New Zealand

**Email:** hawkesbay@surveyspatialnz.org

**Attachments:**

Notice - Changes to the Cadastral Survey Rules 2021.pdf

**I wish to be heard:** No

**I am willing to present a joint case:** No

Could you gain an advantage in trade competition in making this submission?

- **No**

Are you directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that

(a) adversely affects the environment; and

(b) does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition

- **No**

### Submission points

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**Point 72.1**

**Section:** General

**Sentiment:** Amend

**Submission:**

I am making a submission on behalf of the local Survey and Spatial branch in regards to the Datums and are referenced on official Council Documents. There are currently 3 datums that are used across the Napier City Council area, these are worded as follows

- Napier Vertical Datum 1962 (MSL = 0.00m)
- Hawkes Bay Local Authority Datum 1972 (MSL = 10.00m)
- New Zealand Vertical Datum 2016 (NZVD2016)

In a local branch meeting we discussed the inconsistency in wording that is used by the Napier City Council on consent notices and building consent documents such as 'Napier Local Authority Datum 1972' or 'Napier Levelling Datum 2014'. As these are not actually official datums that are used by Surveyors in the area, this wording can create confusion and can ultimately lead to mistakes being made. Many of the heights for the local benchmarks in terms of Napier Vertical Datum 1962 have been removed from the LINZ website which can make obtaining a local benchmark difficult, however obtaining a benchmark in terms of NZVD2016 is easier.

Hawkes Bay now has LiDAR coverage across the entire region and is in terms of NZVD2016, this information is being used by the Hawkes Bay Regional Council for flooding assessments. LINZ have recently provided a requirement to use NZVD2016 for all cadastral surveys from 1 July 2024, the letter has been attached to this submission.

We as the industry required to undertake this work are requesting the Napier City Council adopt the NZVD2016 as the only official datum moving forward which is consistent with LINZ and other organisations in the area. In regards to existing consent notices and building consents we will continue to work through this.

**Relief sought**

Survey Spatial Hawkes Bay are requesting the Napier City Council to adopt New Zealand Vertical Datum 2016 to be the official Datum of the area when referred to on all official consent documents that relates to levels e.g. minimum floor level on building consent or consent notices. This will minimise confusion and will be in line with the Datum used by LINZ and the recent LiDAR coverage of the area.

28 November 2023

E SGRulesReview@linz.govt.nz  
W www.linz.govt.nz

Tēnā koutou katoa,

## **Requirement to use NZVD2016 for cadastral surveys**

NZVD2016 will be the only official vertical datum to be used for cadastral surveys from 1 July 2024.

[Schedule 5 of the Cadastral Survey Rules 2021](#) will be amended on 1 July 2024 to require the use of NZVD2016 following the recent promulgation of the [Cadastral Survey Amendment Rules 2023](#).

Use of the 13 local vertical datums will no longer be sanctioned for cadastral survey datasets lodged after this date. The exception for existing unit title developments in rule 62 remains.

Licensed cadastral surveyors are strongly advised to use NZVD2016 for all new surveys from now on.

### **Feedback from Consultation**

We sought feedback on the proposed change to make NZVD2016 the only official vertical datum for use in cadastral surveys from 1 July 2024.

We obtained 24 written submissions from surveyor organisations, surveyors, tenure managers, and territorial authorities.

The submissions were in strong support of the proposal, although some individual surveyors were concerned about the timing, and some wanted to be allowed to continue with surveys already started on other datums. Survey and Spatial NZ, its cadastral stream, and the Institute of Cadastral Surveying supported the date proposed, which allows for a transition period from this early advice.

Thank you to everyone who provided feedback.

### **Additional technical amendment**

Rule 25 will also be amended to resolve a technical conflict with rule 29(1).

### **Next steps by LINZ**

We will be taking some further actions in response to related issues raised by submitters.

We will be looking to make adjustments to the geodetic database to better support the transition to NZVD2016.

Several submitters identified the significant risk that arises when applying levels that are assumed to be in terms of one datum when they are on another. We are therefore exploring options for educating land professionals and council staff to help them better understand the use of levels on different datums.

Finally, I will shortly be writing to all territorial authorities about this change to the official vertical datum and encouraging them to adopt NZVD2016 for their various regulatory requirements and for their spatial data.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Haanen', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Anselm Haanen

**Surveyor-General / Kairūri Matua**