

## Appendix 11: Significance and engagement policy overview



Council is committed to the principle of localism. Localism is about giving voice, choice, and control to our communities; with the goal of enabling local solutions and providing the conditions for our local communities to thrive. Community engagement is central to legitimate localism as it allows Council to have meaningful discussions with our community on challenging matters and how best to resolve them.

The significance and engagement policy sets out the engagement and decision-making principles we will follow, our statutory consultation requirements, and how we will go about determining the significance of a matter. Council makes decisions about a wide range of matters, and most will have a degree of importance, but not all issues will be "significant". The appropriate level of engagement on a matter will correspond to its level of significance.

The greater the importance of a matter, the more robust the level of analysis and engagement required. All Council projects will be assessed in line with the provisions of the policy to determine their significance and the appropriate level of community engagement.

The Significance and Engagement Policy sets out that Council will consider the following criteria when assessing how significant a matter is.

- What are the financial consequences to Council?
- Are many people, organisations or businesses affected?
- Will additional funding from the community be required?
- Will there be a diversion of already committed resources?
- Has there been recent community engagement?

Council's full Significance and Engagement Policy 2022 is available here:

www.taupo.govt.nz/rules-regulations-and-licenses/policies

