

Reform of the Resource Management Act: **Project Director & Analyst secondments**



What we were asked to do	<p>We provided a project director and analyst to work on-site at the New Zealand Ministry for the Environment to assist with policy development designed to reform the Resource Management Act (RMA).</p> <p>The focus of our work was on helping to draft a discussion document and providing policy advice on amendments to the Act that are intended to improve New Zealand's resource management system. The work focused on greater national consistency and guidance, fewer resource management plans, more efficient and effective consenting, better natural hazard management, effective and meaningful iwi/Māori participation, working with councils to improve practice and addressing housing affordability.</p>
How we approached the project	<p>The project director took a leadership role in co-ordinating and progressing policy development work across the full breadth of issues under discussion and assisting in presentation of the options to Ministers. The analyst focused on key aspects such as alternative planning development options for councils including options for changing appeal rights within the RMA and options for ensuring RMA decisions appropriately balance private property rights with other RMA objectives.</p>
Our findings	<p>The work was a major undertaking that spanned six months. The deliverables included our contribution to the discussion document and detailed policy advice on key areas of the reform.</p>
Read the final report	<p>The Cabinet papers we contributed to are available at www.mfe.govt.nz.</p>