

TOPIC – Natural Hazards and Hazardous Substances	TRMP Chapter 23
ISSUES	
<p>Chapter 23 addresses hazards and risks in the coastal area, namely: (a) effects of natural coastal hazards and (b) risks from hazardous substances in the Coastal Marine Area (CMA). The objective/policy framework for natural hazards has largely been achieved, and the hazardous substances framework is on track to achieve. The key issues with the Chapter 23 provisions are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Both natural hazards and hazardous substances have duplication with policies in Part II of the TRMP, which reflects the challenge of integrating TRMP provisions between district and regional functions, and across the CMA - land boundary. 2. Inefficient and ineffective coastal hazard rules where they rely on outdated hazard information that informs zone or specific rule provisions. 3. Inconsistent requirements for the management of similar natural hazard risks at the coastal margin (e.g. coastal risk areas, coastal defence structures). 	
MANDATORY STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS	
<p>Since the plan was first proposed, there have been a number of reasonably substantive changes to legislation and national guidance relating to both natural hazards and hazardous substances. The TEP will need to be updated to incorporate these requirements.</p> <p>Natural Hazards: More recent changes include changes to Part 2 of the RMA 1991 (s6(h)), New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS), Coastal Hazards and Climate Change Guidance (2017), and environmental management plans recognized by iwi authorities. Additionally, the Council’s existing work programme ‘Coastal Management Project - Responding to Sea Level Rise’ (under the NZCPS and Coastal Hazards Guidance) is relevant.</p> <p>Hazardous Substances: The Resource Legislation Amendment Act 2017 (RLAA) removed the explicit function of councils under RMA 1991 s30 and s31 to control the adverse effects of the storage, use, disposal and transportation of hazardous substances to ensure RMA controls do not duplicate controls in the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 and the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015. This means the management of hazardous substances under RMA powers should only be exercised where the potential environmental effects are not adequately addressed by this other legislation.</p>	
RECOMMENDATIONS	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure integrated management of activities across the coastal marine and land boundary, with regard to both natural hazard management and the functioning of natural coastal processes, and hazardous substances. 2. Implement the planning outcomes of the ‘Coastal Management Project – Responding to Sea Level Rise’ once completed to provide a District-wide approach to coastal hazards; and to improve public access to information about sea level rise. 	