



Waitaki
DISTRICT COUNCIL
TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WAITAKI

Heritage Consent Fees Waiving Policy

**For the waiving of resource consent fees for heritage items scheduled in the
Waitaki District Plan**

Adopted by Council on 5 October 2021

1.0 Purpose

This policy outlines the requirements for eligibility for the waiving of resource consent fees incurred by applications for scheduled heritage items. The fund and policy recognise the public benefit in maintaining and enhancing heritage items.

2.0 Background

In 2020 Council established a fund of \$10k to be used for the waiving of resource consent fees for heritage items scheduled in the Waitaki District Plan. Other than maintenance, many projects involving a scheduled heritage item require resource consent, even where the project may be beneficial to the heritage item. Restoration, earthquake strengthening, and re-use projects all require resource consent to be obtained and incur associated fees. The fund and policy have been established to provide support to landowners of heritage items who undertake works that maintain, support, or improve the heritage values or protect the longevity of the heritage item.

3.0 Key Definitions

The Resource Management Act 1991 defines historic heritage [referred to as heritage in this policy] as follows:

“historic heritage –

(a) means those natural and physical resources that contribute to an understanding and appreciation of New Zealand’s history and cultures, deriving from any of the following qualities:

- (i) archaeological*
- (ii) architectural*
- (iii) cultural*
- (iv) historic*
- (v) scientific*
- (vi) technological; and*

(b) includes –

- (i) historic sites, structures, places and areas; and*
- (ii) archaeological sites; and*
- (iii) sites of significance to Māori, including wāhi tapu; and*
- (iv) surroundings associated with the natural and physical resources”*

4.0 Eligibility

If a resource consent is required because an item is heritage listed (including buildings/items in a heritage area), the landowner may be able to request resource consent fees be waived.

To be eligible ownership must be:

- private owner or a charitable trust, including church organisations.

Crown, Crown entities, district health boards, community boards, Council Controlled Organisations, or Council business units will not be eligible.

To be eligible the resource consent must be:

- for work on heritage items that require a resource consent only because that activity involves an item scheduled in the District Plan or a building in an area controlled by the District Plan for its heritage values.

Applications that require resource consent for any other breaches of the District Plan, such as breaching a setback or being an activity that is not permitted in the zone will not be eligible.

5.0 Waiving

Waiving up to \$2,500 for each resource consent application will be considered if:

- The application required a resource consent because of a heritage listing
- The Council supports the proposed works

The decision to grant a waiver is at the discretion of the Heritage and Planning Manager. Changing heritage buildings is preferable to letting them fall into disrepair or be abandoned because new uses cannot be accommodated. We may waive resource consent fees if we are certain the proposal will restore, protect or maintain a heritage item.

The Heritage Advisor may propose certain conditions before granting the waiver. The conditions will need to be agreed to in writing and any violation of the conditions will require that the waived resource consent fees be paid in full.

If an application is rejected, an appeal may be made to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for a review.

Note: Council is committed to encouraging, adapting, and reusing heritage items and do not encourage or support demolishing existing heritage buildings and items.

No resource consent fee waivers will be considered for work that intentionally damages or destroys heritage fabric or buildings.

No waivers will be considered for resource consent applications for demolition.