



27 April 2018

File ref: LAO68

Waitomo District Council,  
P O Box 404,  
Te Kuiti,  
3941.

Dear Mayor Hanna and Councillors,

**RE. HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND POUHERE TAONGA SUBMISSION ON WAITOMO DISTRICT COUNCIL  
DRAFT 10 YEAR PLAN 2018/28 CONSULTATION**

1. Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the Waitomo District Council Draft 10 - Year Plan 2018/28 (the Plan).
2. Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (Heritage New Zealand) is an autonomous Crown Entity with statutory responsibility under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 for the identification, protection, preservation, and conservation of New Zealand's historic and cultural heritage. Heritage New Zealand is New Zealand's lead heritage agency.
3. As Waitomo District Council (the Council) already appreciates, well cared for and promoted historic heritage has the potential to be a considerable draw card for tourism and people wanting to move to, or remain in, an area. Heritage plays an important role in creating an engaging and vibrant region, which in turn fosters local identity and helps build the economy. Support and incentives that councils provide can often be the difference between a historically significant resource falling into disrepair, or it being preserved for present and future generations to engage with and learn from.

*District Plan Review*

4. With the above in mind, Heritage New Zealand strongly supports the proposal to increase the funding for the proposed District Plan review. Heritage New Zealand is aware that work is being undertaken as part of the District Plan Review to attempt to increase the number of heritage building and places recognised and protected by the District Plan. This recognition and protection is critical to ensure the retention of the finite heritage resource. Heritage New Zealand looks forward to continuing to working with staff on this important aspect of the District Plan review.

**Heritage New Zealand seeks** that the proposed increased budget for the District Plan review is retained.

*Heritage Fund*

5. Heritage New Zealand acknowledges that the Council is well aware of the crucial nature of owner support in dealing with issues such as earthquake strengthening at this time. Furthermore, we appreciate that the Council knows the importance of collaboration between councils, building owners, and other stakeholders (including Heritage New Zealand), to minimising the risk of New Zealand losing significant heritage from natural hazards, development pressure, and gradual deterioration. To help prevent this loss, a Council Heritage Fund is a vital incentive tool for Waitomo building owners. It is not clear from reading the long term plan documents if a Heritage

Fund is included as part of the Plan, however Heritage New Zealand considers it important that Council maintain a fund into the future, so that a variety of projects are funded and building owners are given the opportunity to undertake important work.

**Heritage New Zealand seeks** that a Heritage Fund is included within this Plan, to enable support to owners of heritage items and places recognised as part of the current District Plan and District Plan review.

**Heritage New Zealand wishes to speak to this submission at a hearing.**

Yours sincerely

Ben Pick



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