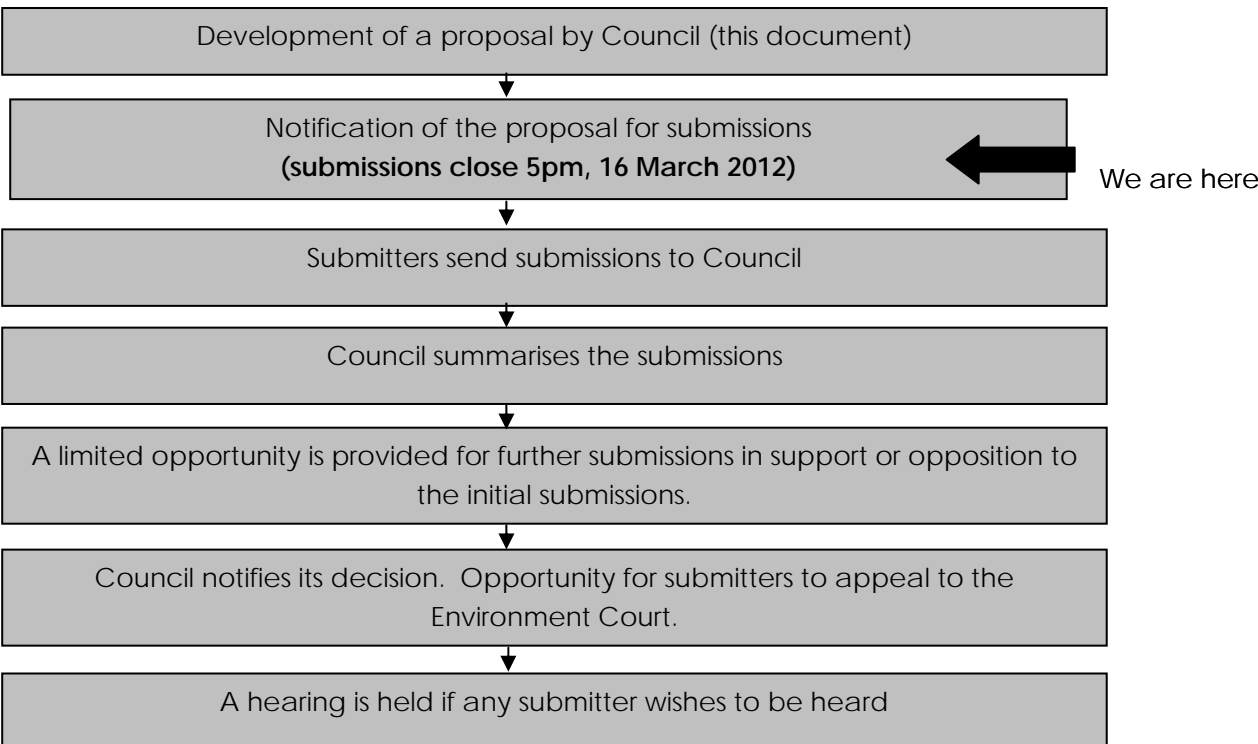


3. Plan Change Process

3.1 Requirement to Review Plans

Section 79 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) requires that a review of the provisions in Regional Plans be commenced every 10 years. However, it is best practice for Regional Plans to be subject to on-going monitoring and review. This is reflected in recent amendments to the Act which clarify that a Council may choose to review plans in part. Council actively monitors the effectiveness of Regional Plans and will regularly initiate plan changes to respond to emerging issues.

A plan change has been initiated as a result of the issues described in Sections 2 and 3. A plan change is a change to a Regional Plan, which is a public process requiring research, evaluation and consultation and can be initiated by Council or by members of the public (private plan change). The RMA outlines the plan change process that we are required to follow:



3.2 Process for Review

Council carried out a consultation process and reviewed information associated with the design, installation, operation and maintenance of on-site wastewater systems in the District. Meetings were held with residents of unreticulated East Coast and inland townships.

In addition to the comments received through the consultation process, discussions were undertaken with key stakeholders including designers and assessors, drainlayers, planners, architects, surveyors, public health, government agencies, internal staff and Councillors. A summary of the consultation and stakeholder comments is provided in **Appendix 1**. The consultation process and feedback has been taken into account as part of the options analysis.