

mayor's foreword



It gives me great pleasure to be able to present this document to you. It represents many years of consultation with the community and extensive research and decision-making by councillors, staff and consultants.

The process has absorbed the time and energy of a considerable number of people who have been committed to a good outcome. The process of hearing submissions has been long but thorough, and the result is a document that reflects the needs and desires of a wide cross-section of the community.

A major contributing factor to the success of this document is that it is **our** Plan, it has been a team effort, and we can truly call it our community plan. It is a document that will enable people to pursue their goals while ensuring that the Ashburton District retains its special features and environmental qualities.

This is the first District Plan for the Ashburton District prepared under the Resource Management Act 1991. The Plan replaces the -

- Ashburton Borough Scheme — operative from 1 November 1984 and
- Ashburton County Scheme — operative from 8 October 1986.

These schemes were prepared under the Town and Country Planning Act, remained in place following the amalgamation of the two Councils in 1989, and were deemed to be the Ashburton District Transitional Plan.

The District Plan was preceded by the following documents:

- Issues and Options document in 1992
- Proposed District Plan in 1995
- Proposed District Plan in 1997 incorporating decisions on submissions received and minor amendments.

The sustainable management of natural and physical resources is the purpose of the Resource Management Act. The purpose of the District Plan is to describe and regulate the means in which use,


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development and protection of the District's natural and physical resources will be managed in the future.

It is intended to be a living document and the processes of monitoring and review are an integral part of Council's responsibilities.

Over the life of this Plan, the Council will make the appropriate changes to ensure the document maintains or improves the quality of the environment we live in, and that it embodies the aspirations of our community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have been committed to the process of preparing this document — all of those people who participated in the pre-notification consultation, all the submitters who cared enough to become involved, the District Council Hearings Committee and staff who devoted so much of their time listening to submissions and analysing all the relevant material to ensure a quality outcome.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Murray Anderson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M' and 'A'.

MURRAY ANDERSON

Mayor