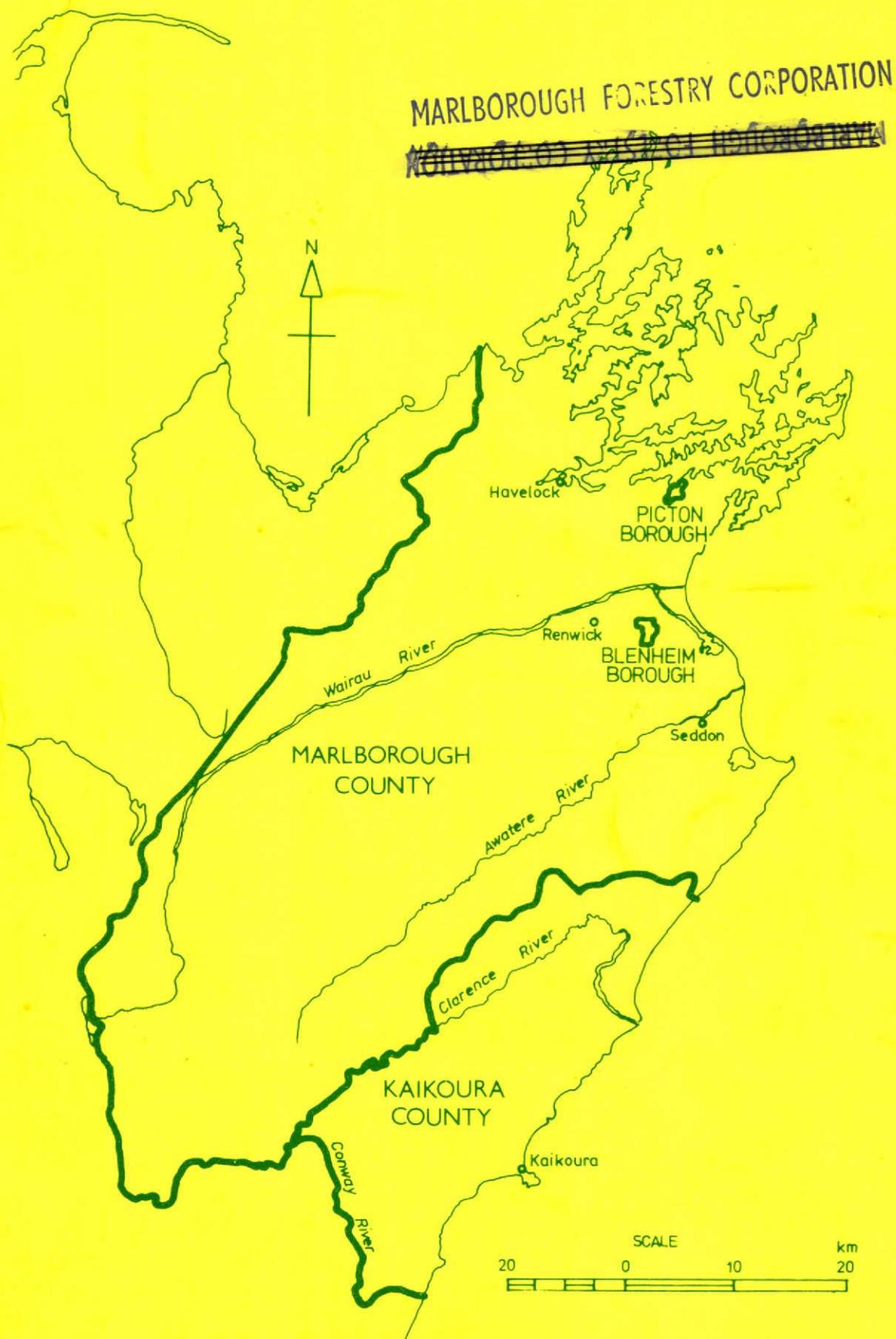


# MARLBOROUGH UNITED COUNCIL

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## APPROVED SECTION ONE

## REGIONAL PLANNING SCHEME



MARLBOROUGH FORESTRY CORPORATION

**MARLBOROUGH UNITED COUNCIL**

**Approved Section One  
Regional Planning Scheme**

**Effective From  
30th September 1982**

PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF  
THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1977

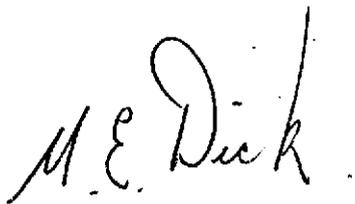
Dear Reader,

MARLBOROUGH REGIONAL PLANNING SCHEME - APPROVED SECTION ONE

On behalf of the Marlborough United Council it gives me great pleasure to present the Approved Section One of the Marlborough Regional Planning Scheme. The Approved Section One came into force on 30 September 1982.

Approved Section One is a statement of the Government, United Council and Local Authorities' policies for the future of Marlborough and contains the agreed objectives and policies for the region.

The United Council has agreed to prepare further sections of the Regional Planning Scheme to deal with specific issues which are not adequately covered within the broad Section One framework. Section Two of the Scheme will be concerned with primary resource utilisation and include topics which are of major regional importance and have income earning significance.



M.E. Dick,

CHAIRMAN,

MARLBOROUGH UNITED COUNCIL



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## 1. MARLBOROUGH UNITED COUNCIL

### 1.1 Formation

The Marlborough United Council was established by the Marlborough Region Constitution Order 1978 which appeared in the New Zealand Gazette on 11th January 1979.

### 1.2 Region

The Order in Council constituted the Marlborough Region comprising the districts of the Borough of Blenheim, the Counties of Kaikoura and Marlborough, and the Borough of Picton. By further Order in Council the Marlborough Region was extended to include the waters of the Marlborough Sounds and the waters along the east coast of the territorial limit.

### 1.3 Membership

The Council consists of thirteen members of whom :-

- (a) Five are appointed by the Blenheim Borough Council.
- (b) One is appointed by the Kaikoura County Council.
- (c) Six are appointed by the Marlborough County Council.
- (d) One is appointed by the Picton Borough Council.

### 1.4 Administering Authority

The administering authority for the Council is the Marlborough County Council.

## 2. PURPOSE OF REGIONAL SCHEMES AND REGIONAL PLANNING

### 2.1 Statutory Statement

Section 4(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1977 requires Regional Planning Schemes to have as its general purpose the wise use and management of the resources and the direction and control of the development of the region in such a way as will most effectively promote and safeguard the health, safety, convenience, and the economic, cultural, social and general welfare of the people, and the amenities, of every part of the region.

### 2.2 General Statement

Regional planning may be viewed as a process whereby Central Government and the region communicate, consult, identify important regional issues, and decide on priorities for development. When the Regional Scheme has been approved by the Governor-General it will represent a statement of the Government, United Council and Local Authority policy for the future of Marlborough and will be binding on the parties concerned and may then be said to state the agreed objectives and policies for the region.

### 3. CONTENT OF REGIONAL SCHEMES

#### 3.1 Statutory Statement

The First Schedule to the Act specifies the matters to be dealt with in Regional Schemes under the following broad headings :-

- (a) Social
- (b) Economic
- (c) Natural resources and environment
- (d) Type and general location of equipment
- (e) Public works, utilities and facilities
- (f) Recreation
- (g) Communications and transport
- (h) Community facilities
- (i) Cultural facilities and amenities
- (j) Regional programming
- (k) Implementation

Section 11 of the Act provides that as soon as practicable after it has been constituted, the United Council shall prepare a Regional Planning Scheme for the region. The scheme is to include a statement of objectives and policies for the future development of the region and of the means by which they can be implemented, having regard to national, regional and local interests and to the resources available.

#### 3.2 General Statement

The Regional Scheme should therefore include objectives and policies on almost any aspect of the development of Marlborough which may be implemented by the Government, a Local Authority or a Public Authority. The Regional Scheme does not have to deal with all the matters listed in the First Schedule. It can be prepared in sections dealing with specific matters. The first section must, however, include a statement of objectives and policies for the future development and conservation of Marlborough and the means by which they can be implemented.

### 4. PREPARATION OF REGIONAL SCHEME

#### 4.1 Proposed Section One

The Marlborough United Council has prepared Section One to include a general statement of objectives and policies for the overall development and conservation of Marlborough. In preparing the Proposed Section One the United Council took into account the various submissions received following the public notification of the intention to prepare a Regional Planning Scheme, and also used extensively the statistical information contained in the Marlborough Regional Development Council's publication entitled "Marlborough - A Survey of Present Resources and Future Potential." As this survey was undertaken in 1976 it was necessary to update all relevant information and this was achieved through services provided by the District Commissioner of Works and Development.

#### 4.2 Draft Section Two

The United Council reached the conclusion that while Section One should set the broad overview for the development and conservation of the region, subsequent sections should deal with specific issues which cannot be resolved satisfactorily within the broad Section One framework.

Section Two of the scheme will therefore be concerned with primary resource utilisation and include topics which are of major regional importance and have income earning significance. Matters such as agriculture, horticulture and pastoral farming, commercial forestry, marine farming and fishing, processing and service industries and tourism will need to be studied to the degree considered appropriate at the time.

#### 4.3 Future Sections

Once Sections One and Two are substantially completed it will be necessary to give consideration to what matters should be dealt with in subsequent sections with either specific issues being dealt with in detail or, as with the previous sections, various aspects being combined and considered together.

### 5. OPERATION OF REGIONAL PLANNING SCHEME

#### 5.1 Statutory Statement

Section 17 of the Act states :-

- "(1) The Crown and every Local Authority and Public Authority shall adhere to the provisions of an approved Regional Scheme.
- (2) In accordance with Sections 37 and 112 of this Act, every Operative District Scheme and every Operative Maritime Planning Scheme shall give effect to the provisions of an approved Regional Planning Scheme; and Councils without Operative District Schemes shall, in their consideration of applications for consent under Part II of this Act, give effect to the provisions of the relevant Regional Planning Scheme.
- (3) In the event of any conflict between the provisions of an approved Regional Planning Scheme and an Operative District Scheme or Maritime Planning Scheme, the provisions of the Regional Planning Scheme shall, subject to Section 20 of this Act, prevail."

#### 5.2 Realisation of Objectives

It is not intended that the objectives stated in Part II of this scheme will be attained solely by the United Council.

The United Council's role must largely be one of encouraging co-operation between the various local,

ad hoc, private and Government Agencies so that their individual and combined efforts are carried out in a manner most efficient, and beneficial to the region. To achieve the aspirations and objectives stated in the scheme it will be necessary for the region to be effectively managed. A prime function of the United Council will be to ensure co-operation between all parties so that the expertise, knowledge and development capabilities can be employed to the best advantage in the region's overall interest.

The distinction between objectives (which is aimed) and policies (how the objectives will be achieved) is in the United Council's opinion somewhat academic and is more a matter of emphasis than of kind. The Council is desirous to produce a document understandable to lay-people and for this reason has decided to state under each subject heading a general objective and then give specific objectives. The specific objectives are as much concerned with how to achieve the general objective as they are with what is being aimed at in detail.

### 5.3 Role of Government and United Council

The United Council considers that an important purpose of regional planning is to devise an effective system of communication and consultation between Central Government and the region. For this reason the United Council will expect Government to recognise the region and take this factor into account when restructuring services or altering departmental policy. Similarly before decisions affecting the region are made or implemented the United Council will expect to be consulted by Government at an early stage. Whenever possible discussions should be held prior to the finalisation of policy so that the United Council can fully participate in the formulation of such policy. The success or otherwise of regional planning and the realisation of the stated objectives will to a very large degree, rely on the effectiveness of the future consultations between Government and the United Council.

While the United Council realises the importance of the role of Government in the regional planning process, it also recognises that discussion and consultation is a two-way process. For this reason the United Council has a similar responsibility to that of Government, i.e. to ensure that an effective system of consultation and communication is developed between the two parties.

For regional planning to be truly effective it will be necessary for Government to establish national objectives and guidelines in some areas.

For its part the Government recognises that Section One of the Scheme presents general objectives appropriate to the needs and aspirations of the people of the Marlborough region, and provides a broad overview for decisions affecting the development of the region. However, such recognition does not imply that the Government will automatically commit or give priority to the use of national resources to meet these objectives.

Such commitments of national resources should be worked out by the Government and the region in the course of preparing further and more detailed sections of the scheme or through other established mechanisms.

#### 5.4 Regional Goals

Two overall regional goals have been formulated, as under :

1. To facilitate and encourage the necessary social and economic opportunities for the employment, housing and the general welfare needs of the people of the Marlborough region.
2. To promote and develop Marlborough as a pleasant place to live in, to work in and to visit - ensuring as far as possible that maximum use is made of the region's productive capabilities and its resources in proper and harmonious balance with environmental conservation and community requirements.

These two goals are amplified in detail in terms of specific objectives and means of achievement under Part II of this document. In addition to the matters dealt with in Part II the United Council considers that in order to achieve these two regional goals it is necessary to ensure that :-

- (a) Land, water and renewable resources are used and developed on a sustained yield basis.
- (b) The use and development of finite resources are based upon wise husbandry.
- (c) The development of communities is based upon proper investigation of limiting factors.
- (d) The tenure of basic regional resources remains with the people of New Zealand.

The objectives which follow in Part II recognise these four requirements and the two regional goals to which they pertain.

## 6. EXPLANATORY REPORT

### 6.1 Statutory Statement

Regulation 7(2) of the Town and Country Planning Regulations 1978 states :-

"Every draft Regional Planning Scheme or section prepared in accordance with Section 11(6) of the Act shall be accompanied by a report identifying a range of measures designed to deal with the regional matters and issues to be dealt with in the scheme or section. The report shall explain with reference to economic, social and environmental factors why particular measures have been chosen for inclusion in the scheme or section of it."

6.2 General Statement

In the Part II which follows, the report required under Regulation 7(2) is headed as an "Explanatory Statement" and follows general and specific objectives for each of the matters dealt with in the Proposed Section One of the scheme. (Refer Part II Clauses 1.3, 2.3, 3.3, 4.3, 5.3, 6.3, 7.3, 8.3, 9.3, 10.4, 11.3, 12.3 and 13.3). It should be noted that the matters dealt with in Part II are not listed in order of priority, and that the objectives deal only with the broad issues facing the region. Once specific development proposals are received they will need to be balanced against conservation and environmental considerations.

PART II - OBJECTIVES

**1. AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE AND PASTORAL FARMING**

1.1 General Objective

To retain in production land of high actual or potential value for primary production and to encourage further development which will result in the best utilisation of the productive capacity of the soils and the region's favourable climate.

2.1 Specific Agricultural and Horticultural Objectives

- 1.2.1 To recognise land of high productive capacity or versatility including soils which are also suited for more intensive agricultural uses and to protect these areas from urban development, and other uses which would not realise the full potential of the land for primary production.
- 1.2.2 Examine the prospects for intensive cultivation of rural land having regard to productive capacity, costs of production, marketing, competition and necessary or desirable incentives.
- 1.2.3 To encourage and promote land uses for the production of commodities which are in demand on national and international markets.
- 1.2.4 To examine and promote various or multiple uses of the less versatile soils by providing for all forms of primary production activity which makes the best use of the soil resource.
- 1.2.5 Examine how confidence in the agricultural industry can be maintained and means by which future investment in farming can be encouraged particularly in those areas having a considerable potential for increased production.
- 1.2.6 Promote and co-ordinate the wise and careful use of water resources as a means to increase production, particularly on the Wairau Plains, the Waihopai Valley, in the Lower Awatere and Kaikoura where maximum benefit can be obtained (Refer also Part II, Clause 7.2).
- 1.2.7 Encourage the development of ancillary industries supplying basic inputs and services to assist to keep pace with the growth in primary production output.
- 1.2.8 To plan for an efficient and economic transport system with the overall objective of minimising transport costs and with the ability to meet marketing requirements.
- 1.2.9 To determine the causes and social and economic implications of rural depopulation and where appropriate to determine ways by which it can be reduced or reversed.

- 1.2.10 To facilitate the marketing of primary products by encouraging co-ordinated marketing enterprises and by establishing and maintaining efficient and responsible communication with markets and demand within and outside New Zealand.
- 1.2.11 Encouragement of an increase in the productive use of land consistent with protection of the soil resource and conservation practices.

### 1.3 Explanatory Statement

The Marlborough region is predominantly an area of primary production. Although pastoral farming and cropping will continue to provide the basis of the regional economy, a wide and increasing range of horticultural activities including vineyards, market gardens and orchards, are also undertaken.

The distribution of these activities has been influenced greatly by the physical factors of climate, topography, soils and the availability of adequate drainage and irrigation.

There is considerable potential for increased agricultural production of all types in Marlborough, particularly through more intensive use of existing farmland, application of irrigation and hill country development. It is therefore necessary to ensure that land having an existing or recognised potential for primary and export production within the region is to be protected for that purpose and continued encouragement given to the farming community.

For these reasons it is proposed that Section Two of the Regional Scheme should deal with all forms of primary production, including marine farming and forestry. Also included in the next Section will be a study of the prospects for increased production for energy use. The marketing of primary produce is considered a key factor should significant increased production occur and this aspect will also be dealt with in detail in the next Section of the Scheme.

Because of the importance of primary production in the Marlborough region, and because of the considerable potential for increased production, an approach to Government will be made as soon as possible for assistance as provided for under Section 28 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1977.

## 2. FORESTRY AND FOREST PRODUCTS

### 2.1 General Objective

To recognise, promote and encourage a viable forestry industry.

## 2.2 Specific Forestry Objectives

- 2.2.1 Determine the desirable or likely rate of commercial forestry planting in the region having regard to future marketing of forest produce, the form of processing within the region, and the ability to provide the wide range of services and facilities necessary to establish and maintain the industry.
- 2.2.2 To encourage commercial forestry on Rural land Classes V - VII (in the Land Resource Worksheets produced by the Ministry of Works and Development) but generally to exclude it from the other land classes and areas having special amenity values.
- 2.2.3 To provide for the growing of woodlots for the production of special purpose timbers to complement other productive land uses, on the more fertile and versatile soils in the region.
- 2.2.4 To encourage the Government to increase the rate of public and private planting in the region to a level that would optimise forest production.
- 2.2.5 Examine the various options to ensure the processing of forest produce in the region where appropriate and establish the criteria for the location of forest processing industries.
- 2.2.6 Water transport of forest produce in the Sounds will be required to be by barge or other vessel.
- 2.2.7 To encourage the concentration of commercial forestry plantings in selected localities in the region including areas of the Sounds where water transportation is not practicable, so that a programme of roading provision and upgrading to a standard suitable for logging traffic can be determined.
- 2.2.8 To encourage the Government to develop a forestry road financing system to provide and upgrade roads suitable for accommodating predicted future logging traffic.
- 2.2.9 To encourage careful planning and administration of commercial forestry development in the Sounds and other areas of the region, to minimise conflicts with other land and water uses.

## 2.3 Explanatory Statement

The commercial afforestation of the reverting hill lands of northern Marlborough and the Sounds provides one of the major assets to the region on which its future development and economy will be largely based. The harvesting, processing and transport of timber will produce considerable benefits for the people of the region in the form of employment, earnings and expansion of community, social and recreational facilities and residential communities.

It also has a major land management role in terms of water and soil conservation and productive use of reverting hill lands. In addition to its significance to the regional economy the potential for earning overseas funds through export, makes it of national importance.

However, it will be necessary to upgrade existing roads or provide new ones to cater for logging traffic, to determine the financing of such roading works, to prevent the decline of rural servicing facilities and to minimise the disturbance and damage which could be caused by heavy logging trucks in residential areas. With regard to objective 2.2.6 the timing of the introduction of a barging or other vessel service will require careful study and will be determined by the Marlborough Harbour Board and Marlborough Sounds Maritime Planning Authority in consultation with the United Council.

The various amenity and environmental qualities of the Marlborough Sounds and possible conflicts between competing land and water uses in the Sounds present particular problems which will require careful consideration.

As stated under Clause 1.3 of the Part II all forms of primary production including forestry will be dealt with in greater detail in Section Two of the Regional Scheme, and the various options for the processing of timber in the region will need to be examined at that time.

### 3. MARINE FARMING AND FISHING

#### 3.1 General Objective

To promote and encourage a viable commercial fishing industry for the region with the development and management of the marine farming potential as an important and immediate area of concern.

#### 3.2 Specific Fishing and Marine Farming Objectives

- 3.2.1 Encourage the implementation of effective management of traditional fishing species to safeguard the continued existence of the industry while ensuring that stocks are not seriously depleted below their ability to renew.
- 3.2.2 To promote the upgrading of port facilities and development of those processing industries, including produce marketing, which give added value to fish and shellfish landed in the region.
- 3.2.3 To encourage feasibility studies to establish the potential of utilising new fish and shellfish species such as the pelagic fish resource and scallops, and also fish by-products as well as other sea resources.

- 3.2.4 To promote the development and management of the marine farming industry in the Sounds having regard to other land and water uses in the Sounds, the provision of ancillary services and processing facilities and the establishment of markets for the products.
- 3.2.5 To ensure the maintenance of adequate standards of water quality in the Sounds and the coastal areas to safeguard the continued existence of the fishing and marine farming industries. (Refer also Part II Clause 7.2.9).

### 3.3 Explanatory Statement

Fishing is of considerable economic importance to the region with many registered vessels operating from Kaikoura, Picton, Havelock, Wairau Bar, Ward and various other places on the Marlborough Coast. Marine farming in general presents the region with an industry of tremendous potential the benefits of which could be realised in the immediate future. Mussel farming in particular is rapidly developing as an industry with indications that the industry has excellent potential as an export earner. The Marlborough Sounds Maritime Planning Authority has been appointed in the region and that Authority will be required to take into account the general and specific marine farming and fishing objectives as stated above when preparing and administering its maritime planning scheme.

## 4. EMPLOYMENT

### 4.1 General Objective

To encourage the provision of adequate and diverse employment opportunities for the people of the Marlborough region.

### 4.2 Specific Employment Objectives

- 4.2.1 Encourage new employment opportunities for people entering the labour force.
- 4.2.2 Encourage an increase in job opportunities in the region.
- 4.2.3 Encourage through various means and agencies the development of internationally competitive manufacturing industries, both by assisting existing manufacturers to expand and by attracting new manufacturers to the region.
- 4.2.4 Encourage internationally competitive industries which can develop and process the basic resources of the region including :-
- Fish and marine fishing
  - Afforestation and forest products
  - Horticultural, Agricultural and Viticultural produce
  - Tourism and tourist facilities
- 4.2.5 Assist the development of Blenheim as a regional

centre which can provide confidence to attract varied forms of investment from outside the region.

- 4.2.6 Encourage Central Government to decentralise some of its operations to the Marlborough region.

#### 4.3 Explanatory Statement

Employment in the Marlborough region is concentrated around the three main centres of Blenheim, Kaikoura and Picton with over half the population and employment opportunities in and around Blenheim.

There is a very low proportion of the labour force employed in manufacturing, 18% compared with the national average of 29% which may partly explain the outward migration of people from the region seeking a greater range of job opportunities elsewhere. Employment in the construction and transportation and communication industries is relatively high. While male employment rates are similar to the national average this unfortunately is not the case in respect of the female labour force. It is anticipated that the shortage of work for women will not improve in the normal course of events.

To maintain the employment growth necessary to absorb the increase in the region's workforce, the creation of new jobs on a wide front including the agricultural servicing industries, forestry, tourism and transportation industries is necessary. An important area of development would be processing of the region's primary produce which has perhaps the greatest scope for increasing job availability. A further source of employment opportunity also lies within service industries such as provided by Governmental, tourist, finance and insurance agencies.

Further establishment of these, however, is probably dependent on Blenheim achieving a certain threshold size. With the establishment and recognition of the Marlborough region, it is essential that the decisions which are of importance to the area are made from within the region. It is time that the Marlborough region was seriously considered as a place for decentralised Government agencies.

## 5. INDUSTRY

### 5.1 General Objective

To encourage the expansion of existing industries and establishment of new industries in the region that will:

- (a) Provide new job opportunities for people entering the labour force ;
- (b) Add value to export goods and increase employment through the viable processing of the region's primary produce ;
- (c) Provide and service equipment required for agriculture, forestry and processing industries

as well as the necessary ancillary facilities for these industries.

## 5.2 Specific Industry Objectives

- 5.2.1 Co-ordination of local authority policies and planning controls so as to encourage and assist industries to locate within the region to its best advantage, through various measures including the provision of suitably serviced and zoned land and various financial concessions including forms of taxation incentives.
- 5.2.2 The preparation and regular updating of a register of information useful to potential industrial development interests including information on existing industries in the region, the availability and cost of industrial land, buildings and services, financial assistance and sources present, a list of support organisations within the region and such other information as may from time to time be considered of assistance.
- 5.2.3 The United Council to provide a regional forum to which industrial development proposals of regional significance can be presented for approval in principle and support prior to detailed aspects of consent being determined by the local authority affected.
- 5.2.4 Provide assistance to the Regional Development Council in its efforts to promote the region, and to attract investment, finance and development.
- 5.2.5 Make submissions to Government and support other bodies in the region seeking increased Central Government involvement in regional development proposals which result in the economic development of the region and/or the country.

## 5.3 Explanatory Statement

Changes in the population makeup indicate a significant increase in job opportunities will need to be made as school leavers enter the workforce. It is also of concern to note the low proportion of women in the workforce.

Processing of the region's primary resources (agriculture and horticulture produce, timber and sea foods), have probably the greatest potential for providing employment as well as increasing the export trade. Manufacture and servicing of machinery and equipment for agriculture and forestry also have considerable employment potential as do specialist or craft industries and numerous small industries having a high labour content, which are ancillary to the region's major primary producing sectors.

To achieve the stated objectives it will be necessary to have close liaison and co-operation with various other advisory agencies especially the Marlborough

## Regional Development Council.

Such co-operation and unity should also greatly increase the possibility of the success of any joint submissions to Central Government for increased involvement in and assistance to specific regional development proposals which might assist the economic development of the region's resources and increase export earnings for the region and nation.

### 6. TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION

#### 6.1 General Objective

To ensure the efficient and convenient movement of people and goods through proper integration of all forms of transport in accordance with local, regional and national needs.

#### 6.2 Specific Transportation and Communication Objectives

- 6.2.1 Establish a regional roading hierarchy, development priorities and programmes for improvement based upon an assessment of the expected flow of goods and people over the next 10 - 20 years.
- 6.2.2 Promote a land use/transportation system which provides reasonable access to a wide range of employment, social, shopping, cultural and recreational opportunities.
- 6.2.3 Encourage efficient, safe and economic forms of transport including links to rail transport.
- 6.2.4 Ensure that the capacity in the existing transportation system is utilised in preference to providing additional facilities, where it is economic to do so.
- 6.2.5 Ensure that the Cook Strait link with the North Island connecting Picton and Wellington is maintained.
- 6.2.6 Recognise the need to minimise travel distances when deciding on the form and location of new industries, new employment and recreational centres and residential settlements.
- 6.2.7 Examine and determine the adjustments and rationalisation of facilities at the Port of Picton and ancillary works, which will be necessary in order to assist the establishment of new processing and export industries in the region.
- 6.2.8 Investigate the upgrading of roads to accommodate forestry traffic where water transport is not feasible, and determine the responsibilities for the provision and funding of such roading. (Refer also Part II Clause 2.2.8).
- 6.2.9 Recognise the need to modify or expand the

military base, the aerodrome and civilian air freight and passenger services at Woodbourne Air Base to take account of changes in the level of utilisation.

- 6.2.10 To support the principle that air transportation charges are based on cost criteria comparable to those used in the rest of the country.
- 6.2.11 To ensure that the continued operation of Woodbourne Air Base as both a military and civilian airport is not compromised by non-compatible land uses in the vicinity of the airbase or by activities which would interfere with operational requirements.
- 6.2.12 To ensure that adequate levels of radio, television, telecommunication and mail services are provided and maintained throughout the region.

### 6.3 Explanatory Statement

Transportation is a critical component in regional planning and is basic to land and water utilisation. The provision of an economic and efficient transportation system for Marlborough is of major importance to the region. Much of its output must be sold outside the region and many raw materials have to be imported to the region. Its geographical isolation by Cook Strait, the Kaikoura Ranges and the Richmond Ranges emphasises the need for a satisfactory transportation network in Marlborough.

Although the arterial roading network is good, roads and bridges in inland areas carry weight restrictions which create difficulties for the farming community.

Narrow and tortuous roads in some areas, particularly in the Sounds and inland Kaikoura, limit some forms of land development such as afforestation.

Air transport is particularly important for the region, especially for passengers and high value perishable goods. Concern is felt within the region that steps need to be taken to improve the transport links to the international airports of Christchurch and Auckland for exporting goods. Also it is important that steps are taken to improve the transport links between the Marlborough region and Wellington City for both passenger and perishable goods. The rail freight link between Picton and Christchurch and the Cook Strait link with the North Island connecting Picton and Wellington are of critical importance to not only the Marlborough region but also the South Island. Should Government consider proposals to significantly alter the existing transport links, then prior consultation with the United Council should be held.

The rail ferry link has largely been responsible for the growth in the port since the early 1960's. Proposals for future expansion of the port to accommodate anticipated industrial and forestry developments are being planned.

This includes a new deep-water port complex at Shakespeare Bay.

To enable the stated objectives to be realised, it may be necessary to undertake a transport study in conjunction with the Ministry of Transport and Ministry of Works and Development. Terms of reference between the Government Departments and the United Council will need to be determined, however, as a safe, economic and efficient transport system is essential to the forest industry, this study must be given priority. In particular, roads to be upgraded and strengthened for forestry traffic will need to be identified. The matter of financing such work will also be included in the terms of reference for the transport study.

Further transport policies will be determined as each subsequent section of the Regional Scheme is prepared.

## 7. WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

### 7.1 General Objective

Wise development and use of the soil and water resources of the region.

### 7.2 Specific Water and Soil Objectives

- 7.2.1 Co-operation with the Marlborough Catchment and Regional Water Board in the formulation and implementation of regional water and soil conservation policies and plans.
- 7.2.2 Identify erosion and flood-prone areas in the region and reasonable measures necessary to protect life and/or property.
- 7.2.3 Conserve and improve soils essential for intensive food production (Class I and II).
- 7.2.4 Careful management of Class III, IV and V land to ensure full vegetation cover, sustained water production and flood control, and conservation of recreational areas.
- 7.2.5 Continued application of careful conservation and pastoral management to mountain and steepland areas (Class VI, VII and VIII) including fire control, pest destruction and wild animal control, land retirement and acceptable revegetation of erosion prone areas.
- 7.2.6 The prevention of damage from flooding and ensuring that flood control schemes are comprehensive and appropriate for each part of any catchment.
- 7.2.7 Ensure that the allocation and use of water for agriculture and horticulture, urban and other uses is in balance with the available supply.
- 7.2.8 Avoiding potential contamination of surface and

underground water supplies through excessive use of irrigation or establishment of land uses which could contaminate water resources, by suitable land use regulations and discharge controls.

- 7.2.9 Regulating, after consultation with the agencies who have the relevant legislative authority, developments including commercial fishing, marine farming, afforestation, water-borne transport, recreational activities and land based urban and industrial developments so that inland waters and waters of the Sounds and coastal areas are not degraded beyond local, regional and national expectations and public health requirements for acceptable quality.

### 7.3 Explanatory Statement

There is considerable water demand by irrigation and from urban areas particularly during seasonal shortages, and the region's limited and fragile water resource therefore needs to be carefully assessed and managed. Overdrawing by increasing demands on ground water supplies and possible pollution of such supplies needs to be guarded against. Protection of the quality of coastal waters including those of the Sounds is of major importance.

Marlborough suffers from a variety of erosion and flooding problems and future land uses including urban extensions will need to take careful account of areas subject to erosion or flooding.

Future development proposals must take into account the availability of, difficulties with, and the protection of the region's soil and water resources.

The role of the Marlborough Catchment and Regional Water Board in the region is recognised and it is noted that the Board's responsibilities already includes many of the stated objectives. Further policies on the management and conservation of the region's water and soil resources need to be formulated and implemented in close association with the Marlborough Catchment and Regional Water Board, and these will be included in future sections of the Regional Scheme, as appropriate.

## 8. THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

### 8.1 General Objective

To protect, conserve and enhance wildlife and vegetation their habitats, rare and valuable ecosystems, and the important scenic, geological and botanical values of the regional landscape.

### 8.2 Specific Objectives

- 8.2.1 To identify, protect and conserve indigenous vegetation and important botanical communities.

- 8.2.2 To identify, protect and conserve wildlife species, their habitats, the habitats of other fauna, and their inter-relationship with each other.
- 8.2.3 To identify, protect and conserve marine and freshwater fish species and their habitats.
- 8.2.4 To conserve and enhance the region's landscape character and amenity by identifying those areas of a scenic quality requiring preservation, conservation or enhancement.
- 8.2.5 To identify, protect and conserve landforms and natural features such as wetlands and prominent headlands throughout the region which have significant scientific, educational, recreational or aesthetic amenity and value.
- 8.2.6 To ensure a satisfactory level of management of existing reserves and to seek the establishment of additional reserves or the implementation of other means available for the protection of recognised areas of regional landscape, historic, scientific, wildlife or botanical value.
- 8.2.7 To require that all proposals to make use of the region's productive capabilities or resources are in proper and harmonious balance with environmental, conservation and community requirements.
- 8.2.8 To promote high standards of design, environmental awareness and management of all forms of development, including the provision of recreational opportunities throughout the region.

### 8.3 Explanatory Statement

There is a wide range of environmental interests within the region - some of which have statutory responsibilities. It is the United Council's intention to seek the co-operation and assistance of these environmental interests in order to help achieve the physical environmental objectives. The objectives have been included in Section One of the Regional Planning Scheme so that the region is aware of the environmental consequences when resource development is being considered and undertaken.

It is also the United Council's belief that there are studies already completed which help to identify and conserve important features of the region's physical environment. The United Council's initial intention is to examine these studies in order to determine such further studies or planning measures which may be necessary. District and maritime schemes and development proposals generally will need to properly recognise the objectives. As stated under Part I Clause 6.2 once specific development proposals are received they will need to be balanced against conservation and environmental considerations.

## 9. COASTAL AND MARITIME ENVIRONMENT

### 9.1 General Objective

To promote in association with the other agencies responsible, the wise use and management of the resources of the Marlborough Sounds and other coastal areas in the region, so as to achieve a publicly acceptable balance between the conservation and utilisation of the coastal resources of the region.

### 9.2 Specific Objectives

- 9.2.1 To identify and protect the needs of marine life in coastal and inland waters.
- 9.2.2 To encourage multiple use of marine and inland waters in a manner so that all uses are mutually compatible.
- 9.2.3 To encourage development of commercial marine resources having regard to limiting factors of competition for resource use, restrictions of yield, economics of servicing, environmental considerations, and navigation requirements.
- 9.2.4 To encourage recreational use of marine resources having regard to the general objective.
- 9.2.5 To protect and develop the navigational characteristics of the coastal and inland waters.
- 9.2.6 To maintain and improve the quality of coastal and inland waters.
- 9.2.7 To explore and identify seabed resources.
- 9.2.8 To encourage supportive services to the use and development of coastal and inland waters where these are not harmful to marine ecosystems.
- 9.2.9 To protect the character of the coastline and coastal waters in terms of appearance, navigational characteristics, quality of water, and any other aspect which if altered or destroyed would harm the value of the coastline and coastal waters as a total asset to the region.
- 9.2.10 To achieve co-ordination of planning and development at the land/water interface and beyond, so that each is mutually compatible in terms of the objectives stated.
- 9.2.11 To identify and seek the protection of marine areas of scientific, archaeological, and historic interest and importance.

### 9.3 Explanatory Statement

The coastal waters of Marlborough especially the Marlborough Sounds have values unique to the region and to New Zealand. Besides being of considerable scientific (geology, archaeology, history and ecology) importance,

the Sounds in particular offer multiple opportunities for recreational and commercial development. The land bordering and associated with the marine waters contributes towards the attractive character of the Sounds. The resources available, together with the attractiveness of the Marlborough coastal waters are generating increasing pressures for the use and development of the marine areas and careful control is required if the value of this regional asset is to be retained.

Of importance is the transport link between the North and South Island, which uses the sheltered waters of the Sounds and of equivalent significance is the servicing of the needs of the permanent and recreational populace in the Sounds.

The objectives are aimed at permitting optimum use and development of the varied resources of the coastal and inland waters, without damage and with improvement of qualities which have declined over past years.

## 10. URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY WELFARE

### 10.1 General Objective

To provide and encourage the necessary social and economic opportunities for employment, housing and the general welfare needs of the people of the Marlborough region.

### 10.2 Specific Urban Development Objectives

- 10.2.1 The realisation of Blenheim as a regional centre having a population of at least 20,000 to provide the encouragement and confidence for further investment in the region, through various regional development policies aimed at stimulating economic and social development.
- 10.2.2 To consolidate development within existing urban areas, but when expansion is necessary a study will be instigated to ensure that development occurs in appropriate areas taking into account the need to protect land of high productive value. (Refer Part II Clause 1.2.1) and the need to conserve energy.
- 10.2.3 To facilitate the development of local employment opportunities by ensuring that adequate serviced land is available for industrial and commercial development.
- 10.2.4 To examine practical ways of strengthening smaller urban settlements so that they continue to serve the rural community and provide a balanced social environment for the inhabitants.
- 10.2.5 To provide for the development and maintenance of existing special function urban areas such as Picton and Kaikoura, in terms of their own interests and that of the region as a whole.

- 10.2.6 To seek flexibility in the choice of housing sites and range of living opportunities.
- 10.2.7 To promote the development of residential settlements in conjunction with and in a manner enabling the economic provision and support of the range of shops, services and facilities required to meet local community needs.
- 10.2.8 Locating and developing residential settlements, employment centres and recreational areas so as to take best advantage of natural amenities, landscape and climate attributes; to optimise work and recreational opportunities; and to minimise travelling distances.
- 10.2.9 To facilitate the efficient and economic provision of water and sewage reticulation and stormwater and refuse disposal systems in a manner that is environmentally acceptable.
- 10.2.10 To avoid the development of unstable land, excessively steep slopes, areas prone to flooding, high water tables or earthquake movements, and to take into account the impacts of proposed developments on land drainage patterns.

10.3 Specific Community Welfare Objectives

- 10.3.1 To promote social, cultural, and career opportunities as well as primary, secondary and tertiary education opportunities, so that people are encouraged to stay in Marlborough and others are attracted to the region.
- 10.3.2 To encourage the creation of a wide range of additional job opportunities particularly for people who will be entering the labour force during the next decade.
- 10.3.3 To adequately cater for the needs of the region's older folk by providing housing and welfare facilities.
- 10.3.4 To tailor the development of educational facilities and the scope and quality of education so that people are better able to obtain necessary skills for future employment without necessarily having to leave the region.
- 10.3.5 To maintain and improve health standards and services through preventative, educational curative measures.
- 10.3.6 To seek adequate provision of facilities which will be conducive to the availability, maintenance and improvement of health standards and services throughout the region.
- 10.3.7 To provide services, facilities and

opportunities for the aged, disabled and disadvantaged, so that they can fully participate in community life.

- 10.3.8 That the important contributions made by special interest community groups, clubs and voluntary organisations be recognised, encouraged and used to the best advantage of the region, in all aspects of community life.

#### 10.4 Explanatory Statement

The Marlborough Regional Resources Survey prepared for the Marlborough Regional Development Council has identified the people of the region as its fundamental and most critical resource. The current population of the region is just over 35,000 being concentrated mainly around Blenheim, Picton and Lower Wairau Plains, Kaikoura and scattered coastal settlements. Earlier growth rates indicated that a regional population of 40,000 could be achieved by the mid 1980's with Blenheim having a population of 20,000. Current national trends, however, suggest that this forecast is optimistic. Nevertheless as the existing population ages, significant changes in its makeup will occur.

- a decline in the number of school age children ;
- a significant 30% increase to 4,300 of the number of people over the age of 65 during the next decade ;
- numerically the largest population movement will involve people of working age (20 - 64 years). This group is expected to increase by 20% over the next ten years to 21,800.
- a substantial migration of people from the region from both rural and urban areas.

These anticipated changes to the population and in particular to its structure during the next decade, will require the provision of certain additional community services and broader employment opportunities, particularly in urban areas and settlements.

Health services in the region will continue to be the responsibility of the North Canterbury and Marlborough Hospital Board and the Health Department. In the event of these organisations being restructured or should Hospital Board boundaries be rationalised, then prior consultation should occur with the United Council.

## 11. TOURISM, RECREATION AND CULTURAL

### 11.1 General Objective

To promote and develop Marlborough as a desirable and attractive place to reside in, to work in and to visit by having proper regard for environmental, conservation and community requirements.

### 11.2 Specific Objectives

- 11.2.1 Providing a range of recreational opportunities both passive and active including consideration

of establishing various regional parks and reserves located throughout the region.

- 11.2.2 Promotion and assistance in developing various entertainment, recreation and accommodation facilities catering for a wide range of holiday makers.
- 11.2.3 Provision of holiday opportunities and facilities such as holiday camps, cabins and camping grounds for families who would not otherwise be able to take advantage of conventional tourist opportunities.
- 11.2.4 The promotion of holiday, conference and recreational pursuits during off-peak periods to offset the seasonal nature of the tourist industry in the region.
- 11.2.5 Encourage the Government Tourist Bureau and other travel organisations to prepare and promote various package tours, activities and holidays in the region, for as wide a range of potential tourists and holiday makers as possible.
- 11.2.6 Development of the Sounds for tourism and holiday making must be balanced with suitable and necessary conservation and enhancement measures to ensure that the qualities which attract people and which make this area a highly valued regional and national resource are protected.
- 11.2.7 Encourage the establishment of a regional arts and culture centre which will cater for the various artistic and cultural activities undertaken in the region and provide a suitable venue for visiting cultural groups, artists and entertainments.
- 11.2.8 To recognise and promote the relationship of the Maori people and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land in accordance with national and regional interests.
- 11.2.9 To identify, preserve and seek the protection of objects and places of scientific, cultural, archaeological, recreation, aesthetic and historic interest throughout the region.

### 11.3 Explanatory Statement

Tourism provides the Marlborough region with an industry which has considerable potential for earning income as well as providing employment. Numerous and varied recreational opportunities for visitors and local people exist in the region. The Marlborough Sounds and Kaikoura coastline and mountain ranges being extremely attractive areas will undoubtedly become important attractions for both New Zealanders and overseas visitors.

Unfortunately the industry suffers from seasonalism and efforts to increase off-season patronage and the provision of sufficient and varied accommodation during peak periods are required to ensure its future viability. Promotion and enhancement of recreational and cultural facilities will benefit both tourism and the region's inhabitants.

The overall objective in this respect should therefore be one which seeks that full advantage is taken of the climate and natural features and amenities of the region by promoting Marlborough as a pleasant and interesting place to live in, to work in and to visit.

## 12. REGIONAL SERVICES

### 12.1 General Objective

To ensure where practicable the efficient utilisation of public and community servicing facilities such as water supply, sewage treatment works and reticulation, roading, power reticulation and rubbish disposal having regard to environmental considerations.

### 12.2 Specific Objectives

12.2.1 To ensure the provision of adequate water supplies which are of an acceptable quality in terms of public health; and can be efficiently and economically supplied.

12.2.2 To require satisfactory and economic forms of sewage collection, treatment and disposal.

12.2.3 To require efficient and economic collection and disposal of stormwater.

12.2.4 To encourage reduction in waste and refuse generation and seek adequate provision for refuse disposal.

### 12.3 Explanatory Statement

There are economies possible in the efficient utilisation of community and public services in the region. The region, however, has limited capacity to finance such servicing and regional proposals must be tempered with this realisation. However, a carefully conceived regional investment programme for the expenditure on services, public utilities and works in proper balance with agreed regional objectives, should achieve considerable economies and the wise use and management of the region's resources. The provision of such necessary structural elements also has an important application in terms of determining the location of major industrial developments and the various side-effects generated by such developments. Accordingly, such a programme should be considered as a major regional planning device.

13. ENERGY

13.1 General Objective

To promote and encourage the wise use and management of energy in accordance with the region's and the nation's requirements.

13.2 Specific Objectives

- 13.2.1 To ensure adequate and continued availability of various forms of energy for domestic, commercial, industrial and transport needs of the region at prices which do not disadvantage the region in relation to other regions.
- 13.2.2 To seek efficient and economic distribution of energy supplies throughout the region including encouragement of the utilisation of alternative sources of energy such as solar and wind, and the local production of fuels and other forms of energy on farms.
- 13.2.3 To encourage the development of regional hydro electric power resources wherever practicable, environmentally acceptable, and not in conflict with other consumers or users of the region's water resource.
- 13.2.4 To encourage the efficient use and conservation of available energy supplies by avoiding waste and inefficient methods of energy conversion.
- 13.2.5 To undertake the preparation and implementation of a regional energy plan which will cover among other matters the provision, use and conservation of various forms of energy within the region.
- 13.2.6 To undertake in conjunction with Central Government a study of possible new energy sources in the region.

13.3 Explanatory Statement

The Proposed Section One does not propose the establishment of a Regional Energy Planning Committee as provided for under Section 536A of the Local Government Amendment Act 1979. This subject may be further considered as subsequent sections of the Regional Scheme are prepared. In the interim the United Council recognises the roles of the Marlborough Electric Power Board and the North Canterbury Electric Power Board in the reticulation of electrical energy and the role of the Blenheim Borough Council in the supply of L.P.G. and manufactured gas.

The United Council seeks guidance from Central Government as to the most effective means of achieving the aforementioned objectives and believes there is a need for a national energy strategy particularly on the question of Government attitudes and policies towards new sources of energy including solar and wind power and ethanol and methanol production from timber and biomass.