

**Marlborough District
Council**

**Feedback for the
development of a
management plan for the
Waikawa Bay Foreshore
Reserve**

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For more information please contact:
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Submitter details

1. Nelson Marlborough Health (Nelson Marlborough District Health Board) (NMH) is a key organisation involved in the health and wellbeing of the people within Te Tau Ihu. NMH appreciates the opportunity to comment from a public health perspective on the Marlborough Council's request for feedback for the development of the Waikawa Bay Foreshore Reserve Management Plan.
2. NMH makes this submission in recognition of its responsibilities to improve, promote and protect the health of people and communities under the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000 and the Health Act 1956.
3. This submission sets out particular matters of interest and concern to NMH.

Specific Comments

4. NMH recommends that the Reserves Management Plan aligns with other Marlborough Reserves Plans and includes objectives and policies relating to the following topics:
 - a. Lighting
 - b. Playgrounds which meet New Zealand Safety Standards
 - c. Access to drinking water and all potable water adheres to the drinking water standards for New Zealand
 - d. Accessibility of community amenities and are inclusive of people with limited mobility
 - e. Level of service for community amenities including rubbish bins, seating and toilet blocks
 - f. The reserve is smoke free and well-sign posted
 - g. The reserve is alcohol free park and well-sign posted
 - h. Freedom camping.
 - i. Shading especially near the playground
 - j. Rights of access for cyclists/pedestrians/horse riders
5. Marlborough is one of the sunniest regions in the country, therefore NMH encourages MDC to increase the number of drinking fountains in Marlborough reserves. Adequate hydration is important especially in the warmer months. Increasing the number of drinking fountains is a way that MDC can contribute to the health and wellbeing of its citizens by giving people the option of free easily

accessible water in public places. NMH encourages MDC to use consistent signage on its drinking fountains so they are easy for people to identify.

6. The number and quality of seating should also be assessed. Seating in public spaces is important because it gives people a place to rest and socialise. Seating spaces need to have a plain design and be easily recognised as chairs to help those people with sight impairments and dementia.¹ Public benches need to include a centre handrail so that people can easily get in and out of seats.
7. Given that this coastal reserve is a mix of recreation reserve and road reserve, consideration should be given to footpath requirements to ensure that pedestrians can easily and safely navigate this area, in particular it is important that there is a safe footpath connecting the playground and toilet block for children and those pushing prams.

Conclusion

8. NMH thanks the Marlborough District Council for the opportunity to feedback for the development of the Waikawa Bay Foreshore Reserve Management Plan.

Yours sincerely



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¹ Alzheimer's Australia Vic (2016) *Creating Dementia-friendly communities: A toolkit for local government* Commonwealth and Victoria Government's Home and Community Care program
<https://www.fightdementia.org.au/files/NATIONAL/documents/Dementia-friendly-communities-toolkit-for-local-government.pdf>