

Marlborough District Council

Proposed Dangerous, Insanitary and Affected Buildings Policy

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For more information please contact:
Jane Murray
NMH Public Health Service
Email: jane.murray@nmdhb.govt.nz
Phone: (03) 543 7805

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 District Council's Proposed Dangerous, Insanitary and Affected Buildings Policy.
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 supports the introduction of the Policy and agrees with the Policy Principles and the overall approach of the Policy.
5. As noted in the Policy, the Health Act can be used to deal with nuisance issues. If someone (including a third party) reports to MDC that a building is making an individual or individuals sick, then MDC should notify the Medical Officer of Health. NMH recommends that the Policy reflects that "a *Medical Officer of Health*" should be consulted as part of the procedural requirements (9.1). NMH recommends that clause 9.1 is reworded as follows:

When the Council receives information regarding a potentially dangerous, affected or insanitary building, it will:

- a) Check the details on the property held in Council records;*
- b) Have an authorised officer undertake an inspection of the building. In doing this, the Council may seek advice from Fire and Emergency New Zealand, New Zealand Police, a Medical Officer of Health or any other professional organisation deemed appropriate by Council; and*
- c) Prepare an inspection record.*

Conclusion

6. NMH thanks the Marlborough District Council for the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Dangerous, Insanitary and Affected Buildings Policy.
7. NMH **does not wish to be heard** in support of its submission.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lexie O'Shea', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lexie O'Shea
Chief Executive
Lexie.oshea@nmhs.govt.nz