

2.8 Utilities and Designations



The city is served by a complex network of communications utilities and others handling energy, water, drainage and waste management. The District Plan provides for utility providers to carry out their core functions efficiently. The Plan also allows for designations, whereby the Council, another local authority, a utility provider or a government ministry may secure land in Wellington for essential public works or services.

KEY OBJECTIVE OF THE DISTRICT PLAN:

- **Provide for necessary public works and infrastructure**

Explanation

While recognising the need for utility operators to develop and maintain efficient utility networks throughout the city, the Council is also concerned to manage the potential environmental effects.

Therefore, while some of the functions of utility networks are Permitted activities (for example, underground pipes or cables), others require resource consents – especially where structures and activities with a significant impact are proposed. There are conditions relating to the size, scale, location and design of such proposals that must be met for a resource consent to be granted.

The Council aims to ensure the designation process is used only where necessary to allow essential public works or infrastructure to proceed.