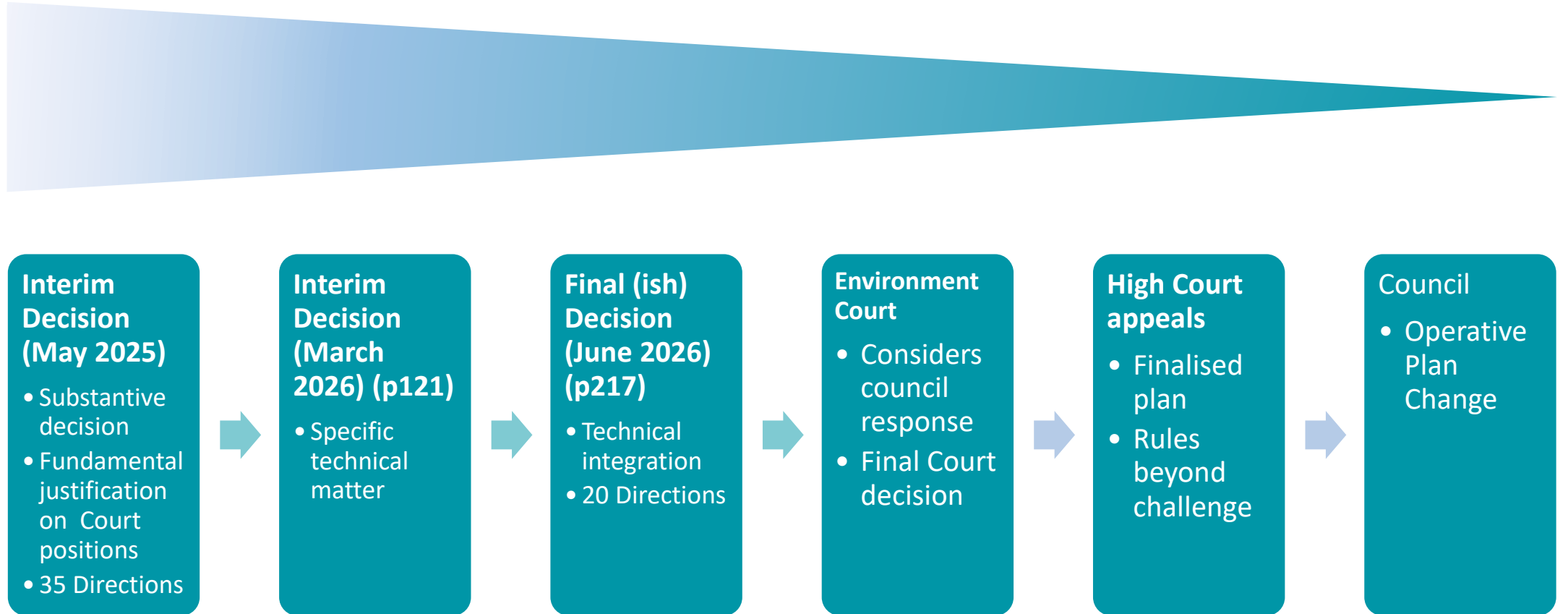


Plan Change 1 Environment Court decision June 2026

Decision overview

[waikatoregion.govt.nz](https://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz)

Process overview



Steps from here

- 20 Directions
 - Specific requirements – ‘must be amended’/‘is to be amended by’/‘reference to it must be removed’
 - Clear intent – insert definitions into glossary
 - Intent for amendment signalled – ‘must be qualified’/‘WRC is to reconsider’/‘are to be amended generally in accordance with’/‘is to be amended to include’
- Amended provisions are to be submitted to Court within 30 working days of the decision
- There is no requirement for a s293 RMA process ‘would result in a further prolonged delay in PC1 becoming operative’

Initial review

“We acknowledge and compliment WRC on the thoroughness, care taken and well-reasoned response to the matters raised by the Court.”

- Te Ture Whaimana front and centre, reiterates that PC1 is the first stage of an 80year programme. PC1 must ensure that reasonable progress is being made towards achieving Te Ture Whaimana
- Interim decision 1 – ‘the substantive decision’ (scene setting and principles) guiding Court position on matters
- This decision is technically focussed (it is technically dense)
- Deliberate approach in decision to matters at question
 - Scope, issue, responses from parties, findings
- Clear focus on
 - clarity of interpretation
 - implementation support and guidance for plan users

Key messages

- Council remains in a legal process - 1 appeal to the High Court
 - Waiarakei Pastoral Limited
- This decision must be read in tandem with Interim decision 1 and Interim decision 2 – they do not operate in isolation
- Staff have:
 - Responded to the Court direction
 - Still reading and understanding the complexities of the decision
 - Look at the decision in light of the Environment Select Committee report back
 - Matters that require legal advice/interpretation
 - What is and isn't operative (intricate and complex)
 - Updating Comms (website and stakeholders) about where we are at in the process