



GETTING TO KNOW YOUR LOCAL AUTHORITY'S ACTIVITIES AND SETTING UP AUTOMATIC NEWS UPDATES, ALERTS AND OTHER NOTIFICATIONS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this information sheet is to help branches inform themselves about matters happening in their local communities that surveyors and spatial experts are likely to be interested in or wish to influence.

BACKGROUND

In late 2017 we scanned all 78 regional and territorial authority websites for matters of likely interest to members, particularly as consultation on long-term plans was required in 2018. As those *NZIS EnviroScans* are not conducted on a regular basis but have considerable local value, branches may wish to coordinate regular scanning of regional and territorial websites as a service to their members and/or to provide information on how members can sign up to automatic feeds and alerts.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM REGIONAL AND TERRITORIAL AUTHORITIES

NZIS Branch coverage, with a few exceptions in the South Island, is generally aligned with the boundaries of regional authorities (see attached map) so that branches have anywhere from one (Gisborne Branch) to 11 regional and territorial authorities (Waikato Branch) managing and controlling activities in their area.

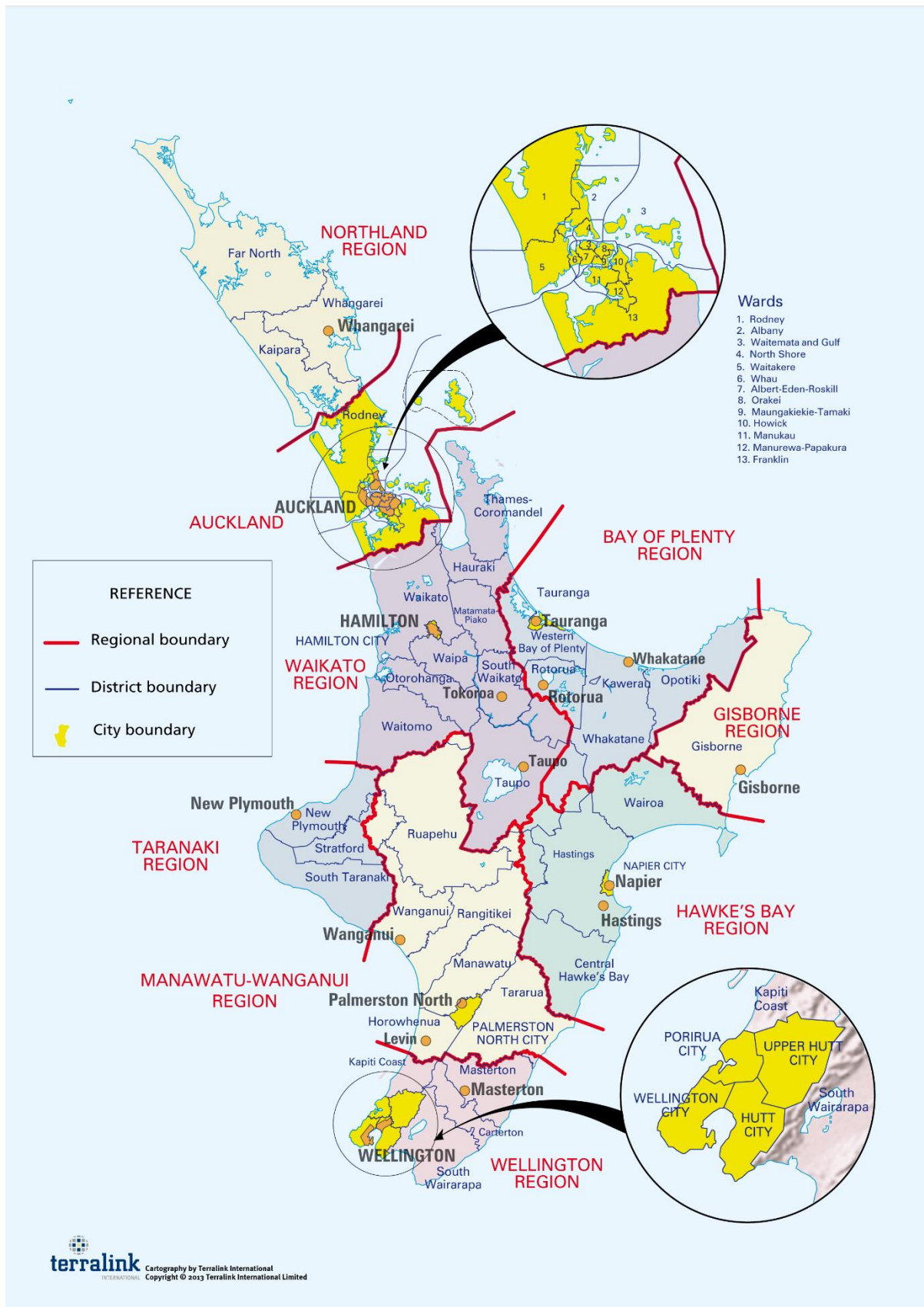
Regional and territorial authority websites are a rich source of information. Examples of information available from territorial authority websites include all manner of planning requirements under the Resource Management Act 1981 as well as other community issues, including:

- bylaws
- policies (for example, Resource Management Act and Building Act charges)
- plans (for example, annual plans, long-term plans, coastal plans, plan changes)
- strategies (for example, covering sustainability, stormwater, waste, harbour, transport, economic development)
- reports (for example, climate change, coastal hazard maps)
- current projects
- consultation
- agenda and minutes of council and council committee meetings
- news and media releases.

SIGNING UP FOR AUTOMATIC NEWS UPDATES, ALERTS AND OTHER NOTIFICATIONS

All regional and unitary councils (except the West Coast Regional Council and the Tasman District Council) and most, but not all territorial authorities have a free subscription service to news feeds and alerting services. After looking at what information is available on the websites of regional and territorial authorities in your branch area, you may be able to tailor the automatic news feeds to just those you want. As their websites [<https://www.surveyors.org.nz/members/resources/enviroscans>] are not uniformly configured, it may take a little exploration to find and register for the subscription service. Searching on the following keywords will help: "subscribe", "sign up", "join it", "news", "news releases", "RSS feed", "e-newsletter", "online newsletter", or "newsletter signup". If the news feed or alerts from a regional or territorial authority do not cover public consultation you will need to regularly check their "say it", "have your say" or "public consultation" sections.

North Island Regional Boundaries



South Island Regional Boundaries

