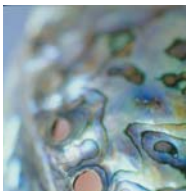




# Resource consent timeframes

Quality for Life





## Useful definitions

- **Non-notified application:** is an application that isn't publicly advertised which means no one can make a submission on it. You'll have written approvals from affected parties, and the environmental effects of your proposed activity are minor.
- **Limited notified application:** is an application that allows only affected parties to make submissions on it. You won't have written approvals from all affected parties and the environmental effects of your proposed activity are minor.
- **Notified application:** is an application that is publicly advertised allowing anyone to make a submission on it. You might not have written approvals from affected parties and the environmental effects of your proposed activity could be significant.
- **Hearing:** a hearing is a formal meeting where a 'hearing committee' considers and decides whether a notified or limited notified resource consent application should be approved.

## Time limits

The Resource Management Act 1991 (the RMA) sets specific time limits for us to process and decide on resource consent applications.

For example, once you lodge your consent application, we have five working days to check that it is complete – and if not, to return it to you.

We also have:

- 20 working days to decide on 'non-notified' consent applications, where your activity has minor environmental effects and you have written approval from everyone who could be adversely affected
- 10 working days to 'serve notice' on affected people if you haven't received their written approval (for limited notified applications)

- 10 working days to 'publicly notify' a consent application if your activity's environmental effects are potentially significant (for notified applications)
- 20 working days from the notification date (or the date we serve notice on affected people) to receive submissions
- 25 working days from the day submissions close to hold a hearing on a consent application
- 15 working days after a hearing closes to release a decision on a consent application
- 20 working days from the day submissions close to release a decision on a consent application, if there is no hearing.

Applicants and submitters who want to appeal our decisions on consent applications must do so within 15 working days of the day we release our decisions.

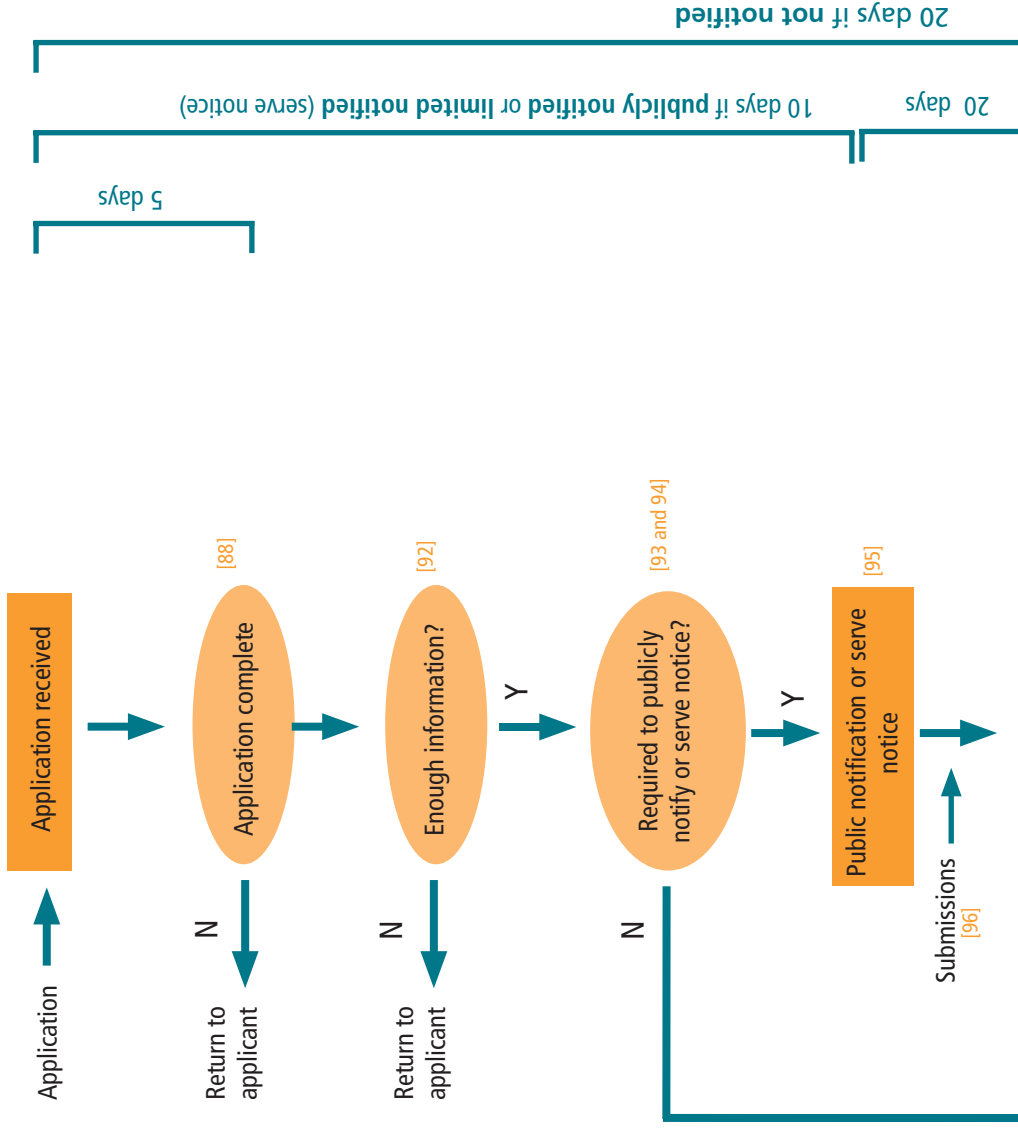
### What is a 'working day'?

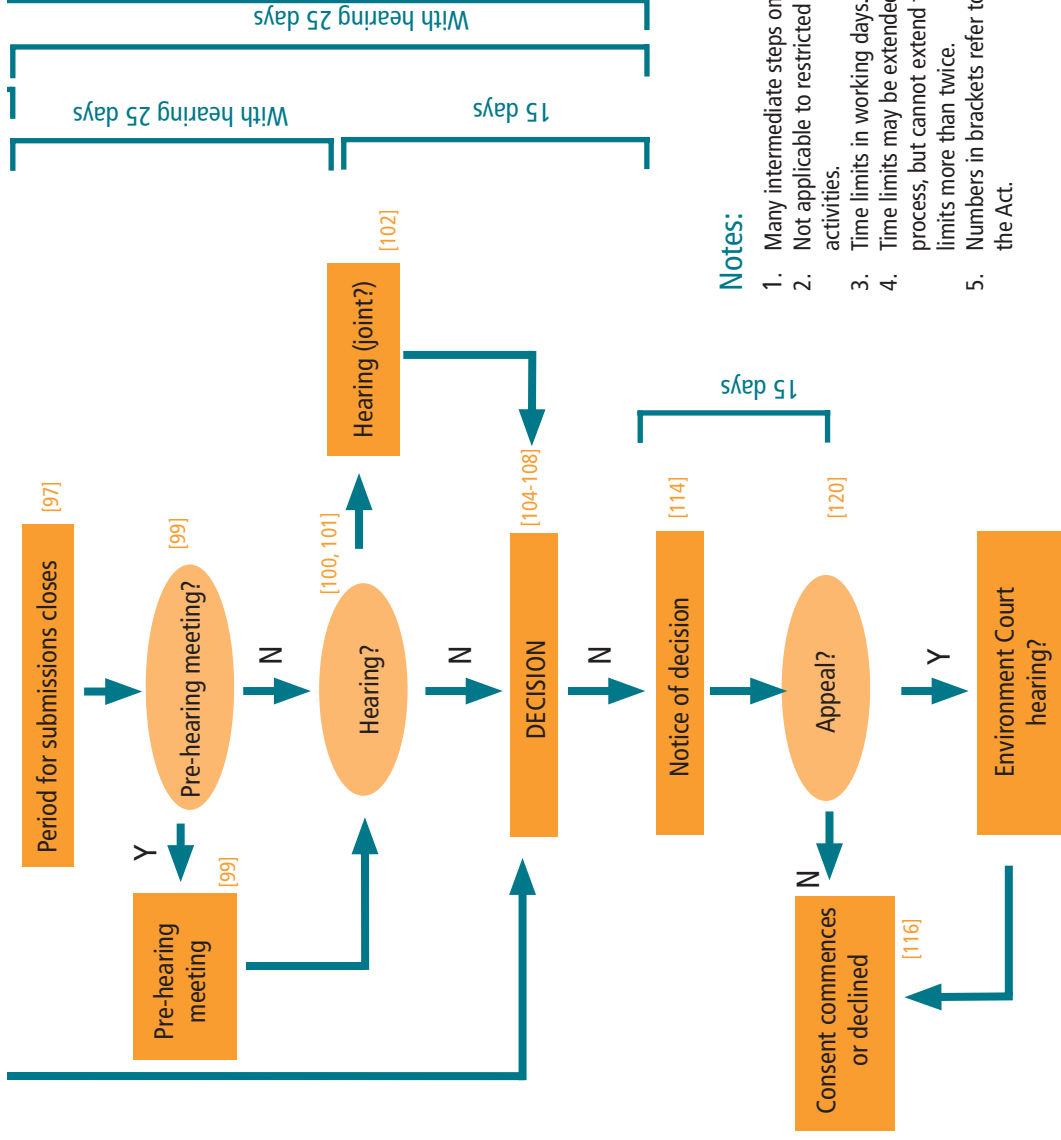
A working day is any day except a Saturday, a Sunday, Good Friday, Easter Monday, Anzac Day, Labour Day, Queen's Birthday and Waitangi Day.

There aren't any working days between 20 December in one year and 10 January the following year.



# Time limits for key stages







## Extending time limits

We sometimes extend the time limits for holding hearings or releasing decisions on applications, to allow applicants and submitters more time to negotiate consent conditions. We can double the time limits if necessary (under section 37 of the RMA), as long as we take into account:



- the interests of anyone who may be directly affected by the extension
- the interests of the community in ensuring proposals are adequately assessed
- our duty to avoid unreasonable delays.



We write to applicants and submitters to let them know if we have extended a time limit. If more than double the time limit is needed, both the applicant and Greater Wellington must agree.

## Applications on hold



We can also put consent applications 'on hold' if we need to ask an applicant:

- for more information
- to get written approval from affected parties
- to apply for additional resource consents.

The processing days are not counted when applications are on hold.

## Notes

#### OUR CONTACT DETAILS

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Regional Council  
Level 3, 142 Wakefield Street  
P O Box 11646  
Wellington  
T 04 384 5708  
F 04 385 6960  
E [www.gw.govt.nz](http://www.gw.govt.nz)

The Greater Wellington  
Regional Council  
34 Chapel Street  
P O Box 41  
Masterton  
T 06 378 2484  
F 04 378 2146  
E [www.gw.govt.nz](http://www.gw.govt.nz)

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Greater Wellington has a range of other brochures designed to help people with resource consents and the consent application process. Copies are available online at [www.gw.govt.nz](http://www.gw.govt.nz) or at a Greater Wellington office.

Topics include:

- Applying for a resource consent
- Making a submission on a resource consent application
- Resource consent information
- Consulting iwi
- Pre-hearing and hearing meetings
- Objections and appeals