

## Comparison of Streamlined and Standard Plan Change Processes

Requirement	Standard Process	Streamlined Process
<b>Ministerial involvement</b>	Only needed to extend the time between notification of proposed plan and decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister receives and makes decisions on requests for a direction (which sets out the planning process)</li> <li>Minister receives and makes decisions on applications for changes to the direction or time extensions</li> <li>Minister makes decision to approve, recommend specific changes or decline to approve the plan change recommendations</li> </ul>
<b>Council involvement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council initiates the plan change process and notifies the proposed plan change</li> <li>Council appoints independent commissioners to hear and make decisions on submissions on its behalf</li> <li>Council approve the decision and notify</li> <li>Council can withdraw the proposal up to the point it approves it or (if appealed) before the Environment Court hearing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council initiates the plan change process and applies to the Minister for a direction</li> <li>Council follows the process set out in the direction (which could include appointing independent commissioner(s) to consider submissions and modify the proposed change</li> <li>Council publicly notifies the Minister's decision and operative date (if plan change approved)</li> <li>Council can withdraw from the process up to the point the Minister makes their decision</li> </ul>
<b>Pre-notification consultation</b>	Requirement of both processes during the preparation of a plan change; includes consulting with tangata whenua, the Minister for the Environment, local authorities. In the Streamlined process, this could be completed before making a request to the Minister for a direction or time allowed within the process	
<b>Notification of proposed plan change</b>	Requirement. Decision made by local authority	Requirement. Carried out in line with Minister's direction
<b>Submissions</b>	Requirement of both processes	
<b>Further submissions</b>	Requirement	Optional
<b>Hearing of submissions by local authority</b>	Requirement (if submitters wish to be heard)	Optional (however, it appears to be generally accepted that this step should be included unless there is an extremely compelling argument for its omission)
<b>Decision</b>	Made by local authority	Made by Minister - local authority makes recommendations
<b>Appeals to Environment Court</b>	Allowed	Allowed on points of law in relation to requirements, designations and heritage orders only
<b>Appeals to High Court</b>	Allowed on points of law only	