



RANGITIKEI
DISTRICT COUNCIL

19 October 2022

Fire and Emergency New Zealand
Te Pae Tata Firebreak Guide Framework
PO Box 2133
Wellington 6140

Submitted via email to tepaetata@fireandemergency.nz

Tēnā Koutou,

Rangitikei District Council submission on Firebreaks in New Zealand

Rangitikei District Council (Council) appreciates the opportunity to submit to the Firebreaks in New Zealand consultation.

A key part of the purpose of local government outlined in the Local Government Act 2002 is to promote well-being of our communities. Responsibilities for territorial authorities in relation to civil defence are outlined in the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002. This Act requires local authorities to plan and provide for civil defence emergency management within the district. Council therefore has an interest in the decision-making processes for emergency preparedness, including establishing requirements for firebreaks.

Council does not have capacity to prepare a submission within the timeframe given. However, we wish to raise concerns that the proposed guidelines may encourage the use of firebreaks in too broad a range of situations, and do not require adequate consideration of the impacts on social, cultural, economic, and environmental well-being when determining whether a firebreak will be required.

Ngā mihi,

Peter Beggs
Chief Executive

Making this place home.