

Whenuapai Air Base Approach and Departure Path Protection Designation: Frequently Asked Questions

How does this affect me or my property?

If you live in the former North Shore City or Waitakere City, the change to the designation will have no practical effect on you or your property – it will operate in a very similar way as it does now.

If you live in the former Rodney District, you will most likely not be affected. If you want to build something taller than 9 m in height and you live in the area to the north of Whenuapai Air Base, between Rangitopuni Stream and Lucas Creek (Riverhead and Coatesville area), then you may require the approval of NZDF to do so. This would be a new requirement imposed by the designation.

What is the purpose of the designation?

To ensure that the airspace through which aircraft travel on approach to, and departure from, the runways at Whenuapai Air Base are kept clear of buildings and other obstacles (such as radio masts and antennas). This is to ensure the safety of aircraft and to comply with Civil Aviation Rules.

How does the designation work?

The designation imposes restrictions on the maximum height of buildings and structures that can be built on the properties underneath the designation. The height restriction gets higher, further away from the runways – it is approximately 100m above mean sea level, 4km from the ends of the runways, and approximately 200m above mean sea level, 9km from the ends of the runway. No obstacle (building or structure) is allowed to exceed the height limit without the prior written approval of the New Zealand Defence Force. There is no restriction on any buildings up to 9m in height.

What is the modification to the designation?

Technical updates have been made to reflect current Civil Aviation Rules. These result in slight modifications to the height of the restriction and the area it covers. In addition, the designation is applied for the first time within the former Rodney District (it already exists in the North Shore and Waitakere District Plans).

Note that the modifications to designation do not in any way affect flight activity. The designation does not authorise any change in use of the runways themselves.

How do I find more information?

Visit the Auckland Council website www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/unitaryplan

Visit the NZDF website www.nzdf.mil.nz/corporate-documents/whenuapai-designation

Call Auckland Council on (09) 365 3786

Call NZDF on (04) 587 2021