

# Planning Reforms

11 February 2026 Update

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# Outline

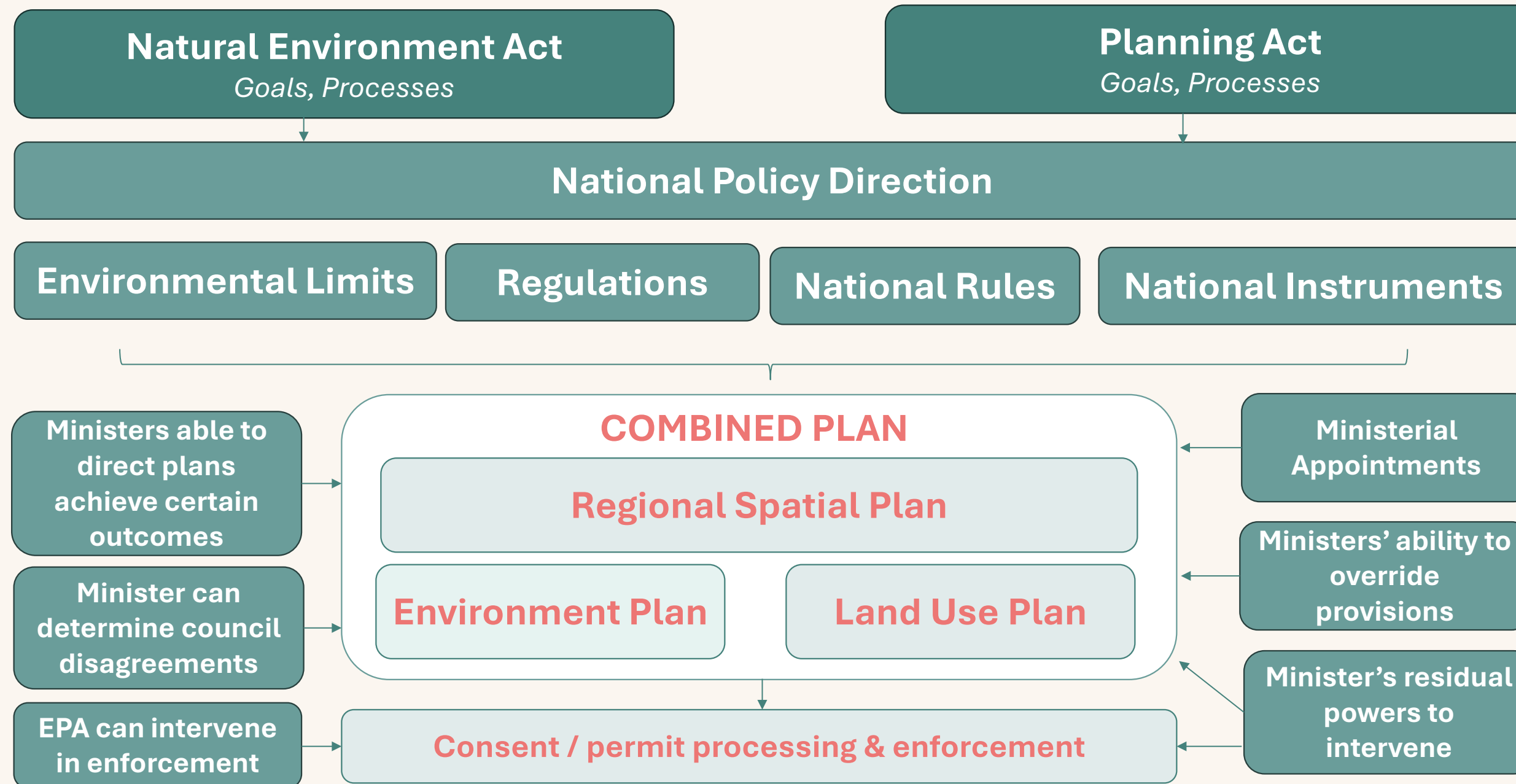
- Submissions on Planning Bill & Natural Environment Bill
- Overview of new system
- Transition timeframes
- Spatial planning committee
- Questions

# Submissions

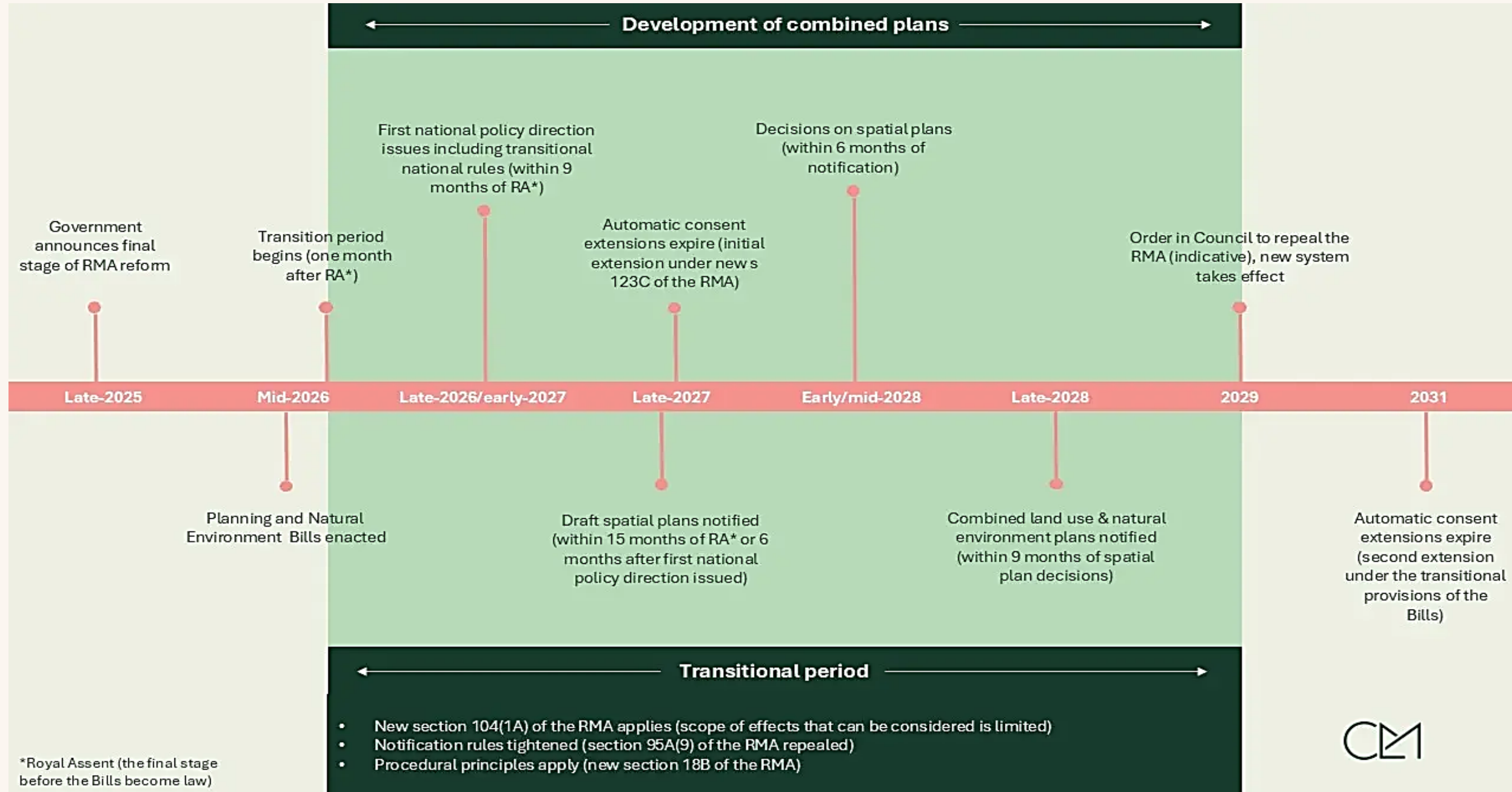
- Submission being lodged 13 February
- Final questions on Planning and Environments Bills?
- Combined regional submission also being prepared

*Note: Councils in the region are also submitting a joint submission. The intent is for this to be signed by all Mayors, and for the joint submission to be complementary to individual council submissions.*

# System overview



# Transition timeframe



# Spatial Planning

Central Govt	Councils in the region	Joint RSP Committee	RSP Secretariat	Independent Hearings Panel (IHP)
<b>Phase 1: Project Initiation – Notification of Draft RSP</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Develop Regulations directing RSP content, format, environmental limits etc.</b></li> <li>• <b>Ability to appoint one or more RSP members.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collectively agree on preparation of RSP <sup>s69</sup></li> <li>• Establish Joint RSP Committee <sup>s71</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appoint secretariat &amp; Chair <sup>s73</sup></li> <li>• Oversee RPS preparation</li> <li>• Consults iwi</li> <li>• Recommend draft RSP to Councils for notification.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the work (or co-ordinates the work) needed to complete the RSP.</li> </ul>	No role
<b>Phase 2: Notification of Draft RSP, Submissions, Hearings, Decisions &amp; Review</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dispute resolution process.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopt draft RSP for notification <sup>s73</sup></li> <li>• Jointly appoint IHP <sup>Sch4(6)</sup></li> <li>• Make decisions on IHP recommendations.</li> <li>• Adopt RSP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advice to TA's on IHP recommendations.</li> <li>• Co-ordination plan</li> <li>• Review RSP on 10 year basis.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Democratic support services to IHP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hears submissions</li> <li>• Makes recommendations to the RSP committee</li> </ul>

# Next Steps

- Details of Regional Spatial Planning process still to be confirmed:
  - what will legislation dictate? &
  - how will our region respond?
- Initiation of Regional Spatial Plan underway.



# Questions