

Moves to improve Blenheim's air quality are underway



The recently released Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan sets out changes to improve air quality within the Blenheim urban area (called an "Airshed") and achieve compliance with the National Environmental Standard for PM10 (particulate). The area that the Blenheim Airshed covers is overleaf.

The changes for the residential zones (within the Blenheim Airshed) are:

- All new solid fuel burners must comply with the design standard and thermal efficiency standard of the National Environmental Standard. These are set out in Appendix 8 of the Plan
- The use of existing open fires is prohibited (new open fires have been prohibited under the National Environmental Standard for some time)
- Solid fuel burners more than 15 years old should be replaced with modern burners that meet the National Environmental Standard. The use of burners exceeding 15 years will be prohibited from 9 June 2017.
- Outdoor burning in the Blenheim Airshed is prohibited

It also means:

- Backyard burning of garden waste in drums or bonfires is banned
- Outdoor braziers are banned
- Fires used for (non-commercial) food preparation are allowed; pizza ovens, charcoal BBQs and fish smokers are okay

Council is considering the use of financial assistance to assist residents to switch to cleaner forms of home heating.

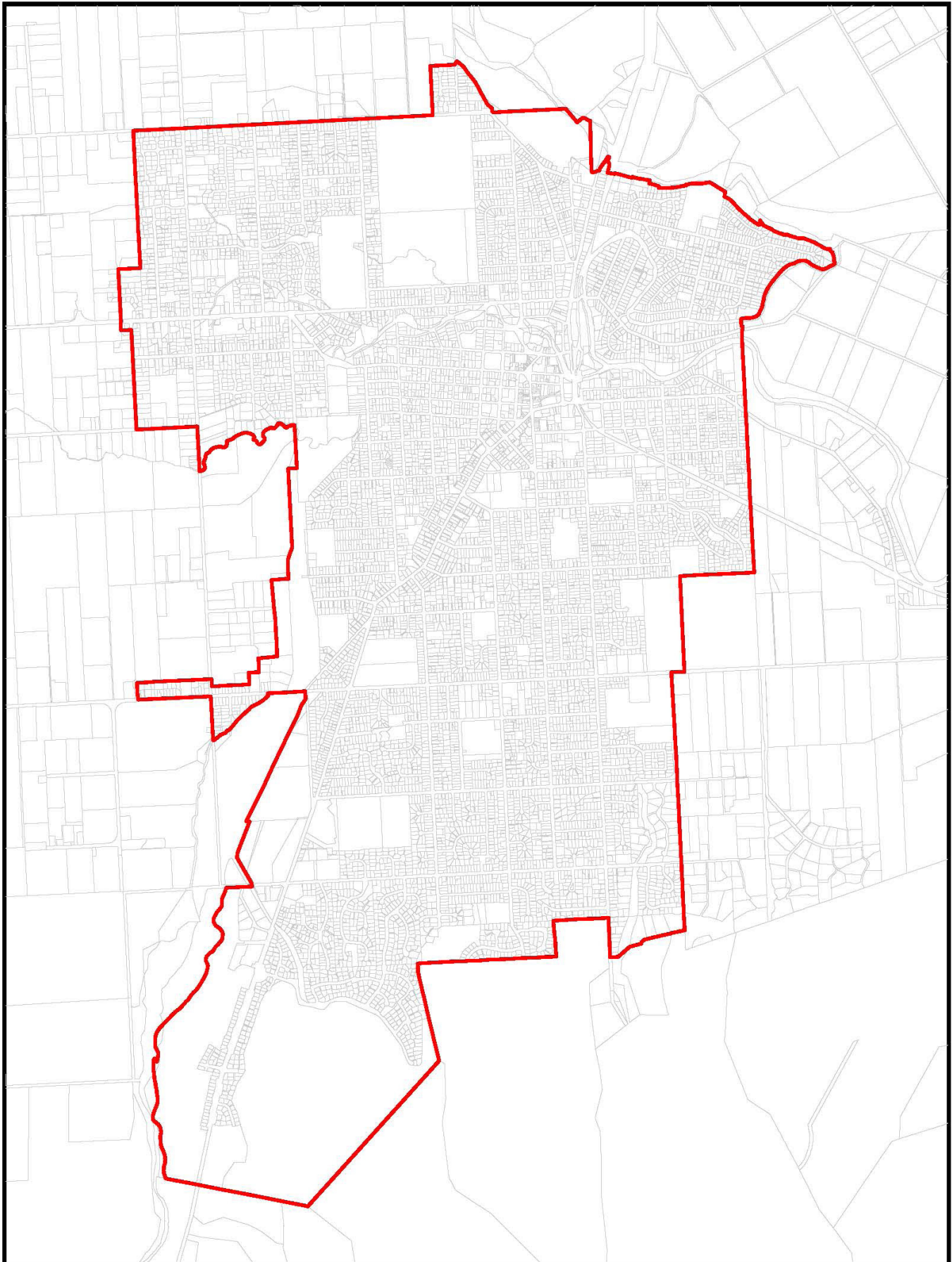
You can access the proposed rules via the Council website:

www.marlborough.govt.nz/Your-Council/RMA/The-Proposed-MEP/Volume-2

There's time now to make a submission on the air quality rules in the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan.

You can make a submission online via the Council website, or collect a submission form from Council offices and libraries, or print a form from the Council website.

Closing date for submissions: Thursday, 1 September 2016.



**Appendix 9
Blenheim Airshed**

Legend

-  Gazetted Air Shed
-  Land Parcel



Date: 10/02/2016