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## National Planning Standards

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On 5 April 2019, the Minister for the Environment released the long awaited National Planning Standards as part of his keynote speech at the NZPI Conference. The standards were gazetted on 5 April 2019 and take effect on Friday 5 May 2019.

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In our previous article we provided an overview of the draft National Planning Standards where we accepted that the principle of standardisation had merit but raised concerns about the practicalities of implementing a one sized fits all approach.

That view was shared by many submitters during the consultation period with a total of 201 submissions made on the draft standards (57 submissions were made by local authorities and 70 by business/industry). Of those submissions, two-thirds reportedly expressed support in principle or in part for the planning standards, however almost all submissions requested changes.

The resultant changes are significant and we think they will provide real assistance in implementation. Some challenges will of course remain as is to be expected in a procedural shift of this nature but overall we are hopeful the advantages of standardisation will outweigh the teething pains. Of course with implementation over an extended period, it will be some considerable time before a judgement on that matter can be made.

Read our full review here -

<https://app.box.com/s/8678u515gbxxt0vq5luby3rg1pa0lccp>

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