

I323. Observatory Precinct

I323.1. Precinct Description

The Observatory Precinct includes both the Auckland Observatory and Planetarium (Stardome) located within One Tree Hill/ Maungakiekie Domain.

Auckland is one of the few cities in the world with both an astronomical observatory and a planetarium. Both of these facilities are valued regional assets.

The purpose of this precinct is to provide for the ongoing use and development of the Observatory and Planetarium. The precinct enables a range of activities that enhance the operation, use and enjoyment of these facilities and manages effects on the heritage values and landscape character of One Tree Hill/ Maungakiekie Domain.

The land within the precinct is scheduled:

- in the Historic Heritage Overlay as part of the extent of place identified for the One Tree Hill/ Maungakiekie Domain;
- in the Volcanic Viewshafts and Height Sensitive Areas Overlay; and
- as an outstanding natural feature in the Outstanding Natural Features Overlay and the Outstanding Natural Landscapes Overlay as part of the outstanding natural feature identified for the One Tree Hill/ Maungakiekie Domain.

[PC 78 \(see Modifications\)](#)

The land within this precinct is zoned Open Space – Informal Recreation Zone.

I323.2. Objectives

- (1) Use and development enhances the operation, use and enjoyment of the Observatory and Planetarium and enables technical requirements to be met.
- (2) Use and development in the Observatory Precinct is compatible with the heritage values and landscape character of One Tree Hill/ Maungakiekie Domain.

The overlay, Auckland-wide and Open Space – Informal Recreation Zone objectives apply in this precinct in addition to those specified above.

I323.3. Policies

- (1) Enable activities that enhance the operation, use and enjoyment of the Observatory and Planetarium.
- (2) Enable development necessary to meet the technical requirements of the Observatory and Planetarium.
- (3) Manage development to ensure it is compatible with the heritage values and landscape character of the One Tree Hill/ Maungakiekie Domain.
- (4) Manage parking within the precinct to ensure the heritage and landscape character values of One Tree Hill/ Maungakiekie Domain are not adversely affected.
- (5) Manage the impacts of light spill on the Observatory from surrounding land uses.

The overlay, Auckland-wide and Open Space – Informal Recreation Zone policies apply in this precinct in addition to those specified above.

I323.4. Activity table

The overlay, Auckland-wide and Open Space – Informal Recreation Zone provisions apply in this precinct unless otherwise specified below.

Table I323.4.1 Activity table specifies the activity status of land use and development activities in the Observatory Precinct pursuant to section 9(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Table I323.4.1 Activity table

Activity		Activity status
Use		
(A1)	Restaurants and cafes, excluding a drive-through facility, accessory to use of the Observatory and Planetarium	P
(A2)	Conference facilities accessory to the Observatory and Planetarium	P
(A3)	Observatory and Planetarium activities	P
(A4)	Displays and exhibitions	P
Development		
(A5)	Internal and external alterations and additions to existing buildings	P
(A6)	Buildings where the cumulative total building coverage, or cumulative total footprint of buildings, is greater than 50% of the total precinct area	D
(A7)	Buildings associated with the Observatory Precinct which are not entirely located within the precinct boundary	D

I323.5. Notification

- (1) Any application for resource consent for an activity listed in Table I323.4.1 Activity table above will be subject to the normal tests for notification under the relevant sections of the Resource Management Act 1991.
- (2) When deciding who is an affected person in relation to any activity for the purposes of section 95E of the Resource Management Act 1991 the Council will give specific consideration to those persons listed in [Rule C1.13\(4\)](#).

I323.6. Standards

The zone standards do not apply in this precinct. The overlay and Auckland-wide standards apply in this precinct except for Standard [E27.6.2](#) Number of parking and loading spaces in [E.27 Transport](#).

Internal and external alterations and additions to existing buildings, provided for as a permitted activity in Table I323.4.1 Activity table, must comply with the following permitted activity standards:

I323.6.1. Maximum building height

- (1) Buildings must not exceed 9m above the height of the existing ground level in Area A as shown on Observatory Precinct: Precinct plan 1 – Maximum building height.
- (2) Buildings must not exceed 3m above the height of the existing ground level in Area B as shown on Observatory Precinct: Precinct plan 1 – Maximum building height.

I323.6.2. Maximum building coverage and building location

- (1) The maximum building coverage or cumulative total footprint of buildings must not exceed 50 per cent of the total precinct area.
- (2) Buildings associated with the Observatory and Planetarium must be entirely located within the precinct boundary.

I323.6.3. Maximum impervious area

- (1) The maximum impervious area must not exceed 70 per cent of the total precinct area.

I323.6.4. Number of parking spaces

- (1) The number of parking spaces must not exceed 15 parking spaces.

I323.7. Assessment – controlled activities

There are no controlled activities in this precinct.

I323.8. Assessment – restricted discretionary activities

There are no restricted discretionary activities in this precinct.

I323.9. Special information requirements

There are no special information requirements in this precinct.

I323.10. Precinct plans

I323.10.1. Observatory Precinct: Precinct plan 1 – Maximum building height

