

Tēnā koutou,

My name is **Aruna Wickramasinghe** (and this is **Ms. Leana Shirley**). Ms. Shirley and I are appearing on behalf of **Horizons Regional Council** (Horizons) in support of the Proposed Plan Change E, particularly in relation to the **stormwater management** provisions.

I am a **Senior Policy Planner at Horizons**, with over 10 years of planning experience, including two years of policy planning experience in New Zealand. I prepared Horizons' submission and further submission on this Proposed Plan Change.

Horizons supports the approach taken in this proposed plan change to manage stormwater. In our further submission, we **opposed** requests to remove permeability standards and related policies.

In our view, these provisions are essential to give effect to **Horizons' One Plan – Regional Policy Statement – Urban Form and Development – Policy 8. (RPS-UFD-Policy 8)**.

Section 75(3) of the RMA requires District Plans to give effect to Regional Policy Statements. Accordingly, I consider that the stormwater provisions that are required to give effect to RPS-UFD-Policy 8, should be retained in the Proposed Plan Change.

The RPS-UFD-Policy 8 requires District Plans to adopt a climate change resilience and risk-based approach to urban development. Based on the expert evidence of Ms. Mary Wood, the proposed minimum permeability standards and related policies are necessary to support these outcomes. Ms. Wood confirms in her evidence that the proposed stormwater management provisions align with RPS-UFD-Policy 8, and are required manage runoff, align with stormwater modelling, and enable interim development while longer term capacity upgrades are implemented.

The proposed stormwater management provisions also give effect to:

- Objectives 1 and 8, and Policy 1 of the National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020; and
- Objective 1 and Policy 3 of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020.

I also agree with Palmerston North City Council planner Mr. Eamon Guthrie's recommendation to retain these provisions in the notified plan.

In conclusion, the permeability standards and related policies proposed in Plan Change E are essential to ensure that the District Plan gives effect to the RPS, NPS-UD, and NPS-FM, and to enable Palmerston North City Council to effectively manage stormwater risks in Roxburgh Crescent and the surrounding areas through its consenting process.

Thank you very much,

We are happy to answer any questions the panel may have.