

Proposed Far North District Plan– Health

New Zealand – Te Whatu Ora

*Presentation to Independent Hearings Panel, evidence
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The Role of Health NZ, Te Whatu Ora

- ❖ Operational functions of the Ministry of Health, day to day running of the health system
- ❖ Promotion and protection of the health of Te Tai Tokerau communities, preventing diseases, reducing inequities and supporting people to be healthy.

The Important Role of Strategic Direction

- ❖ SD is the “engine room” of the PDP – it is important to get this right.
- ❖ As proposed SD is flawed – it fails to adequately address significant resource management matters
- ❖ As proposed SD does not include policies – lack of policy to give effect to the SD objectives.
- ❖ These can be located in other chapters, but no clear link has been established currently.
- ❖ I consider these are best located in the SD Chapter.

Centres Hierarchy in Strategic Direction

- ❖ Establishing a hierarchy to centres assists to confirm the range of resource management issues, potential effects and responses to these, tailored to different types of urban centres creating an efficient and effective zoning method.
- ❖ Hierarchy can be established using factors.
- ❖ In my opinion a single Mixed Use Zone is unusual, ineffective and inefficient.

Public Health and Safety in Strategic Direction

- ❖ Relief sought seeks changes to objectives to ensure that community health and safety are considered.
- ❖ Section 5 clearly requires the enablement of communities and people to provide for their four well beings and separately for their health and safety.

Regionally Significant Infrastructure

- ❖ Regional Policy Statement (RPS) defines Regionally Significant Infrastructure (RSI) - including public hospitals.
- ❖ RSI is not just relevant in the infrastructure chapter, transcending many areas of the plan.
- ❖ RSI does not have the elevation in the PDP hierarchy commensurate to its significance to the region.
- ❖ RSI is not limited to specific public hospital locations it is imperative that the Strategic Direction appropriately recognise the importance of public hospitals at a district wide level.

Regionally Significant Infrastructure

❖ Te Whatu Ora seek the following:

“Objective: The benefits of Regionally Significant Infrastructure are recognised and provided for.

Policy: To recognise and provide for the social, economic and cultural benefits of Regionally Significant Infrastructure by enabling its ongoing operation, maintenance, development, and upgrading where adverse effects are managed.”

Efficient Provision of Infrastructure and Accessibility and Safety

- ❖ Provision of adequate three waters infrastructure key component of achieving positive public health outcomes for both urban and rural environments.
- ❖ Te Whatu Ora sought the deletion of notified SD-UFD-O3 seeking that it be replaced by the following objective:

“Ensure that efficient and effective onsite and reticulated infrastructure is provided in a sustainable manner.”
- ❖ Encouragement and facilitation of public and active modes of transport as this is crucial for maintaining and enhancing the accessibility and safety for people and communities. Te Whatu Ora seek:

“Maintain and enhance accessibility and safety for communities and integrate land use and transport planning”.

Natural Hazards

- ❖ Natural hazards have significant implications for public health and the PDP needs to have a clear strategic direction about how the risk and implications of natural hazards including climate change are going to be managed in future subdivision and development.
- ❖ Te Whatu Ora has sought to include a new objective:
“Urban growth and development is resilient, and manage the risk from natural hazards or and climate change”

Reverse Sensitivity

- ❖ Reverse sensitivity is a significant resource management issue from a public health and wellbeing perspective
- ❖ I consider that reverse sensitivity is a resource management issue that must be addressed across zones
- ❖ Te Whatu Ora relief sought will give effect to RPS objective 3.6 and policy 5.1.1 Bullet 2
- ❖ Te Whatu Ora seek a new objective:

“Avoid reverse sensitivity effects between incompatible activities and zones.”

Urban Design and Open Space

- ❖ Well designed and located open space is crucial for the social and cultural wellbeing of people and communities.
- ❖ Te Whatu Ora seek new objectives and policies.
- ❖ In my opinion, it is necessary to have strategic direction to guide this at a district scale, I consider that SD-SP-O3 is too high level and does not explicitly reference open space.