Waikato District Plan Operative in Part

Objectives/Policies	Assessment
SD Strategic directions – Objectives	
SD-O1 - Socio-economic advancement. The District has a thriving economy.	The event will support the district economy through visitor spending and demand for accommodation, transport, food, event production, security, waste collection and other services. Employment and contracting opportunities will extend across establishment, operation and pack-out. The report's discussion of the existing Rhythm and Vines event provides context for the scale of activity associated with a multi-day festival, rather than a forecast of an equivalent local economic outcome. The proposed event is consistent with this objective through its contribution to local and regional economic activity.
SD-O2 - Tangata whenua. Tangata whenua's relationships, interests, including commercial interests, and associations with their culture, traditions, ancestral lands, waterbodies, sites, areas and landscapes, and other taonga are recognised and provided for.	The proposal recognises the cultural context of the Site and Waikato River through its layout and engagement with mana whenua. The festival excludes the archaeological conservation area and lower riverside terrace, and no disturbance of identified sites or vegetation removal is proposed. The consultation record identifies in-principle support, subject to the qualifications in the correspondence. These measures support recognition of tangata whenua relationships and associations by retaining significant places and incorporating engagement into event planning. The assessment relies on the proposal as described and does not treat archaeological advice as a determination of all cultural values.
SD-O3 - National Policy Statement on Urban Development Housing Bottom Lines The housing bottom lines for feasible, reasonably expected to be realised development capacity for housing in the Waikato District are met, in accordance with the requirements of the National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020. Housing Bottom Lines (number of dwellings) Area Short to Medium Long term 30 Year Total 1-10 Term (2020-2030) (2030-2050) Waikato District 6,900 11,200 18,100	NA – The proposal does not involve housing development or provision of housing capacity.
SD-O4 - Housing variety. A variety of housing types are available to meet the community's housing needs.	NA – No housing is proposed.

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SD-O5 - Integration of infrastructure and land use. New development is integrated with the provision of infrastructure.	The proposal uses temporary off-grid services designed for the event. Water supply and distribution, toilets and showers, blackwater containment and removal, power generation, communications and waste collection are coordinated through the EMP and specialist plans. Facility provision will accommodate the consented population, including campers, staff, contractors and performers. The transport strategy links event capacity to access, parking and passenger transport. This approach responds to the objective by integrating servicing with the scale and duration of the land use.
SD-O6 - Hamilton's urban expansion area. Land uses within Hamilton's Urban Expansion Area do not compromise its future urban development.	NA – The proposal is a temporary event and will not compromise the Hamilton Expansion Area.
SD-O7 - Regionally significant infrastructure and industry. Recognise the importance of regionally significant infrastructure and regionally significant industry.	The Site's accessibility depends on the wider transport network, including State Highway connections, and it is affected by airport-related controls. The proposal recognises the role of that infrastructure through transport assessment, coordination with road-controlling authorities and compliance with the applicable aviation controls. As outlined in the Other Approvals section, no activity or temporary works are proposed within the State Highway 1 designation and no new permanent airport obstruction is proposed. The remaining issue is operational interaction with the road network, rather than physical alteration of the infrastructure. That issue is assessed under AINF.
SD-O8 - Highly productive soils. High quality soils are protected from urban development, except in areas identified for future growth in the District Plan.	NA – The proposal does not involve urban development. Effects on productive rural land and soils are assessed under GRUZ-O2, GRUZ-P1 and GRUZ-P2.
SD-O9 - Rural activities. The rural environment provides for a range of rural activities, including primary production and food supply.	The Site is primarily used for pastoral farming. The festival temporarily occupies pasture during the annual event cycle, after which temporary infrastructure is removed and the land reinstated. No subdivision, earthworks or vegetation removal is proposed. Permanent storage is confined to approximately 2,000m², leaving the wider landholding open and available for rural use outside event occupation. The proposal therefore retains the landholding's rural use potential, while introducing a recurring non-farming activity. Its compatibility with rural character during operation is assessed under GRUZ and NOISE rather than inferred solely from the return to pasture.
SD-O10 - Reverse sensitivity.	The festival does not introduce permanent residential development or seek restrictions on

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Existing activities and permitted land use and development are protected from reverse sensitivity effects.	existing rural activities. Camping is limited to the event period and operates within a managed festival environment that includes music, generators and vehicle activity. This limits the duration and nature of new sensitivity to surrounding operations. The proposed activity therefore differs from establishing permanent residential occupation alongside a working rural activity. Maintaining access for neighbouring properties and infrastructure and managing event boundaries further limits operational conflict. Direct noise and traffic effects generated by the festival are assessed separately and are not treated as reverse sensitivity.
SD-O11 - Historic heritage. Historic heritage contributes to the district's sense of place and identity.	The layout retains the archaeological conservation area outside the festival footprint. The lower terrace is excluded from event activities and works, stages use above-ground ballast and marquee installation uses the methods reviewed by HNZPT. HNZPT has confirmed that no archaeological authority is required for the project as described. These measures retain the identified heritage places and avoid physical disturbance, supporting their continuing contribution to the area's identity. The proposal is consistent with this objective on that basis.
SD-O12 - Natural environment. Outstanding natural features and landscapes, and significant indigenous terrestrial flora and fauna are protected.	The festival footprint excludes the SNA and conservation area, retains the river and gully vegetation and involves no vegetation clearance. These measures avoid direct habitat loss and retain the vegetation supporting indigenous fauna, including bats. Potential disturbance of bats is addressed through the event layout, stage orientation and proposed noise and lighting controls. Localised pest control is the agreed last-resort contingency if bats are detected. These measures address habitat retention and operational disturbance; the residual-effects assessment is addressed under ECO-P2.
SD-O13 - Climate change. Land use is planned to recognise, and avoid, remedy or mitigate the potential adverse effects of climate change induced weather variability and sea level rise.	The EMP includes adverse-weather contingencies, emergency access and evacuation procedures. Most event infrastructure is temporary and is removed after each annual event.
SD-O14 - Well-functioning urban environment (1) A well-functioning urban environment that enables all people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural wellbeing,	NA – The proposal is a temporary event in the General Rural Zone and does not establish an urban environment.

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and for their health and safety, now and into the future.	
SD Strategic directions – Policies	
SD-P1 - Activities within Hamilton's urban expansion area. Avoid subdivision, use and development within Hamilton's urban expansion area to ensure that future urban development is not compromised.	NA – The proposal is a temporary event and will not compromise the Hamilton Expansion Area.
SD-P2 - Medium Density Residential Standards (1) Apply the MDRS across all relevant residential zones in the district plan except in circumstances where the qualifying matter is relevant (including matters of significance such as historic heritage and the relationship of Maaori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga).	NA – No residential development or application of the Medium Density Residential Standards is proposed.
AINF All infrastructure – Objectives	
AINF-O1 - Development, operation and maintenance of infrastructure. Infrastructure is developed, operated, maintained and upgraded to enhance social, economic, cultural and environmental well-being	NA – The application does not propose development, upgrading or maintenance of network infrastructure. Temporary event servicing is assessed under AINF-O7, AINF-P25 and AINF-P26.
AINF-O2 - Adverse effects on infrastructure. Infrastructure is protected from reverse sensitivity effects, and its construction, operation, maintenance, repair, replacement and upgrading is not compromised.	Temporary event occupation and traffic management will retain existing public access and infrastructure access. The proposal maintains Te Awa River Ride and existing access rights, with resident, service and emergency access addressed through the transport strategy and ETMP. No activity is proposed within the State Highway 1 designation, and the proposal does not alter existing infrastructure rights or impose operating restrictions on infrastructure providers. These measures address physical interference and continuing access.
AINF-O3 - Infrastructure in the community and identified areas. Provision of Infrastructure takes into account the qualities and characteristics of surrounding environments and community well-being.	NA – No network infrastructure project is proposed. The temporary event servicing model is assessed under AINF-P26.
AINF-O4 - National grid. The national significance of the National Grid is recognised and provided for.	NA – No National Grid development or National Grid interface is identified in the proposal.
AINF-O5 - Renewable energy. Energy efficient design and an increase in renewable electricity generation.	NA – No renewable electricity generation project or permanent occupied building design is proposed. Temporary generators provide event power.

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AINF-O6 - Non-renewable energy. Non-renewable energy resources and electricity generation are recognised within the District.	NA – No non-renewable energy resource development is proposed. Temporary generator use is ancillary event servicing.
AINF-O7 - Integration of infrastructure with subdivision, land use and development. Infrastructure is provided for, and integrated with, subdivision, use and development.	The event's temporary services are part of the proposal rather than an assumption that existing rural facilities can accommodate the festival population. Water storage and distribution, ablutions, waste collection, power and communications will be coordinated for establishment, operation and pack-out. The EMP will document locations, servicing frequency, responsibilities and contingencies within the consented capacity and operating limits. This event-specific approach is consistent with integrating infrastructure provision with the proposed use. Greywater discharge is identified as requiring a separate regional consent and is not authorised by this land-use application.
AINF-O8 - Land transport network. (1) An integrated land transport network where: (a) All transport modes are accessible, safe and efficient; and (b) Adverse effects from the construction, maintenance, upgrading and operation of the transport network are avoided, remedied or mitigated; (c) Strategic road and rail corridors play an important role in the district for facilitating the movement of inter and intra-regional freight; and (d) There is an effective and efficient land transport system that enhances economic well-being, and supports growth and productivity within the Waikato region and upper North Island.	Clauses (1)(a), (c) and (d) are relevant to use of the existing transport network. Clause (1)(b) is NA to construction, maintenance and upgrading, which are not proposed. The relevant outcome is an accessible, safe and efficient network accommodating the event alongside other users. The proposal combines private vehicle parking with organised buses, local shuttles, taxis and rideshare, managed pedestrian routes, cycle facilities and Te Awa River Ride connections. Internal queuing and marshalled circulation are intended to contain event demand within designated areas rather than on surrounding roads. These arrangements respond to integrated travel provision and use of the existing network. Their adequacy during peak arrivals and departures is assessed under AINF-P27. Clauses concerning effects of constructing or maintaining the network are not engaged by the proposed activity.
AINF All infrastructure – Policies	
AINF-P1 - Development, operation and maintenance. (1) Provide for the development, operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, upgrading and removal of infrastructure throughout the district by recognising:	NA – The proposal does not involve development, operation or maintenance of network infrastructure. Event servicing is assessed under AINF-P25 and AINF-P26.

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(a) Functional and operational needs; (b) Location, route and design needs and constraints; (c) Locational constraints related to the need to access suitable resources or sites; (d) The benefits of infrastructure to people and communities; (e) The need to quickly restore disrupted services; and (f) Its role in servicing existing consented and planned development; (g) The need for physical access to infrastructure.	
AINF-P2 - Technological advances. (1) Provide flexibility for infrastructure operators to adopt new technologies that: (a) Improve access to, and efficient use of infrastructure, networks and services; (b) Allow for the reuse of redundant services, infrastructure and structures; (c) Increase resilience, safety or reliability of infrastructure, networks and services; (d) Result in environmental benefits and enhancements; or (e) Promote environmentally sustainable outcomes including green infrastructure and the increased utilisation of renewable resources.	NA – The application is not for an infrastructure operator's adoption of new network technologies.
AINF-P3 - Infrastructure benefits. (1) Have regard to the benefits that infrastructure provides, including: (a) Enabling enhancement of the quality of life and residential standard for people and communities; (b) Providing for public health and safety; (c) Enabling the functioning of business and growth and development;	NA – No new network infrastructure is proposed for which infrastructure benefits are relied on. The event's use of existing transport infrastructure is assessed under AINF-O8 and AINF-P27.

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(d) Managing adverse effects on the environment; (e) Enabling the transportation of freight, goods and people; (f) Enabling interaction and communication; and (g) Providing for lifeline utility services. (2) Have particular regard to the benefits that the use and development of renewable energy provide.	
AINF-P4 - Natural hazards and climate change. Improve the resilience of infrastructure to natural hazard risk and climate change disruptions by encouraging the design and location of infrastructure to take account of natural hazards and the effects of climate change.	NA – No new network infrastructure project is proposed. Event adverse-weather arrangements are addressed under SD-O13 and the EMP.
AINF-P5 - Adverse effects on infrastructure. Avoid reverse sensitivity effects on infrastructure from subdivision, use and development as far as reasonably practicable, and ensure that the construction, operation, maintenance, repair, replacement and upgrading of infrastructure are not compromised.	The proposal does not establish permanent residential buildings near infrastructure or request changes to existing infrastructure operations. Event access and temporary controls will be coordinated with road-controlling authorities, while public cycleway access and the Site's existing access rights are retained. These measures support continuing infrastructure use and access. The short period of camping within an active festival limits the duration of any new sensitivity to existing operations. The policy does not require the festival to demonstrate a need to construct infrastructure; its relevant requirement is that the proposed land use does not compromise existing infrastructure.
AINF-P6 - Environmental effects, community health, safety and amenity. Require the development, operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, upgrading and removal of infrastructure and its associated structures to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the environment, community health, safety and amenity.	NA – The proposal is not a network infrastructure development or upgrade. The effects of temporary servicing are addressed under AINF-P26 and the servicing effects assessment.
AINF-P7 - Infrastructure in identified areas. (1) Ensure consideration of the values, qualities and characteristics of Significant Natural Areas, Landscape and Natural Character Areas, Historic Heritage Items, Heritage areas, and Sites and Areas of Significance to Maaori, when	NA – No new network infrastructure or significant upgrade within an identified area is proposed.

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proposing new infrastructure or undertaking significant upgrades to existing infrastructure. (2) Provide for regionally significant infrastructure within Identified Areas where: (a) There is a demonstrated functional or operational need for the infrastructure to be located within the Identified Area; and (b) It is demonstrated through an options assessment that locating within the Identified Area is the best practicable option, having particular regard to the financial implications, social, cultural and environmental effects of the preferred option, compared to other alternative options.	
AINF-P8 - Undergrounding new infrastructure. (1) Encourage new infrastructure to be placed underground unless: (a) The adverse effects on the environment are greater than placing the infrastructure above ground; (b) A natural or physical feature or structure renders underground placement impractical or undesirable; (c) There are significant operational, functional, technical, cultural, historic heritage or economic reasons that require the infrastructure to be above ground; or (d) It is overhead electricity distribution lines and support structures within the General Rural Zone.	NA – No new network infrastructure requiring an underground or overhead location is proposed.
AINF-P9 - Co-location of compatible facilities. Encourage compatible infrastructure sharing of location or facilities where operational advantages can be achieved and adverse effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated.	NA – No co-location of network infrastructure facilities is proposed.
AINF-P10 - Future growth areas. Require infrastructure services to be planned, developed and co-ordinated with development to ensure it can be extended to future growth areas where and when appropriate.	NA – The event does not involve extending infrastructure to serve future growth areas.

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AINF-P11 - Electromagnetic and radio frequency fields. Require infrastructure that generates electromagnetic or radio frequency fields to comply with the International Commission on Non-ionising Radiation Protection Guidelines, relevant WHO guidelines and the relevant New Zealand Standard.	NA – No infrastructure generating electromagnetic or radio frequency fields requiring assessment under this policy is proposed.
AINF-P12 - Raglan navigation beacons. Avoid obscuring navigational beacons and associated view shafts at Raglan Harbour (Whaingaroa).	NA – The proposal is not at Raglan Harbour and does not affect its navigation beacons or view shafts.
AINF-P13 - Water conservation Encourage water conservation measures and, where appropriate, low impact stormwater design and facilities.	Event water supply and distribution will be managed by a water management company. The EMP will specify water supply, storage, distribution, servicing and contingencies for the consented population. Coordinated supply and distribution provide for management of event water use.
AINF-P14 - Regionally Significant Infrastructure. (1) Have particular regard to the benefits that can be gained from the development and use of regionally significant infrastructure; and (2) Protect the effectiveness and efficiency of existing and planned regionally significant infrastructure.	NA – No regionally significant infrastructure development is proposed. Effects on existing infrastructure are assessed under SD-O7 and AINF-O2.
AINF-P15 - Recognise the needs and constraints of the National Grid. Recognise the operational, functional and technical needs and constraints of the National Grid, and the interconnectedness of networks.	NA – No National Grid development or operational change is proposed.
AINF-P16 - Operation and development of the National Grid. Provide for the operation, upgrading and development of the National Grid.	NA – No National Grid development, operation or upgrading is proposed.
AINF-P17 - Maintenance and minor upgrade the National Grid. Enable the repair, maintenance, replacement and minor upgrade of the National Grid.	NA – No National Grid repair, maintenance, replacement or minor upgrade is proposed.
AINF-P18 - Environmental effects. (1) Manage the environmental effects of the development or upgrades (other than minor upgrades) of the National Grid, by: (a) Recognising and providing for the national, regional and local benefits of	NA – No development or upgrade of the National Grid is proposed.

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sustainable, secure and efficient electricity transmission; (b) Considering the extent to which any adverse effects have been avoided, remedied or mitigated by the route, site and method selection; (c) Seeking to reduce the existing adverse effects as part of any substantial upgrade; (d) Considering the effects on urban amenity (including town centres), areas of high recreational or amenity value and existing sensitive land uses; (e) Within urban environments, addressing the adverse effects on any heritage values, cultural values, town centres, areas of high recreation value and existing sensitive activities including the avoidance of adverse effects where practicable; and (f) Within rural environments, seeking to avoid adverse effects on identified heritage values, cultural values, outstanding natural landscapes, outstanding natural features, significant natural areas, areas of outstanding or high natural character, areas of high recreation value and existing sensitive activities.	
AINF-P19 - Adverse effects on the National Grid. (1) Manage subdivision, use and development to the extent reasonably possible so that the operation, maintenance, upgrading and development of the National Grid is not compromised by ensuring that: (a) The National Grid is identified on the planning maps and the National Grid Yard and National Grid Subdivision Corridor establish buffer distances for managing land use development and subdivision near the National Grid; (b) Land uses (including sensitive land uses) and structures that may compromise the National Grid, including intensive farming	NA – No National Grid Yard or Subdivision Corridor interface is identified in the proposal, and no subdivision is proposed.

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activities, are excluded from establishing within the National Grid Yard; (c) Subdivision is managed within the National Grid Subdivision Corridor to avoid subsequent land use from compromising the operation, maintenance, upgrading and development of the National Grid; and (d) Changes to existing activities within a National Grid Yard do not further restrict the operation, maintenance, upgrading and development of the National Grid.	
AINF-P20 - Utilising energy efficiency. Design subdivision, land use and development so that buildings can utilise energy efficiency and conservation measures, including by orientation to the sun and through other natural elements.	NA to temporary festival facilities. Permanent storage is for event equipment.
AINF-P21 - Enabling renewable electricity generation. Enable the investigation, development, operation, maintenance and upgrading of renewable electricity generation activities, including domestic and community scale distributed renewable electricity generation, provided that adverse effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated.	NA – No renewable electricity generation project is proposed.
AINF-P22 - Future renewable electricity. Provide for the investigation, identification and assessment of potential sites and energy sources for renewable electricity generation activities.	NA – The application does not investigate or identify sites for renewable electricity generation.
AINF-P23 - Existing renewable electricity facilities. (1) Ensure subdivision, use and development are designed and located so that they do not adversely affect the operation and maintenance of existing, lawfully established renewable energy generation facilities. (2) Enable non-sensitive rural land use activities, where they can co-exist with existing renewable electricity generation facilities.	NA – No interaction with an existing renewable electricity generation facility is identified in the proposal.
AINF-P24 - Recognise non-renewable energy resources. Recognise the actual and potential contribution to national energy production from non-renewable electricity resources.	NA – No non-renewable electricity resource development is proposed. Temporary generators are ancillary event servicing.

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AINF-P25 - Provide adequate infrastructure. Ensure adequate provision of infrastructure, including land transport networks, where land is subdivided creating one or more additional lots, excluding reserve or non-housing conservation lots, access and utility allotments, or its use is significantly changed or intensified, needing additional or upgraded infrastructure.	The event intensifies use of the Site for a defined annual period. Temporary off-grid services and the transport strategy provide for that period of occupation. The attendance limit, provision for the workforce and campers, and servicing and contingency requirements establish the population and period for which services must be supplied. Active traffic controls, parking, passenger transport and queue management form part of the proposed transport arrangements. These measures respond to the provision of infrastructure for the event's scale and duration.
AINF-P26 - Infrastructure location and services. (1) Ensure subdivision, use and development are provided with infrastructure and services to a level that is appropriate to its location and intended use including: (a) Three waters (water, wastewater and stormwater management); (b) Telecommunication services; (c) Electricity services; and (d) Adequate water supply within urban areas for firefighting purposes.	Water will be supplied and distributed through temporary facilities, blackwater will be contained and removed off site, and electricity will be supplied by on-site generators. Event communications will operate through Event Control, radio and other operational systems. Solid waste and recycling will be collected from designated areas and removed. These arrangements provide services suited to a temporary rural event without permanent urban networks. The final EMP will coordinate their operation for the maximum consented population, including servicing and spill-response contingencies. Regional consent for greywater is being sought separately. The clause concerning firefighting water supply within urban areas is not applicable to this rural location.
AINF-P27 - Land transport network. (1) Avoid, remedy or mitigate effects of subdivision, use and development that would compromise: (a)The road function, as specified in the road hierarchy; (b)The access by emergency services and their vehicles; or (c) The safety and efficiency, including the maintenance, upgrading, development and operation of the land transport network. (2) Minimise reverse sensitivity effects on the land transport network and effects on indoor amenity and health for sensitive land uses established in proximity to existing transport corridors by mapping potentially affected areas and introducing design controls.	AINF-P27(1) - Effects on the land transport network The proposal will increase traffic and pedestrian activity on rural roads and requires active management to protect road function, emergency access and network safety. The ITA assesses an inbound peak of approximately 863 vehicles per hour. Both modelled Hooker Road intersections operate at overall Level of Service A in the assessed Saturday arrival scenario. The weekday sensitivity test identifies a right-turn-out movement at Level of Service F and a Cambridge Road right-turn queue of approximately 45m, supporting the proposed use of active intersection and queue management. Designated parking, internal queuing, managed crossings, buses and shuttles, controls on roadside stopping and maintained resident and emergency access respond to clauses (a) to (c). The ETMP will specify the staffing, communications, queue thresholds and interventions implementing that strategy. The predicted outbound peak exceeds 1,200 vehicles per hour. The ITA provides for departure queues to be contained within the Site

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	and parking areas and released through active traffic management. Managed crossings, resident and emergency access, passenger transport and alternative departure routing via the Tamahere Drive roundabout address pedestrian safety and wider network interaction. The ETMP will implement queue monitoring, intervention thresholds and escalation with the relevant road-controlling authorities. With these measures implemented, the proposal is consistent with AINF-P27(1). Clause (2): No permanent residential buildings are proposed. Temporary camping and potential reverse sensitivity are assessed under SD-O10 and GRUZ-P13.
AINF-P28 - Stormwater, drainage and flood management (1) Ensure that stormwater and drainage infrastructure for subdivision, land use and development manages adverse effects on the environment, community health, safety, and amenity by: (a) Adopting, where appropriate, a best-practice low impact design approach to the management of stormwater; (b) Managing stormwater in accordance with a drainage hierarchy, with a preference for at-source management; (c) Minimising impervious surfaces to reduce stormwater run-off; (d) Minimising changes to pre-development hydrological conditions by utilising the best practicable option; (e) Avoiding, remedying, or mitigating the adverse effects of: i. Altering the frequency, volume, or duration of flow of stormwater runoff onto adjacent land or downstream sites; ii. Altering flood plains, or overland flow paths; or iii. Reducing flood and stormwater storage capacity on-site; (f) Mitigating upstream and downstream effects (including erosion and scour);	The event does not involve earthworks or construction of stormwater or flood-management infrastructure. Any temporary event surfaces will be removed and the Site reinstated. Clauses (2) to (4), concerning regional flood-management infrastructure, are NA.

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(g) Providing a stormwater management plan for future urban development which is consistent with any catchment management plan;

(h) Promoting clean water reuse and groundwater recharge where practicable; and

(i) Avoiding, remedying or mitigating the generation of contaminants from urban development.

(2) Protect the continuing operation of existing regional flood management infrastructure from the adverse effects of other activities. In particular consideration shall be given to:

(a) Maintaining and enhancing the operational efficiency, effectiveness, viability and safety of regional flood management infrastructure;

(b) Protecting investment in existing regional flood management infrastructure; and

(c) Retaining the ability to maintain and upgrade regional flood management infrastructure.

(3) Ensure that new regional flood management infrastructure is considered having regard to:

(a) The environment as it exists;

(b) The duration, timing and frequency of the adverse effect;

(c) The impact on other existing regional flood management infrastructure if the new work is not undertaken;

(d) The need for the work in the context of the wider network or in the context of the provision of alternative infrastructure;

(e) The avoidance, remediation or mitigation of anticipated adverse environmental effects to the extent practicable;

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(f) The demand for and benefits of new regional flood management infrastructure; (g) The route, site, and method selection process; (h) The technical and locational constraints; and (i) The benefits of the regional flood management infrastructure in terms of managing climate change effects. (4) Provision of new regional flood management infrastructure occurs in a planned and coordinated manner which recognises and addresses potential cumulative effects and is based on sufficient information to allow assessment of the potential long-term effects on the environment.	
AINF-P29 - Construction, maintenance, upgrading and operation of the land transport network. (1) Provide for the construction, maintenance, upgrading and operation of an efficient, effective, integrated, safe, resilient, accessible and sustainable transport network through: (a) Corridor, carriageway and intersection design which is appropriate to the road function as specified in the road hierarchy and in accordance with relevant guidelines; (b) The appropriate design and location of sites' accesses; (c) Traffic signage, road marking, lighting, rest areas and parking as appropriate; (d) Safe and accessible provision for pedestrians and cyclists to maximise accessibility, including off- road facilities and connections; (e) Corridor and carriageway design which enables provision of public transport;	NA – The proposal uses existing roads with temporary traffic management. It does not involve construction, maintenance or upgrading of the land transport network. Effects of event traffic on the existing network are assessed under AINF-P27, AINF-P30(3) and AINF-P32.

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(f) Provision for other infrastructure, including where suitable low impact design stormwater facilities; (g) Provision for stock underpasses where suitable access is not readily available; (h) Discouraging the installation of new at grade road and pedestrian rail level crossings: (i) Controlling the location of buildings and other visual obstructions within the sightline areas of rail level crossings; and (ii) Railway crossing design in accordance with the requirements of the rail operator. (i) Protection and promotion of the development of the regional rail network for the transportation of freight; and (j) Development of efficient processes and freight routes for the movement of high productivity motor vehicles through the region.	
AINF-P30 - Road hierarchy and function. (1) Establish a road hierarchy and categorise roads in the district in accordance with their function. (2) Adopt the one network approach to ensure 'whole of journey' people and goods movements within the region. (3) Protect the function of roads as identified in the road hierarchy from the adverse effects of subdivision, use and development.	AINF-P30(3) - Road function Hooker Road provides local access, while Cambridge Road, Pencarrow Road and State Highway connections carry wider movements. The proposed strategy recognises those different functions by allocating event access and parking, containing queues internally, controlling pedestrian crossings and retaining access for residents and emergency services. Coordination across the Waikato and Waipā boundaries and with NZTA addresses the wider journey rather than only the Site entrance. These measures respond to protection of road function. The policy's provisions for establishing the road hierarchy are not actions required of this applicant. Clauses (1) and (2) concern establishment and implementation of the road hierarchy. The relevant land-use effects direction for the applicant is clause (3), assessed above.
AINF-P31 - Road standards. Ensure that the construction and operation of roads is consistent with their function in the road hierarchy.	NA – No road construction project is proposed. Effects on existing road function are assessed under AINF-P30(3).

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AINF-P32 - Land transport safety. Ensure that structures, vehicle access, lighting, signage and vegetation are located and designed so as to not compromise the safe and efficient operation of the land transport network, or obscure RAPID numbers.	Accesses, temporary fencing, signs and lighting will operate as part of a coordinated traffic and pedestrian layout. On-site circulation provides for forward entry and exit, internal queuing and separation of people from moving vehicles. Signs in the road reserve are limited to traffic management; festival and parking signs are located within the relevant event land, and lighting will comply with the applicable spill and glare standards. The ETMP and associated plans will coordinate those elements at entrances, crossings and parking areas. This approach responds to the policy by managing the event features capable of affecting visibility and road-user safety, without proposing alterations to the underlying road network.
AINF-P33 - Network utility location. Encourage the location of network utility infrastructure within transport corridors where the function, safety and efficiency of the transport network is maintained.	NA – No network utility infrastructure within a transport corridor is proposed.
AINF-P34 - Vehicle access. Control the location of new vehicle accesses relative to other accesses, intersections and rail level crossings to maintain and improve the safety and efficiency of the land transport network.	NA – All sites have existing access.
AINF-P35 - Land transport network infrastructure (1) Ensure that land transport network infrastructure is developed so that: (a) The design, location, alignment and dimensions of new land transport networks provide safe vehicle, pedestrian and cycling access and manoeuvring to every site; (b) The land transport network provides good connectivity to the site and integrates with adjacent developments and identified as future growth areas including walking and cycling networks and facilities and public transport; (c) There is adequate provision of on-site parking and manoeuvring for land use activities; (d) Contaminants generated during construction are appropriately mitigated; and	NA – No new land transport network infrastructure or new roads are proposed. Parking, circulation and site access are assessed as effects of the event under AINF-P27 and AINF-P32.

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(e) Design, alignment and dimension of new roads will accommodate the installation of network infrastructure in accordance with technical and safety specifications.	
EMRG Emergency services – Objectives	
EMRG-O1 - Emergency services. Recognise the essential support role of emergency services training and management activities and their important contribution to the health, safety and wellbeing of people.	NA – No emergency services training or management facility is proposed. Medical and emergency response arrangements are ancillary festival operations. Emergency vehicle access is assessed under AINF-P27.
EMRG Emergency services – Policies	
EMRG-P1 - Emergency services facilities and activities. Enable the development, operation and maintenance of emergency services training and management facilities and activities within the zone.	NA – No development, operation or maintenance of emergency services training or management facilities is proposed. Festival emergency arrangements are addressed in the EMP, in consultation with stakeholders.
TEMP Temporary activities – Objectives	
TEMP-O1 - Temporary events in the OSZ - Open space zone. Temporary events remain ancillary to, and promote the purpose of, the reserve.	NA – The Site is in the General Rural Zone and the proposal is not an event ancillary to a reserve in the Open Space Zone.
TEMP Temporary activities – Policies	
TEMP-P1 - Temporary events in the GRZ - General residential zone, MRZ1 - Medium density residential zone 1, MRZ2- Medium density residential zone 2, LLRZ - Large lot residential zone, SETZ - Settlement zone or RLZ - Rural lifestyle zone. (1) Enable temporary events and associated temporary structures, provided any adverse effects on the residential environment are managed by: (a) Limiting the timing, number and duration of temporary events; and (b) Limiting noise generated by the temporary events to the permitted noise limits for the zone.	NA – The main festival site is in the General Rural Zone, not one of the residential, settlement or lifestyle zones listed in this policy.
TEMP-P2 - Temporary events in the GRUZ - General rural zone (1) Enable temporary events and associated structures, provided adverse effects are managed by:	The festival and its associated temporary activities, buildings, structures and car parks are assessed together under TEMP-R5, consistent with the OIP definition of a temporary event and the interpretation in Section 7 of the AEE. This includes performances, camping, food and beverage sales, vendors, stages, marquees, bars, amenities, security fencing and temporary servicing and

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(a) Limiting the timing, and duration of any temporary event; and (b) Limiting noise generated by the temporary events to the permitted noise limits for the zone.	parking. Separate signage, parking and traffic, and noise consent triggers are retained. Permanent equipment storage is outside the interpretation for temporary facilities and remains subject to the applicable GRUZ building standards. TEMP-P2 is the specific policy for temporary events and associated structures in the General Rural Zone. The relevant GRUZ objectives and policies are also assessed below; the TEMP consent pathway does not remove their relevance to the proposal's effects on rural land, character and amenity. TEMP-P2(1)(a) - Timing and duration The proposal provides for one annual festival from 28 December to 1 January over a five-year consent period. The four-day programme runs from 28–31 December, with overnight performances continuing into 1 January and campground closure and departures occurring that day. Annual occupation from 15 November to 15 January includes establishment, production setup, pack-out and reinstatement. The consent conditions will define the event dates, operating hours and occupation period, with temporary infrastructure removed and the land reinstated by 15 January, apart from the permanent storage area. The proposed programme exceeds the permitted duration and establishment and removal periods. Nevertheless, the policy direction is to limit timing and duration, rather than prohibit all events requiring consent. The defined annual programme distinguishes the period of greatest activity from establishment and pack-out and prevents an open-ended event use. These controls are consistent with the timing and duration outcome in clause (1)(a). TEMP-P2(1)(b) - Noise limits Festival noise will substantially exceed the permitted daytime and night-time limits for the General Rural Zone. The proposal therefore does not achieve the express direction in clause (1)(b). The departure reflects the sound levels required for the proposed festival format and is addressed through the following operational justification and mitigation. Amplified music is an integral component of the activity. The applicant advises that sound levels must provide an appropriate listening experience and coverage across the festival audience areas. A festival of the proposed scale and format could not operate at the rural zone's permitted noise levels. This explains the operational basis for the

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	departure, while recognising that noise will be audible beyond the Site and will disturb some surrounding residents, particularly during late-night performances. The proposal will manage that disturbance through the defined annual event period, operating hours, staggered stage closing times, stage and speaker orientation away from neighbouring houses where practicable, and exclusion of fireworks. The proposed noise monitoring conditions and Noise Management Plan will provide for checking noise levels, complaints response and adjustments to sound levels and operations. These measures will control the duration and extent of exposure while retaining the music programme that defines the event. Overall, TEMP-P2 provides specific support for temporary events in the General Rural Zone, subject to its effects-management requirements. The proposal is partially consistent with TEMP-P2: it responds to the timing and duration direction but departs from the permitted-noise-limit direction. Taken with the event's annual frequency, limited duration and proposed controls, the resulting temporary effects are considered acceptable. The operational need for amplified music, controls on noise exposure and retention of the wider rural environment between events justify proceeding with the proposal despite this departure. Read together with the relevant provisions of the Plan, these measures support the overall acceptability of the temporary activity.
TEMP-P3 - Temporary events in the LCZ - Local centre zone, TCZ - Town centre zone or COMZ - Commercial zone. (1) Enable temporary events and associated temporary structures within the zone, provided any adverse effects on amenity are managed through: (a) Limits on the timing, number and duration of events; and (b) Meeting the permitted noise limits for the zone.	NA – The main festival site is not in a centre or commercial zone.
TEMP-P4 - Temporary events in the OSZ - Open space zone.	NA – The festival is not on a reserve in the Open Space Zone.

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(1) Enable temporary events and associated temporary structures on reserves, appropriate to the size and purpose of the reserve. (2) Manage the scale and extent of temporary events on reserves so that any significant adverse effects on people in the surrounding community are minimised by: (a) Limits on the timing, number and duration of events; (b) Meeting the permitted noise limits for the zone; and (c) Managing the effects of traffic on the road transport network.	
TEMP-P5 - Cultural events and temporary events in the HOPZ - Hopuhopu zone. Enable cultural events, and temporary events and associated temporary structures provided any adverse effects are managed.	NA – The Site is not in the Hopuhopu Zone.
NOISE Noise – Policies	
NOISE-P1 - Noise. (1) Adverse effects of noise generated within the zone on sensitive land uses are minimised by: (a) In the GRZ - General residential zone, LLRZ - Large lot residential zone, SETZ - Settlement zone, TCZ - Town centre zone, LCZ - Local centre zone and COMZ - Commercial zone: (i) Ensuring that the maximum sound levels are compatible with the amenity values of any adjacent GRZ - General residential zone, MRZ1 - Medium density residential zone 1, MRZ2 - Medium density residential zone 2, LLRZ - Large lot residential zone or SETZ - Settlement zone; (ii) Limiting the timing and duration of noise-generating activities, including construction and demolition activities; (iii) Maintaining appropriate setback distances between high noise	NA – The main festival site is in the General Rural Zone rather than the zones listed in this policy. Event noise is assessed under NOISE-P3.

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environments and sensitive land uses; and (b) In the GRZ - General residential zone, LLRZ - Large lot residential zone, SETZ - Settlement zone and RLZ - Rural lifestyle zone: (i) Managing the location of sensitive land uses, particularly in relation to lawfully established high noise generating activities; and (ii) Requiring acoustic insulation where sensitive land uses and noise-sensitive activities are located within high noise environments. (c) In the TCZ - Town centre zone, LCZ - Local centre zone and COMZ - Commercial zone: (i) Limiting the timing and duration of servicing and operation of commercial activities; and (ii) Requiring acoustic insulation for dwellings within the zone.	
NOISE-P2 - Noise in the RLZ - Rural lifestyle zone. (1) The adverse effects of noise on the character and amenity of the RLZ - Rural lifestyle zone are minimised by: (a) Ensuring that the maximum sound levels are compatible with the surrounding land uses; (b) Limiting the timing and duration of noise-generating activities, including construction and demolition activities; (c) Maintaining appropriate setback distances between high noise environments and noise-sensitive activities.	The Acoustic Assessment identifies receivers in the Rural Lifestyle Zone. The festival will exceed that zone's permitted noise limits, creating tension with the compatibility direction in NOISE-P2. Stage separation and orientation, defined operating hours, staggered closing times, continuous front-of-house monitoring and corrective action limit exposure and respond to the timing and separation directions. The proposal is partially consistent with NOISE-P2, with the remaining temporary effects assessed alongside TEMP-P2 and NOISE-P3.
NOISE-P3 - Noise and vibration in the GRUZ - General rural zone. (1) Manage the adverse effects of noise and vibration by:	**NOISE-P3(1)(a) - Rural amenity** The festival will introduce amplified music and associated activity into a locality containing pastoral farming, rural-residential properties and lifestyle blocks. Noise will substantially exceed the zone's permitted limits and temporarily reduce the amenity experienced at surrounding properties,

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(a) Ensuring that noise and vibration levels do not compromise rural amenity; (b) Limiting the timing and duration of noise-generating activities to the extent practicable and appropriate; (c) Maintaining appropriate separation between high noise environments and noise sensitive activities; (d) Ensuring frost fans are located and operated to minimise to the extent practicable noise effects on other sites; (e) Managing the location of sensitive land uses, particularly in relation to lawfully-established activities; (f) Requiring acoustic insulation where sensitive land uses are located within high noise environments, including the Airport Noise Outer Control Boundary, Huntly Power Station, Te Rapa Site Noise Boundary and the Gun Club Noise Control Boundary; (g) Managing the adverse effects of vibration from quarrying activities by limiting the timing and duration of blasting activities and maintaining sufficient setback distances from residential units or identified building platforms on another site; and (h) Managing noise to minimise as far as practicable effects on existing noise sensitive activities.	particularly during evening and overnight operation. The proposal therefore creates tension with clause (1)(a), which seeks to ensure noise does not compromise rural amenity. Amplified music is inherent in the festival and requires sound coverage across the audience areas. The assessment acknowledges that some off-site disturbance is unavoidable for this activity. Its acceptability rests on the limited annual event period and practical controls on noise generation and exposure, rather than an assumption that rural amenity will be unchanged during the festival. **NOISE-P3(1)(b) - Timing and duration** The highest-intensity noise will occur during the four-day programme from 28–31 December, with overnight performances continuing into 1 January. Defined music and arena closing times and staggered stage shutdowns will limit the number of sources operating late at night. Conditions will establish the authorised operating and sound-check hours. Camping, generators, servicing, establishment and pack-out will also be managed through the Noise Management Plan so that controls extend beyond the amplified music programme. These measures limit timing and duration to the extent practicable for the proposed activity and are consistent with clause (1)(b). **NOISE-P3(1)(c) - Separation** The approximately 72.38ha landholding provides space to arrange stages and audience areas and maintain separation from neighbouring houses. Stages and speakers will face away from those houses where practicable. The layout excludes the residential curtilage, and the Noise Management Plan will coordinate source positioning and sound-system operation. Separation and orientation reduce exposure but will not prevent noise reaching surrounding properties. The proposal adopts these measures as part of its response to clause (1)(c). **NOISE-P3(1)(h) - Existing noise-sensitive activities** The proposed conditions will require noise monitoring during the event, with complaints response and corrective action informing adjustments to sound levels and operations. The Noise Management Plan will assign responsibilities for implementing the controls. These measures address existing noise-sensitive activities through active management at source and a response during operation, consistent with the direction to minimise effects as far as practicable. No fireworks

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	are proposed, avoiding the additional sudden noise associated with fireworks displays. Overall, the proposal will generate temporary adverse noise effects and will not maintain the usual rural acoustic environment throughout festival operations. The defined annual programme, separation and source orientation, operating controls and monitoring will limit those effects. The proposal is partially consistent with NOISE-P3: it is consistent with the timing and practical noise-management directions in clauses (1)(b), (c) and (h), while departing from the rural amenity direction in clause (1)(a). On balance, the noise effects are considered acceptable in the context of the temporary festival and its proposed controls. Clauses (1)(d) and (g) are not applicable because no frost fans or quarry blasting are proposed. Clause (1)(e) is addressed through temporary camping within the managed event environment and the assessment under SD-O10 and GRUZ-P13. Clause (1)(f) does not require new permanent residential buildings to be insulated as part of this proposal; none are proposed.
NOISE-P4 - Noise in the BTZ - Business Tamahere zone. (1) Adverse effects of noise on sensitive land uses are minimised by: (a) Ensuring that the maximum sound levels are compatible with activities permitted in the BTZ - Business Tamahere zone and the adjacent RLZ - Rural lifestyle zone; (b) Limiting the timing and duration of noise-generating activities, including construction and demolition activities; and (c) Limiting the timing and duration of servicing and operation of commercial activities.	NA – The main festival site is not in the Business Tamahere Zone.
LIGHT Light – Policies	
LIGHT-O1 - Artificial outdoor lighting. (1) In the GRZ - General residential zone, LLRZ - Large lot residential zone and SETZ - Settlement zone:	Clause (4)(a) applies to the General Rural Zone. Clauses (1), (2), (3) and (5) are NA because they concern other zones. Clause (4)(b) concerns permanently fixed lighting. Event lighting is temporary, and any permanent lighting associated with storage will comply with the applicable lighting standards.

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(a) Provide for artificial outdoor lighting to enable night time work, farming activities, recreation activities, outdoor living, transport and security. (b) Manage the adverse effects of glare and lighting to adjacent sites. (2) In the TCZ - Town centre zone, LCZ - Local centre zone and COMZ - Commercial zone ensure that: (a) Artificial outdoor lighting enables night time work, recreation activities, outdoor living, transport and security (including the role of lighting in supporting CPTED); (b) The intensity and direction of artificial lighting is managed so that significant glare and light spill to adjacent sites is minimised; and (3) In the BTZ - Business Tamahere zone: (a) Provide for artificial outdoor lighting to enable night time work, recreation activities, outdoor dining, transport and security. (b) Control the intensity and direction of artificial lighting to avoid significant glare and light spill on adjacent sites. (4) In the GRUZ - General rural zone, FUZ - Future urban zone, COR - Corrections zone and TTZ - TaTa Valley zone: (a) Enable the use of artificial outdoor lighting for night-time work while minimising to the extent practicable effects on neighbouring sites. (b) Ensure glare and light spill from permanently fixed artificial lighting does not compromise the amenity of adjacent sites. (5) In the RLZ - Rural lifestyle zone: (a) Provide for artificial outdoor lighting to enable night time work, farming activities,	LIGHT-O1(4)(a) - Effects on neighbouring sites The event requires lighting for night-time operations and safe movement. The applicant commits to the applicable light spill and glare standards, with the Lighting Plan specifying equipment, locations, orientation, operating periods and controls. This provides a defined performance requirement while allowing the detailed temporary layout to be coordinated with stages, camping and pedestrian routes. Removal during pack-out limits exposure to the occupation period. The proposed compliance requirement and control of orientation and operating periods respond to minimising neighbouring effects to the extent practicable, without relying solely on the fact that the lights are temporary.

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recreation activities, outdoor living, transport and security. (b) Control the intensity and direction of artificial lighting to avoid significant glare and light spill to adjacent sites.	
LIGHT-O2 - Artificial outdoor in all zones. Ensure artificial outdoor lighting is installed and operated so that light spill does not compromise the safe operation of the transport network.	Illuminated accessways, parking and crossings will support safe movement, but lighting must also avoid glare or spill compromising road users. The Lighting Plan will be coordinated with the ETMP, and compliance with the applicable spill and glare standards will apply to the resulting arrangement. The temporary operational layout therefore provides for safety lighting while retaining a transport-safety constraint on its direction and effects. These commitments are consistent with the provision's direction.
SIGN Signs – Policies	
SIGN-P1 - Signage. (1) In GRZ - General residential zone, LLRZ - Large lot residential zone and SETZ - Settlement zone: (a) Provide for the establishment of signs where they are directly associated with the activity carried out on the site on which they are located; and (b) Recognise that public information signs provide a benefit to community well-being and support infrastructure and commercial and community activities. (c) Provide for signage that is compatible with the character and sensitivity of the residential environment. (2) In the TCZ - Town centre zone, LCZ - Local centre zone and COMZ - Commercial zone provide for: (a) The establishment of signs where they are associated with the activity carried out on the site on which they are located; (b) Public information signs that are of benefit to community well-being; and (c) Establishment of signage to support the commercial function and vibrancy of the	NA – The policy applies to specified residential, centre, commercial and Rural Lifestyle zones. The main festival site is in the General Rural Zone; SIGN-P2(3) applies.

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zones with controls on the size, location, appearance and number of signs to ensure they do not detract from the visual amenity of the surrounding environment. (3) In the RLZ - Rural lifestyle zone: (a) Signage contributes to the social and economic wellbeing of communities by: (i) Supporting infrastructure and commercial and community activities; (ii) Providing information, including for public safety; (iii) Identifying places; (b) Provide for the establishment of signs where they are directly associated with the activity carried out on the site on which they are located; (c) Recognise that public information signs provide a benefit to community well-being; and (d) Provide for temporary signage subject to meeting limits on duration.	
SIGN-P2 - Managing the adverse effects of signs. (1) In GRZ - General residential zone, LLRZ - Large lot residential zone and SETZ - Settlement zone: (a) The location, colour, content, and appearance of signs are controlled to ensure signs do not adversely affect the safety of road users; (b) Discourage signs that generate adverse effects from illumination, light spill, flashing, moving or reflection. (2) In the TCZ - Town centre zone, LCZ - Local centre zone and COMZ - Commercial zone ensure that: (a) The location, colour, content, and appearance of signs are controlled to ensure signs do not adversely affect the safety of road users;	Clause (3) applies to the General Rural Zone. Clauses (1), (2) and (4) are NA to the main festival site because they concern other zones. SIGN-P2(3)(a) - Visual amenity Multiple signs support the operation of a festival with distinct entrances, camping, facilities, vendors and performance areas. Their number reflects those functions rather than a permanent roadside advertising activity. Internal siting limits their role in the wider rural landscape, and removal during pack-out prevents a continuing accumulation of event signs between festivals. Some signs may nevertheless be visible from outside the Site. The internal location and removal commitments limit visual effects, while consent is sought for the departure from the permitted signage standards. SIGN-P2(3)(b) - Land transport safety Restricting road-reserve signs to traffic management ties their location and content to the assessed transport strategy and road corridor approvals. The ETMP will coordinate signs with accesses, crossings and traffic controls. Internal signs remain subject to this policy where visible to

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(b) Signs that generate adverse effects from illumination, light spill, flashing, movement or reflection are avoided; and (c) The placement of signs do not obstruct the free movement of: (i) Pedestrians along the footpath; and (ii) Vehicle use of the road carriageway. (3) In the GRUZ - General rural zone: (a) Manage the scale, location, appearance and number of signs to ensure they do not compromise visual amenity. (b) Ensure that signs directed at or visible to road or rail users do not adversely affect the safety of land transport users. (c) Limit the duration of temporary signage. (d) Recognise that public information signs provide value to the wider community. (e) Provide for appropriate signage on historic heritage items, notable trees and Sites and areas of significance to Maaori for the purpose of identification or interpretation. (4) In the RLZ - Rural lifestyle zone: (a) The location, colour, content, and appearance of signs are controlled to ensure signs do not adversely affect the safety of road users. (b) Maintain the visual amenity and character of the RLZ - Rural lifestyle zone through controls on the size, location, appearance and number of signs. (c) Avoid signs that generate adverse effects from illumination, light spill, flashing or reflection.	road users, so internal location alone is not an exemption from safety requirements. Coordination of the EMP, ETMP and Lighting Plan provides the means of avoiding conflicting information, obstruction of visibility and glare affecting road users. This responds to the policy's safety direction. SIGN-P2(3)(c) - Duration Temporary signs will be installed during establishment and removed during pack-out, within the defined annual occupation period. The proposal therefore limits their display rather than seeking permanent event advertising. Traffic and safety signs can remain for the period in which their function is required, including establishment and removal activity. Their removal by the reinstatement deadline responds to this clause, with the applicable dates implemented through the EMP and ETMP. SIGN-P2(3)(d) - Public information Wayfinding, access, emergency, pedestrian and traffic signs provide information to patrons, workers and people using surrounding roads and the cycleway. That information supports safe and efficient movement through a temporary environment with a large population. Those functions are consistent with the policy's recognition of public information value. Sponsor and vendor advertising has a different purpose and relies on its internal location, temporary duration and managed arrangement rather than being treated as public safety information. SIGN-P2(3)(e) enables identification or interpretation signs for heritage items, notable trees and significant Maaori sites. No such signs are proposed, and the festival footprint excludes the archaeological conservation area. That clause is not needed to justify the event signage.
SIGN-P3 - Signs in the BTZ - Business Tamahere zone. (1) Provide for the establishment of signs where they are directly associated with the activity carried out on the site on which they are located;	NA – The Site is not in the Business Tamahere Zone.

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(2) Recognise that public information signs provide a benefit to community well-being; and (3) Enable the establishment of signage to support the commercial function of the BTZ - Business Tamahere zone with controls on the size, location, appearance and number of signs to ensure they do not detract from the visual amenity and character of the neighbourhood centre.	
SIGN-P4 - Managing the adverse effects of signs in the BTZ - Business Tamahere zone. (1) The location, colour, content, and appearance of signs are controlled to ensure signs do not adversely affect the safety of road users. (2) Enable signs in the BTZ - Business Tamahere zone that contribute to an efficient, attractive and vibrant neighbourhood centre. (3) Avoid signs that generate adverse effects from illumination, light spill, flashing or reflection. (4) Ensure that the placement of signs do not obstruct the free movement of: (a) Pedestrians along the footpath; and (b) Vehicle use of the road carriageway.	NA – The Site is not in the Business Tamahere Zone.
SIGN-P5 - Managing the adverse effects of signs in the OSZ - Open space zone. Ensure that signs do not adversely affect amenity, traffic safety, heritage or Maaori cultural values.	NA – The main festival site is not in the Open Space Zone.
SASM Sites and areas of significance to Māori – Objectives	
SASM-O1 - Strategic objective - Tautoko te Whakatupuranga. To support Iwi aspirations to grow prosperous, healthy, vibrant, innovative and culturally strong people.	Mana whenua engagement and retention of significant places within the landholding respond to the objective's recognition of iwi aspirations. The consultation record identifies in-principle support, subject to the qualifications in the correspondence. The festival footprint excludes the archaeological conservation area and lower terrace, and no disturbance of identified sites is proposed. These measures provide for protection of the places and relationships relevant to the proposal.
SASM-O2 - Hononga. The connections between tangata whenua and their ancestral lands, water, sites of significance,	Excluding the archaeological conservation area and lower terrace retains the ancestral places and their physical relationship with the Waikato River. No

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waahi tapu, other taonga and taonga species are protected or enhanced.	vegetation removal or works affecting identified sites are proposed, and public access along Te Awa River Ride is retained. These measures protect the physical places associated with the connections described in the objective. The consultation record provides the cultural context alongside that protection. The proposal supports protection of existing connections; it does not rely on a claim that temporary event use enhances them.
SASM-O3 - Whakaute ahurae. Cultural practices and beliefs of tangata whenua are respected.	The event layout recognises that the archaeological conservation area is unsuitable for occupation by event activities or infrastructure. The exclusion of works and activities from that area, engagement with mana whenua and retention of the relevant site restrictions provide a response to respecting cultural practices and beliefs. HNZPT's advice is relied on for archaeological matters, while the consultation record informs the wider cultural assessment.
SASM Sites and areas of significance to Maaori – Policies	
SASM-P1 - Hononga (relationship between tangata whenua and nature). (1) Recognise the hononga (relationship of between mana whenua and nature) with waters, ancestral lands, sites of significance, waahi tapu, urupaa, maunga and other landforms, mahinga/hauanga kai, and other taonga and taonga species (indigenous flora and fauna) such as through: (a) Cultural value assessments and/or cultural impact assessments; (b) Accidental discovery protocols; (c) Use of mana whenua traditional place names; (d) Protection, enhancement and restoration of mauri; (e) Use of appropriate locally sourced native plant species where practicable; (f) Use of archaeological information including Maaori archaeological information; and (g) Incorporation of traditional or sympathetic Maaori design elements where practicable.	The policy identifies methods for recognising mana whenua relationships. Archaeological information and HNZPT advice have informed the event footprint and installation methods, responding to clause (1)(f). Engagement with mana whenua provides information about the Site's cultural context. Avoiding the conservation area and identified sites incorporates that information into the layout.

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SASM-P2 - Ngaa taonga tuku iho (Sites and areas of significance to Maaori). (1) Ensure subdivision, use and development does not compromise the cultural and spiritual significance of areas, including waahi tapu, urupaa, maunga and other landforms, mahinga kai, and indigenous flora and fauna. (2) Areas and sites of significance to Maaori including waahi tapu sites and waahi tapu areas are protected from adverse effects of development or activities on those sites.	SASM-P2(1) - Cultural and spiritual significance The festival will occur on pasture outside the archaeological conservation area and will not disturb identified sites or remove vegetation. Its temporary layout does not require alteration of the significant landforms and places identified in the report. These features, together with the engagement recorded and qualifications to support, underpin the existing assessment that adverse cultural effects are not anticipated. The conclusion concerns the proposal as described; it is not based on an assumption that archaeological authority requirements define the full extent of cultural and spiritual significance. SASM-P2(2) - Protection from adverse effects The proposal avoids activities and works within the lower archaeological terrace and conservation area. Above-ground stage ballast and the marquee installation methods reviewed by HNZPT avoid the substantial anchors that prompted archaeological discussion. HNZPT has confirmed that no authority is required for the project as described. The layout exclusions and installation methods therefore provide direct protection from physical effects during establishment, operation and removal. Compliance with the applicable SASM standards and reinstatement support that protection throughout each annual event cycle.
TETW Te Ture Whaimana Vision and Strategy – Objectives	
TETW-O1 - Achieving Te Ture Whaimana (Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River). The health and well-being of the Waikato River is restored and protected and Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato (the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River) is achieved.	The event avoids occupation of the lower riverside archaeological terrace and conservation area, retains the SNA and involves no vegetation clearance. Blackwater is contained and removed off site, solid waste is collected and removed, and the Site is cleared after each event. These measures protect the river margin and limit pathways for event-related contaminants to enter the river. The event layout, stage locations and orientation, noise frequency controls, noise monitoring and lighting controls address disturbance of bats using the river and gully environment. Localised pest control is proposed only as a last resort if bats are detected. The assessment under ECO-P2 addresses the residual-effects basis for that package.
TETW Te Ture Whaimana Vision and Strategy – Policies	
TETW-P1 - Implementing Te Ture Whaimana (Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River). (1) To restore and protect the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River including by;	TETW-P1(1)(a) - River landscape The proposal recognises the river's natural and cultural landscape by excluding the lower terrace and conservation area from event occupation and retaining the river and gully vegetation. Temporary

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(a) Identifying and recognising the Waikato River as an Outstanding Natural Cultural Landscape; (b) Acquiring appropriate public access to and along the Waikato River at time of subdivision; (c) Protecting and restoring significant natural areas, riparian margins and wetlands within the catchment; (d) Providing for conservation activities; (e) Protecting waahi tapu, sites and areas of significance to Maaori; (f) Recognising and providing for application of maatauranga Maaori; and (g) Managing the effects of subdivision, use and development including those associated with: (i) Building in river setbacks; (ii) Intensive farming; (iii) Earthworks and land disturbance; and (iv) Subdivision; and (v) Residential development in the MRZ2.	structures are located in the pasture footprint and removed after the event, limiting the duration of change to the wider setting. The permanent storage component remains subject to the applicable setbacks and coverage requirements and is assessed under GRUZ. The proposal therefore responds to the river context through its location and limits; it does not assume that absence of works within the water itself is the only relevant consideration. TETW-P1(1)(c) - Significant natural areas, riparian margins and wetlands The festival footprint excludes the SNA and conservation area and does not require vegetation clearance. This retains habitat and avoids its direct conversion to event use. Layout, stage orientation and noise and lighting controls address disturbance, with localised pest control as a last resort if bats are detected. The residual-effects assessment is addressed under ECO-P2. TETW-P1(1)(e) - Significant Maaori sites The layout exclusions, installation methods and prohibition on disturbance of identified sites respond directly to protection of waahi tapu and sites of significance. The SASM assessment addresses these measures and the cultural engagement record in detail. Retention of the protected archaeological area and its relationship with the river supports consistency with this clause, without requiring a separate repeat assessment of the same physical and cultural effects. TETW-P1(1)(f) - Maatauranga Maaori Mana whenua engagement has informed preparation of the application and is recorded alongside the Site's cultural and archaeological context. The proposal retains significant places outside the festival footprint. Avoidance of identified sites and retention of the river and gully setting give practical effect to the protection outcomes identified through that engagement. These measures support the policy's recognition of maatauranga Maaori without attributing additional advice or endorsement to mana whenua. TETW-P1(1)(g) - Effects of use and development No earthworks, vegetation removal or works on the lower archaeological terrace are proposed. Stage ballast and standard marquee pegs limit the installation works, and temporary surfacing or trackway will be removed during reinstatement. Permanent storage will comply with the applicable setbacks and site coverage requirements. These

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	features limit direct land-disturbance and building effects near the river. The proposal does not involve intensive farming, subdivision or MRZ2 residential development, so those listed examples are not engaged. The public-access acquisition provision in TETW-P1(1)(b) applies at subdivision, which is not proposed. Existing Te Awa River Ride access is retained and its event interaction is addressed through transport management. No separate conservation activity is proposed under clause (d).
ECO Ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity – Objectives	
ECO-O1 - Significant Natural Areas. Indigenous biodiversity in Significant Natural Areas is protected or enhanced.	The SNA is excluded from stages, camping, parking and servicing, and no vegetation clearance is proposed. Retention of its vegetation avoids direct habitat loss and maintains its physical connection with the surrounding river and gully environment. The proposal also addresses disturbance extending into retained bat habitat through stage locations and orientation, noise and lighting controls and localised pest control as a last resort if bats are detected. Habitat retention and operational disturbance are addressed together under the ECO-P2 management hierarchy.
ECO-O2 - Biodiversity and ecosystems. Indigenous biodiversity and the life-supporting capacity of indigenous ecosystems are maintained or enhanced.	The proposal retains river and gully vegetation and uses the pasture footprint without earthworks or vegetation clearance. This avoids direct habitat loss and retains the vegetation and connections used by indigenous fauna within and beyond the mapped SNA. The event layout, stage locations and orientation, noise and lighting controls and active noise management address disturbance beyond the occupied pasture. Localised pest control is proposed as a last resort if bats are detected. The residual-effects assessment under ECO-P2 is relevant to the maintenance of indigenous biodiversity and ecosystem functioning sought by ECO-O2.
ECO Ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity – Policies	
ECO-P1 - Identify. Identify and map areas of significant indigenous vegetation and habitats of indigenous fauna where it meets one or more criteria in APP2 - Criteria for determining significance of indigenous biodiversity.	NA – The proposal does not seek identification or remapping of an SNA. The mapped SNA is recognised and excluded from the festival footprint.
ECO-P2 - Management hierarchy within Significant Natural Areas	The proposal applies the avoidance step in ECO-P2 by excluding the SNA from event occupation and retaining its vegetation. No clearance or direct physical alteration of SNA habitat is proposed.

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(1) Recognise and protect the values of indigenous biodiversity within Significant Natural Areas by: (a) Avoiding adverse effects of vegetation clearance and the disturbance of habitats in the first instance as far as practicable; (b) Remedying and/or mitigating any effects that cannot be avoided; then (c) After remediation or mitigation has been undertaken, offset any more than minor residual adverse effects in accordance with Policy ECO-P3. (d) If offsetting of any significant residual adverse effects in accordance with Policy ECO-P3 is not feasible then biodiversity compensation may be considered. (e) If biodiversity compensation of any significant residual adverse effects is not appropriate, the activity itself is avoided. Clause (e) does not apply to the development, operation, maintenance, or upgrade of renewable electricity generation assets and activities and electricity transmission network assets and activities.	The proposal retains bat habitat outside the event footprint and uses stage location and orientation, sound-frequency controls, active noise monitoring and lighting controls to reduce disturbance. Localised pest control is proposed as a last resort if bats are detected and residual effects cannot be addressed through those controls. This contingency is not a quantified biodiversity offset. No roost covering or wider pest-control programme is proposed. Habitat retention addresses direct physical effects, while source controls and the localised contingency address operational disturbance under the management hierarchy.
ECO-P3 - Biodiversity offsetting. (1) Allow biodiversity offsetting where an activity will result in more than minor residual adverse effects on a Significant Natural Area, provided that a biodiversity offset will only be considered appropriate where adverse effects have been avoided, to the extent practicable, and then remedied or mitigated in accordance with the hierarchy established in Policy ECO-P2; and (a) The biodiversity offset is consistent with the framework detailed in APP3 - Biodiversity offsetting; and (b) The biodiversity offset can achieve no net loss, and preferably a net gain, of indigenous biodiversity:	No biodiversity offset is proposed. The agreed contingency is localised pest control as a last resort if bats are detected. The response to residual effects and the management hierarchy is addressed under ECO-P2.

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(i) Preferably in the affected area of Significant Natural Area; or (ii) Where that is not practicable, in the ecological district in which the affected area of Significant Natural Area is located; and (c) Recognising that there are limits to the appropriate use of biodiversity offsetting, including because of the irreplaceability or vulnerability of the biodiversity affected.	
ECO-P4 - Biodiversity in the coastal environment. (1) Avoid the adverse effects of subdivision use and development within the coastal environment on: (a) Indigenous species that are listed as threatened or at risk in the New Zealand Threat Classification System lists; (b) Habitats of indigenous species where the species are listed as threatened or at risk, are at the limit of their natural range, or are naturally rare; (c) Areas containing nationally-significant examples of indigenous community types; (d) Indigenous ecosystems and vegetation types that are threatened in the coastal environment, or are naturally rare; and (e) Areas set aside for full or partial protection of indigenous biological diversity under legislation.	NA – The Site is inland and the proposal is not in the coastal environment.
ECO-P5 - Vegetation clearance in Significant Natural Areas. (1) Allow the clearance of indigenous vegetation in Significant Natural Areas when: (a) Maintaining tracks, fences and farm drains; (b) Avoiding loss of life injury or damage to property; (c) Collecting material to maintain traditional Maaori cultural practices;	NA – No indigenous vegetation clearance within an SNA is proposed.

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(d) Collecting removing manuka and kanuka for domestic firewood use (non-commercial); (e) Operating, maintaining or upgrading existing infrastructure; (f) Providing for the removal of manuka and kanuka for pasture maintenance; and (2) Provide for the clearance of indigenous vegetation in Significant Natural Areas for the construction of building platforms, services, access, vehicle parking and on-site manoeuvring and for the development of Maaori Freehold Land by: (a) Using any existing cleared areas on a site that are suitable to accommodate new development in the first instance; (b) Using any practicable alternative locations that would reduce the need for vegetation removal; and (c) Retaining indigenous vegetation which contributes to the ecological significance of a site, taking into account any loss that may be unavoidable to create a building platform, services, access, vehicle parking and manoeuvring on a site.	
ECO-P6 - Managing Significant Natural Areas. (1) Manage Significant Natural Areas in a way that protects long-term ecological functioning and indigenous biodiversity, through such means as: (a) Permanently excluding stock through voluntary covenants; (b) Undertaking plant and animal pest control; (c) Retaining and enhancing indigenous vegetation cover; (d) Maintaining and restoring natural wetland hydrology; (e) Avoiding physical and legal fragmentation;	The proposal retains SNA vegetation, excludes event infrastructure from that area and does not subdivide or permanently fragment it. Temporary event facilities will be removed following each festival, retaining the wider habitat setting between events. Stage locations and orientation, noise and lighting controls and active noise monitoring address disturbance of bats using retained habitat. Localised pest control is proposed as a last resort if bats are detected.

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(f) Legal protection of Significant Natural Areas through conservation covenants or similar mechanisms; and (g) Providing for the role of Mana Whenua as kaitiaki and for the practical exercise of kaitiakitanga in restoring, protecting and enhancing areas.	
ECO-P7 - Operational and functional requirement. In applying the effects management hierarchy in ECO-P2, recognise that infrastructure and extractive activities may have a functional or operational requirement to traverse or locate within a Significant Natural Area where no reasonably practicable alternative location exists.	NA – The proposal does not require infrastructure or extraction to locate within or traverse the SNA.
ECO-P8 - Maintaining and enhancing biodiversity. (1) Identify and protect indigenous vegetation and habitats of indigenous fauna. (2) Enable activities that maintain or enhance indigenous biodiversity including: (a) Planting using indigenous species suitable to the habitat and eco-sourcing these where practical; (b) The removal or management of pest plant and animal species; and (c) Biosecurity works. (3) Avoid, remedying or mitigate adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity, including by considering: (a) The range of natural food sources required to sustain indigenous fauna; (b) Habitats of threatened and at risk species; (c) Ecological sequences; (d) Migratory pathways; (e) Pest plants and pest animals; (f) Natural waterway habitats and hydrology; (g) Ecological corridors, natural processes and buffer areas; and (h) Legal and physical protection of existing habitat.	The mapped SNA and river and gully habitats have informed the exclusion of sensitive areas from the event footprint. No vegetation clearance is proposed, retaining habitat and ecological connections used by indigenous fauna. These measures respond to clause (1) and the habitat, corridor and buffer considerations in clause (3). Layout, stage orientation and noise and lighting controls address operational disturbance. Localised pest control is proposed as a last resort if bats are detected. These measures respond to clause (3), with the residual-effects assessment addressed under ECO-P2. No vegetation removal is proposed.

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(4) Provide for the removal of manuka or kanuka on a sustainable basis.	
ECO-P9 - Management hierarchy outside Significant Natural Areas. (1) Maintain or enhance indigenous biodiversity outside Significant Natural Areas by: (a) Avoiding, as far as practicable, the significant adverse effects of vegetation clearance and the disturbance of habitats in the first instance; (b) Remedying any significant adverse effects that cannot be avoided; then (c) Mitigating any significant adverse effects that cannot be remedied; and (d) After remediation or mitigation has been undertaken, offset any significant residual adverse effects in accordance with Policy ECO-P10. (e) If offsetting of any significant residual adverse effects in accordance with Policy ECO-P10 is not feasible, then biodiversity compensation may be considered. (f) If biodiversity compensation of any significant residual adverse effects is not appropriate, the activity itself is avoided. Clause (f) does not apply to the development, operation, maintenance, or upgrade of renewable electricity generation assets and activities and electricity transmission network assets and activities. (2) When evaluating the significance of adverse effects of vegetation clearance and the disturbance of habitats, consider; (a) The values of indigenous biodiversity by reference to the criteria in APP2; and (b) The operational and functional requirements and benefits of infrastructure, where no reasonably practicable alternative location exists.	The event uses pasture outside the SNA without vegetation clearance. Retaining river and gully vegetation avoids direct habitat loss and maintains connections used by bats and other indigenous fauna beyond the mapped SNA. The proposal manages disturbance through the event layout, stage orientation and noise and lighting controls. Localised pest control is proposed as a last resort if bats are detected. No biodiversity offset or wider compensation programme is proposed. The response to operational disturbance outside the SNA therefore comprises source controls and the localised contingency, alongside avoidance of physical habitat loss.

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ECO-P10 - Biodiversity offsetting. (1) Allow for a biodiversity offset to be offered by a resource consent applicant where: (a) An activity will result in significant residual adverse effects to indigenous vegetation or habitat outside a Significant Natural Area; and (b) The biodiversity offset is consistent with the framework detailed in APP3 - Biodiversity offsetting.	NA – No biodiversity offset outside an SNA is proposed.
ECO-P11 - Non-regulatory policy. The Council will work with landowners to promote the use of non-regulatory methods, including assistance with the establishment of protective covenants, service delivery, education, and other incentives in protecting and enhancing ecological sites.	NA – This is a Council-led non-regulatory policy. The proposal does not seek a new non-regulatory protection arrangement.
ECO-P12 - Significant Natural Area assessment funding. Council in joint responsibility with Waikato Regional Council will meet the costs of an ecological assessment to determine if an area meets one or more of the criteria in APP2 - Criteria for determining significance of indigenous biodiversity.	NA – This policy allocates Council responsibility for SNA assessment funding. No SNA identification or mapping change is sought.
ECO-P13 - Non-regulatory policy. (1) The Council will incorporate the following information in their Conservation Strategy: (a) Kauri Dieback, including reference to the Kauri Dieback Programme; and (b) Long-Tailed Bats. (2) Guidance on Kauri Die Back can be found in the Protecting Kauri: A Rural Landowner's Guide produced by Waikato Regional Council and endorsed by Ministry for Primary Industries.	NA – This policy concerns the content of Council's Conservation Strategy and reference guidance. It does not establish an activity-specific requirement for the festival.
GRUZ General rural zone – Objectives	
GRUZ-O1 - Purpose of the zone. (1) Enable farming activities; (2) Protect high class soils for farming activities;	The festival is assessed as a temporary event under TEMP-R5, including its associated temporary buildings, structures and car parks. TEMP-P2 provides the specific temporary-event policy direction. GRUZ-O1 remains relevant to the rural setting and use of the land, alongside the other GRUZ objectives and policies.

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(3) Provide for rural industry, infrastructure, rural commercial, conservation activities, community facilities, and extractive activities; (4) Maintain rural character and amenity; (5) Limit development to activities that have a functional need to locate in the zone.	The festival is a temporary commercial and recreational use of a large rural landholding. It requires space for stages, audience areas, camping, parking, servicing and separation between activities. These spatial requirements provide operational reasons for the location, as described in the site-selection assessment. The festival does not rely on the soil resource, and the policy implications of that distinction are addressed under GRUZ-P6 alongside TEMP-P2's specific provision for temporary events. The proposal will temporarily interrupt farming and change rural character and amenity during occupation. No subdivision, earthworks or vegetation removal is proposed. Temporary infrastructure will be removed and the land and pasture reinstated by 15 January, maintaining the wider Site for rural use between events. The approximately 2,000m² permanent storage area occupies approximately 0.28% of the Site and will remain as a localised change. The proposal aligns with the objective's farming and soil-retention outcomes through retention and reinstatement of the wider landholding. Rural amenity will be affected during the festival, but the defined annual occupation period, noise and traffic controls, compliant lighting and removal of temporary facilities limit the extent and duration of that change. Read alongside TEMP-P2, the proposal retains the rural land resource while accommodating a controlled temporary event use and is not inconsistent with the zone's purpose overall.
GRUZ-O2 - Productive capacity of soils. The primary productive value of soils, in particular high class soils, is retained.	The event does not require soil stripping, recontouring or subdivision. Pasture is temporarily occupied, with any temporary surfacing or trackway removed and the Site reinstated by 15 January. This limits permanent conversion of productive land. The approximately 2,000m² storage area is the component retained between events and occupies a small part of the landholding. The proposal therefore retains the wider site's productive-use potential rather than converting it to a permanent entertainment complex. Reinstatement is relevant to the condition of the land after vehicle and camping use, as well as removal of structures.
GRUZ-O3 - Rural character and amenity. (1) Maintain rural character and amenity.	The proposal will generate effects on rural character and visual amenity through the temporary concentration of stages, marquees, camping, parked vehicles, lighting, signage and

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(2) The attributes of areas and features valued for their contribution to landscape values and visual amenity are maintained or enhanced.	people. These effects will be greatest during festival operations from 28 December to 1 January. Establishment and pack-out will extend the visual change beyond the festival dates, and amplified music and traffic will temporarily alter the level and character of activity experienced by neighbouring properties. Annual occupation will be limited to 15 November to 15 January. Temporary structures, lighting, signage and servicing facilities will be removed and event-related damage to land and pasture repaired by 15 January. Lighting will comply with the applicable light spill and glare standards. Noise and transport measures will manage the operational effects during occupation. These controls limit the duration and extent of the change rather than eliminate disturbance during the event. The approximately 2,000m² permanent equipment storage area will comprise covered and uncovered storage. It will remain between events and create a localised visual change, but represents approximately 0.28% of the 72.38ha landholding. Compliance with the applicable building setbacks and site coverage requirements will limit its extent and proximity to adjoining properties. The balance of the Site will retain its predominantly open rural character outside the occupation period. The proposal is partially consistent with GRUZ-O3 because rural character and amenity will be substantially altered during festival operations. The temporary built form is assessed within the TEMP-R5 application, with TEMP-P2 providing the specific policy context for that annual event use. The limited occupation period, operational controls and reinstatement retain the wider rural setting between events, with permanent change confined to the storage area. Read together, the provisions support the conclusion that the rural character and visual amenity effects are acceptable with the proposed controls, while acknowledging the temporary departure from GRUZ-O3.
GRUZ-O4 - Extractive activities Recognise the contribution of extractive activities to the economic and social well-being of the district.	NA – No extractive activity is proposed. Protection of the mapped extraction resource is addressed under GRUZ-P17.
GRUZ General rural zone – Policies	
GRUZ-P1 - High class soils. Ensure the adverse effects of activities do not compromise the physical, chemical and biological properties of high class soils.	The proposal does not involve earthworks or soil removal. Temporary event surfaces will be removed and the Site reinstated following occupation, retaining land outside the permanent storage footprint for rural use. These measures

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	limit direct alteration and ongoing occupation of the soil resource.
GRUZ-P2 - Effects of subdivision and development on soils. Subdivision, use and development minimises the fragmentation of productive rural land, particularly where high class soils are located.	The six existing titles remain unchanged and no new residential lots or permanent subdivision pattern is created. Temporary stages, camping and parking are removed after each event, allowing the pasture footprint to return to rural use. Permanent storage is the limited ongoing occupation rather than a division of the wider landholding into separate event and residential parcels. These features respond to minimising fragmentation, although the land is unavailable for its normal pastoral use during the defined annual occupation period.
GRUZ-P3 - Contributing elements to rural character and amenity values. Recognise that rural character and amenity values vary across the zone as a result of the natural and physical resources present and the scale and extent of land use activities.	The surrounding environment contains pastoral farming, rural-residential properties and lifestyle blocks, with the State Highway network and airport influencing the wider setting. Parts of the Site have previously been modified by quarrying. These characteristics establish the receiving environment for the assessment, but do not remove neighbouring residents' expectations of rural amenity. The festival will introduce a substantial temporary change through amplified music, traffic, camping and event structures. The assessment recognises that change rather than treating the event as an ordinary farming activity. The defined annual occupation period, noise and traffic controls, compliant lighting, removal of temporary infrastructure and reinstatement will manage its extent and duration. Permanent equipment storage will remain as a small, localised component within the wider open landholding. This assessment responds to the variation in rural character and amenity recognised by GRUZ-P3 and considers both the existing mix of activities and the event's scale and intensity. The proposal is consistent with the policy's requirement for a context-specific assessment. Its temporary adverse effects are considered acceptable with the proposed controls and retention of the wider rural setting between events.
GRUZ-P4 - Productive rural activities. (1) Enable the on-going use of the rural environment zone as a productive working environment by: (a) Recognising that buildings and structures associated with farming and forestry and	The festival does not derive support from the policy's recognition of farming and forestry structures merely because its stages stand on rural land. Its relevant relationship with the productive working environment is temporary use of pasture, continued availability of the wider landholding after reinstatement and compatibility with nearby lawful activities. Event-related spending supports services

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other operational structures for productive rural activities contribute to rural character and amenity values; (b) Ensuring productive rural activities are supported by appropriate rural industries and services; (c) Providing for lawfully-established rural activities and protecting them from sensitive land uses and reverse sensitivity effects; and (d) Recognising the economic, social and cultural benefits that result from use and development of rural resources.	and contracting, but general economic benefits do not turn the activity into primary production. The proposal responds through its limited annual occupation and reinstatement, while GRUZ-P13 addresses potential constraints on existing operations.
GRUZ-P5 - Other anticipated activities in rural areas Provide for activities for the rural community's social, cultural, and recreational needs, subject to such activities being of a scale, intensity, and location that are in keeping with rural character and amenity values.	The festival will provide music, camping, entertainment and opportunities for local participation, contributing to the social, cultural and recreational activities available to the rural community and wider region. The approximately 72.38ha Site provides space to integrate the event, camping, parking and servicing within an open landholding. The attendance, amplified music and temporary structures will create a scale and intensity of activity substantially greater than ordinary pastoral use. The proposal therefore relies on a defined annual event period and controls on its effects, rather than an assumption that recreational benefits alone establish compatibility with rural amenity. Noise monitoring and operational adjustments, managed traffic and pedestrian movements, and compliant lighting will address effects on surrounding properties. Removal and reinstatement by 15 January will retain the wider Site's rural character between events. The proposal supports the policy's social, cultural and recreational purpose. Although it will temporarily alter rural amenity, its confined annual duration, management requirements and reinstatement distinguish it from an ongoing intensive commercial use. Read alongside TEMP-P2, the proposal is not inconsistent with GRUZ-P5 overall, with effects on rural character and amenity managed to an acceptable level through the proposed conditions. The performances, camping, vendors and associated temporary facilities are assessed as components of one temporary event under TEMP-R5. TEMP-P2 supplies the specific policy direction

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	for that use. GRUZ-P5 remains relevant to its social, cultural and recreational function and its effects on rural character and amenity; the consent pathway does not remove that assessment.
GRUZ-P6 - Industrial and commercial activities. (1) Provide for rural industry and rural commercial activities provided they are either dependent on the rural soil resource or have a functional or operational need for a rural location. (2) Such activities are to be managed to ensure that: (a) Their scale, intensity, and built form maintain rural character; (b) They maintain an appropriate level of amenity for neighbouring sites; and (c) They minimise reverse sensitivity effects on existing productive rural, intensive farming, quarrying, or rural industrial activities. (3) Avoid locating industrial and commercial activities in rural areas that do not have a genuine functional connection with the rural land or soil resource.	The festival, camping, food and beverage sales, vendors and associated temporary buildings and structures are assessed together as a temporary event under TEMP-R5, with specific policy direction in TEMP-P2. They are not treated as separate ongoing commercial activities under GRUZ-R38 or GRUZ-R60. GRUZ-P6 nevertheless remains relevant to the proposal's rural location and effects, including the permanent storage component, and is assessed alongside TEMP-P2. The festival requires a large contiguous area for stages, audience spaces, camping, parking, servicing and separation between activities. Storage at the venue supports event establishment and reduces repeated transport of equipment. These are operational reasons for the location relevant to clause (1), as explained in the AEE's site-selection assessment. Neither component depends on the soil resource. For clause (2), the event will temporarily increase built form, activity, noise and traffic. The defined annual occupation period, stage-specific noise controls, continuous monitoring, transport management, compliant lighting and removal and reinstatement requirements will manage neighbouring amenity and retain the wider rural setting between festivals. Temporary stages and other structures are assessed within the TEMP-R5 application. The approximately 2,000m² permanent equipment storage component remains subject to the applicable GRUZ height, coverage and setback standards and will comply. The short period of camping and absence of permanent residential occupation limit reverse sensitivity effects on surrounding rural activities. Clause (3) directs avoidance of commercial activities without a genuine functional connection to rural land or soils. The TEMP-R5 consent pathway does not remove this policy direction. The festival has operational land requirements but no primary-production connection, creating the policy tension identified in the AEE. TEMP-P2 specifically enables temporary events and associated structures, subject to its timing, duration and noise directions. Reading these provisions together, the operational requirements, limited annual occupation, retention of the wider land resource, mitigation and reinstatement support the

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	conclusion that the proposal is not inconsistent with the relevant rural policy framework overall. The noise departure from TEMP-P2(1)(b) is separately acknowledged and assessed above.
GRUZ-P7 - Intensive Farming activities. Provide for intensive farming activities where they operate in accordance with industry best practice and the management of adverse effects beyond the site boundaries.	NA – No intensive farming is proposed.
GRUZ-P8 - Home businesses. Enable home businesses, provided that it is of a scale that maintains rural the character and amenity.	NA – The proposal is not a home business.
GRUZ-P9 - Meremere Dragway. Enable the ongoing operation and activities at the Meremere Dragway, provided that its adverse effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated.	NA – The proposal is not at Meremere Dragway.
GRUZ-P10 - Waste management activities. (1) Encourage the rehabilitation of existing quarry sites (2) Ensure waste management facilities are located and operated so that rural amenity and character are maintained and conflict with rural activities are minimised. (3) Avoid waste management facilities located within: (a) An Outstanding Natural Landscape; (b) An Outstanding Natural Feature; (c) An Outstanding Natural Character Area.	NA – No waste management facility or quarry rehabilitation project is proposed. Waste collection and removal are ancillary festival servicing.
GRUZ-P11 - Agricultural Research Centres. Enable and protect the continued operation and development of Agricultural Research Centres that are an integral part of the agricultural sector.	NA – No Agricultural Research Centre is proposed or affected as part of the application.
GRUZ-P12 - Huntly Power Station - coal and ash management. (1) Recognise and protect facilities that are integral to energy production at Huntly Power Station. (2) Provide for specific facilities that involve the handling, stockpiling, and haulage of coal and the management of coal ash water within	NA – The proposal does not involve Huntly Power Station or coal and ash management.

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identified areas in close proximity to Huntly Power Station.	
GRUZ-P13 - Reverse sensitivity (1) New or extended sensitive land uses avoid or minimise potential reverse sensitivity effects on lawfully established activities including (but not limited to) productive rural activities, intensive farming, rural industry, infrastructure, industrial activities, extractive activities, by achieving adequate separation distances from site boundaries and/or adoption of appropriate measures.	The event introduces temporary camping within an active music festival, rather than permanent housing expecting a quiet residential environment. It does not seek controls on existing farming, infrastructure or extraction rights. The short annual period of overnight occupation and the managed event setting limit the duration of potential conflict with existing operations. Keeping patrons within controlled areas and maintaining resident and service access further responds to operational compatibility. Those measures support the policy's direction to avoid or minimise reverse sensitivity. Noise generated by the festival affecting neighbours remains a separate direct effect.
GRUZ-P14 - Density of residential units and seasonal worker accommodation. (1) Maintain an open and spacious rural character by: (a) Limiting residential units and seasonal worker accommodation to those associated with farming and productive rural activities; (b) Limiting residential units to no more than one per Record of Title, except for particularly large titles where a minimum of 40ha is provided for each residential unit; (c) Limiting the size, location, and number of minor residential units and requiring such units to be ancillary to an existing residential unit; and (d) Limiting seasonal worker accommodation to no more than one facility per Record of Title that is at least 1ha in area.	NA – No residential units, minor residential units or seasonal worker accommodation are proposed. Temporary patron camping is part of the festival.
GRUZ-P15 - Retirement villages. Provide for alterations and additions to retirement villages existing or subject to a resource consent at 17 January 2022.	NA – No retirement village development is proposed.
GRUZ-P16 - Building scale and location. (1) Provide for buildings and structures where they are necessary components of farming and	Temporary stages, marquees and other facilities are necessary components of the festival and are assessed together under TEMP-R5. On the interpretation in Section 7 of the AEE, GRUZ-S3, GRUZ-S9 and GRUZ-S12 are not identified as

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rural-related activities including rural industry, rural commercial, and extractive activities. (2) Manage the size and location of buildings and structures to: (a) Maintain adequate levels of outlook, daylight, and privacy for adjoining existing sensitive land uses and public reserves; and (b) Maintain rural character, amenity, and landscape values, in particular where located in areas with high landscape values, the coastal environment, and adjacent to waterbodies.	separate consent triggers for temporary event buildings and infrastructure. This interpretation does not remove the need to assess their actual scale, location and effects under GRUZ-P16 alongside TEMP-P2. Stage 2 is the mainstage and will be up to 20m high; other stages will be up to 15m high. Temporary perimeter security fencing will be up to 2.4m high, including boundary locations within the numerical GRUZ setback distances. Temporary event buildings, including stages, will meet the applicable GRUZ setback distances from external site boundaries. The height, distribution and visual effects of temporary built form are assessed as part of the event, without asserting numerical compliance with all GRUZ standards. The layout excludes the conservation area, SNA and residential curtilage. Positioning of temporary facilities, control of lighting and removal following each event will limit effects on adjoining properties and the duration of built change. Clearance and reinstatement by 15 January will return the wider event footprint to rural use. The approximately 2,000m² permanent storage component remains outside the interpretation for temporary facilities. It will comply with the applicable GRUZ building height, coverage and setback requirements and registered title restrictions. Its confined footprint will retain the wider Site's open character, with its final position identified in the Site Layout Plan within the EMP. The festival structures are not farming buildings. The proposal is partially consistent with GRUZ-P16, recognising its temporary changes to rural character and amenity. Read with TEMP-P2, the defined annual duration, layout controls, removal and reinstatement, and compliant permanent storage component provide the basis for finding the built-form effects acceptable overall. The remaining functional-connection issue is addressed under GRUZ-P6.
GRUZ-P17 - Management of extractive activities. (1) Provide for extractive activities provided that adverse effects are appropriately avoided, remedied or mitigated; and, where this is not possible, off-set or compensated. (2) Protect access to, and extraction of, mineral, aggregate and coal resources by:	The report attributes the aggregate extraction overlay to historic sand quarrying. No extraction, blasting, new dwelling or change to resource mapping is proposed. Annual event use is reversible through removal and reinstatement and does not subdivide the land or seek changes to existing extraction rights. Permanent storage is the limited component remaining between events. These features limit the extent and duration of potential interference with future use of the wider

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(a) Identifying on planning maps lawfully-established extractive activities as either Aggregate Extraction Areas and or Coal Extraction Areas on planning maps; (b) Identifying on planning maps the site of a potential extractive activity and significant mineral resources in an Aggregate Resource Area or Coal Resource Area; (3) Ensure that lawfully-established extractive activities are not compromised by new subdivision, use or development; (4) Avoid locating sensitive land uses within specified building setbacks in order to ensure the effective operation of an Aggregate Extraction Area, Aggregate Resources Area, Coal Extraction Area or Coal Resource Area.	landholding. The extractive-activity enabling provisions do not provide affirmative support for the festival, and historic quarry modification is not treated as permission to disregard the mapped resource. Clauses (1) and (2)(a)–(b): NA to new extraction and identification of resource areas; neither is proposed. Clauses (3) and (4) are relevant to protection of established extraction and any applicable sensitive-use setbacks.

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Waipā District Plan

Objectives/Policies	Assessment
Objective 4.3.7 – Rural character Rural character and amenity is maintained.	Noise and parking activity will be experienced during a defined annual event period, with the Cambridge Road parking land reinstated within five working days. The AEE's noise and traffic controls limit the duration and extent of disturbance, while the land retains its rural character and use between events. The proposal is therefore not contrary to this objective.
Policy 4.3.7.1 – Rural character Land use activities should be at a density, scale, intensity and location to maintain rural character.	The Cambridge Road parking serves the festival for a limited annual period. The ETMP manages access, queues and pedestrian movement, and removal of temporary facilities and reinstatement retain the underlying rural setting. Read with the temporary-event framework in Policy 4.3.7.10, the proposal is not contrary to this policy.
Policy 4.3.7.2 – Rural character Rural character and associated amenity values shall be maintained by ensuring rural land uses predominate in the Rural Zone, and buildings are of an appropriate scale and location.	Parking and festival noise will occur temporarily, and no permanent festival buildings or residential subdivision are proposed on the Waipā land. Reinstatement within five working days returns the Cambridge Road parking area to rural use between events. These arrangements retain rural uses as the predominant use of the land and are consistent with the policy.
Policy 4.3.7.10 – Temporary events Temporary events associated with rural character are enabled subject to control of potential and actual adverse effects.	The AEE defines the annual event programme and requires noise management, sound limits, monitoring, complaints response, traffic management and reinstatement. These controls address the event's temporary noise and amenity effects and retain the rural land for use between events. The defined programme and effects-management measures are consistent with the policy's provision for temporary events subject to control of their effects.
Objective 4.3.10 – Rural amenity noise and vibration To maintain rural amenity while enabling the operation of noise and vibration generating farming activities within the Rural Zone.	Rural acoustic amenity will be affected during the annual festival, including potential sleep disturbance. The AEE limits that exposure through defined music hours, staggered stage closures, sound limits, monitoring and corrective action. The surrounding rural acoustic environment is retained outside the event period. Read with Policies 4.3.7.10 and 4.3.10.2, the proposal is not contrary to the objective.
Policy 4.3.10.2 – Noise rural activities To ensure that the adverse effects of noise generated by rural activities are avoided, remedied or mitigated.	Stage-specific sound limits, defined music hours, stage orientation where practicable, continuous monitoring, complaints response and corrective action will manage the noise effects identified in the acoustic assessment. Fireworks are excluded.

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	These measures operate within the limited annual event period and are secured through the proposed conditions and Noise Management Plan. These measures are consistent with the policy's direction to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse noise effects.
Objective 4.3.12 – Non-farming activities Only non-farming activities that have a functional and compelling requirement to locate in the Rural Zone should be enabled to locate in the Rural Zone.	The Cambridge Road parking is required to serve the festival's transport arrangements and provide approximately 1,050 spaces with associated passenger facilities. Its connection to the festival, limited annual use and reinstatement distinguish it from a permanent non-farming use of rural land. Read alongside Policy 4.3.7.10, the proposal is not contrary to this objective.
Policy 4.3.12.1 – Non-farming activities To limit non-farming activities in rural areas except for activities that: a. Have a functional and compelling reason to establish in a rural area; and b. Do not result in any further loss of land from primary production purposes; and c. Maintain rural character. Activities that do not meet these criteria should be accommodated in urban areas.	The parking supports the festival's assessed transport strategy and occupies the land temporarily. No subdivision or permanent festival development is proposed on the Waipā parking land. Reinstatement retains its productive capacity and rural use between events, consistent with the temporary-event framework in Policy 4.3.7.10. The proposal is not contrary to this policy when read with the Rural Zone's temporary-event provisions.
Policy 4.3.12.3 – Reverse sensitivity Non-farming activities in rural areas shall internalise adverse effects and should not cause adverse effects that would result in farming activities being prevented or constrained from operating.	The AEE addresses off-site noise and traffic through defined event hours, sound limits, monitoring, corrective action and the ETMP, including maintenance of neighbouring access. Temporary occupation and reinstatement retain the rural land resource, while the absence of permanent residential occupation avoids introducing an ongoing residential use beside farming activities. The proposal is therefore not contrary to the policy.
Objective 2A.3.4 – Neighbourhood amenity and safety To recognise amenity values and enhance safety in the Medium Density Residential Zone including: a. On site for residents; b. On adjoining sites; and c. For the transport corridor and public open spaces.	Residential amenity will be affected by music noise during the limited annual event period. The AEE's defined music hours, staggered stage closures, sound limits, monitoring and response measures control exposure. No festival occupation or physical development is proposed on the residential land, and its normal use and setting are retained. On this basis, the proposal is not contrary to the objective.
Policy 2A.3.4.7 – Maintaining low ambient noise environment To ensure that noise emissions and vibration from all activities, including construction, are consistent with the low ambient noise	Predicted noise of 40–50 dB LAeq(5min) will temporarily alter the residential acoustic environment. Defined operating periods, stage limits, continuous monitoring and corrective action constrain that exposure to the annual

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environment anticipated in the Medium Density Residential Zone.	festival, with the low ambient environment retained outside the event period. In the context of the temporary-event framework and the proposed mitigation, the proposal is assessed as not contrary to the policy.
Policy 7.3.3.2 – Protect amenity of surrounding areas relevant noise clause To protect the amenity of surrounding areas by: c. Ensuring that noise and vibration effects do not exceed background or ambient levels of the surrounding area.	Predicted noise within Industrial Zone land is 40–50 dB LAeq(5min) during the annual festival. The AEE's sound limits, defined hours, monitoring and corrective action manage that temporary exposure. The proposal introduces no industrial development or permanent change to the zone or surrounding land uses. The proposal is therefore not contrary to the policy's amenity-protection direction.
Objective 5.3.1 – Management of Council Reserves relevant amenity clause Reserve Management Plans, Reserve Concept Plans and the District Plan are aligned to permit a range of recreation and social uses, (including associated buildings) that: c. Maintain or enhance amenity values in and around reserves.	No festival activity or building is proposed on reserve land, and the reserves retain their physical setting and recreational purpose. Noise of 40–50 dB LAeq(5min) will be experienced temporarily and managed through the operating periods, sound controls and monitoring described in the AEE. The proposal is not contrary to the objective's amenity direction.
Policy 9.3.2.2 – Noise To minimise the adverse noise effects on the amenity of neighbouring properties, whilst recognising that provision needs to be made for increased noise levels associated with major events within the zone.	The AEE responds through a defined annual event period, stage-specific limits, staggered closures, stage orientation where practicable, monitoring and corrective action. These measures limit the duration and extent of the festival's noise effects. These measures respond to the policy's recognition of increased major-event noise and its direction to minimise effects on neighbours. The proposal is not contrary to the policy.
Policy 9.3.2.4 – Noise management plans To effectively manage noise effects at the time of events through use and adoption of noise management plans.	The Noise Management Plan will set out operating hours, sound limits, monitoring responsibilities, complaints procedures and corrective action during sound checks and performances. Its implementation, supported by the proposed conditions, provides active management of noise throughout the temporary event. The plan and its implementation are consistent with the policy's direction to manage event noise through noise management plans.
Policy 11.3.2.3 – Maintaining character and amenity To manage activities and buildings outside of the Core Campus Area to maintain the character and	No festival occupation, building or change to the school's layout is proposed within the zone. Noise of approximately 45–55 dB LAeq(5min) will be experienced temporarily, with exposure controlled through the event programme, stage

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amenity of the St Peters Zone and surrounding environment.	limits, monitoring and response measures described in the AEE. The zone's educational use and physical character are retained. The proposal is therefore not contrary to the policy.
Objective 14.3.1 – Deferred zoning Land intended for conversion from its current land use to an alternative land use in order to respond to growth demands is clearly identified, occurs in a planned manner, and its resources are protected for its anticipated future use.	No development, subdivision or rezoning of Deferred Zone land is proposed. Noise of 40–50 dB LAeq(5min) will occur during one festival each year and will be managed through the AEE's noise controls. The temporary received noise does not occupy that land or compromise its resources for the anticipated future use. Retention of those resources and the land's future-use potential is consistent with the objective.
Policy 14.3.1.2 – Land subject to deferred zoning Land subject to deferred zoning will only accommodate land uses which do not compromise the ability for the area's natural and physical resources to be used for the purpose of the deferred zoning.	No stages, parking or camping are proposed on Deferred Zone land. The temporary noise exposure assessed in the AEE does not remove its productive resource or prevent future development for its deferred purpose. Defined annual operating periods and noise management retain the land's ability to accommodate its intended future use. The proposal is therefore consistent with the policy's protection of the land for its intended future use.

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