IN THE ENVIRONMENT COURT OF NEW ZEALAND AUCKLAND REGISTRY

I TE KŌTI TAIAO O AOTEAROA TAMAKI MAKAURAU ROHE	ENV- 2022-AKL
UNDER THE	the Resource Management Act 1991 (the Act)
IN THE MATTER OF	of an appeal under clause 14 of Schedule 1 of the Act against the decision of the Waikato District Council on the Proposed Waikato District Plan
BETWEEN	ANNA NOAKES AND FRUHLING TRUST, Potter Road, Tuakau, Waikato District
	Appellant
AND	WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCIL
	Respondent

NOTICE OF APPEAL

1 MARCH 2022

GML Lawyers PO Box 82024, Highland Park Auckland 2143 P 09 537 1600 Solicitor: Sam Khalesi sam@gmllawyers.co.nz



PO Box 5444 Victoria Street West, Auckland 1142 P 09 309 37889 Counsel: Setareh Stienstra setareh@publiclawchambers.com

To The Registrar Environment Court Auckland

- 1. Anna Noakes and Fruhling Trust, (the Appellants) appeal against certain decisions of the Waikato District Council (the Council) on the Proposed Waikato District Plan.
- 2. The Appellants own the property at operates a farm on a 23-hectare rural block, being Lot 2 DP 176205, adjacent and to the west of the Pokeno Village Estate residential subdivision.
- 3. The Appellants made a submission on the **Proposed Waikato District Plan** on 9 October 2018. Those submissions are classified as submission 525 and 636 by the Council.
- The Council's Decision on the Proposed Waikato District Plan (the Decision) was formally notified on 17 January 2022. Appeals are required to be lodged by 1 March 2022.
- 5. The Appellants are not a trade competitor for the purposes of section 308D of the Act.

Appeal

- 6. The Appellant appeals the decision to approve **Proposed Waikato District Plan** (**PDP**).
- 7. The Appellants are directly affected by the Decision for the following reasons:
 - a. The Decisions adversely affect the environment in that that the Appellants land will flood from nearby development. This will limit and restrict the use of the property of the Appellants for rural activities.
 - b. The ability of the Appellants to continue grazing stock with the Appellants land being surrounded by residential land;
 - c. The Decisions reduce the usable farming area and impact on the reduction of productive land for farming and associated agricultural activities.
- 8. The Appellants appeal the Decision of the Council to approve the PDP.
- 9. The Waikato District Plan Hearings Panel prepared a series of reports in response to the consideration of the submissions on the PDP. The parts of the Decision subject to appeal for the Appellants are decisions contained in:

- a. Decision Report 3: Overview
- b. Decision Report 5: Strategic Directions
- c. Decision Report 13: Infrastructure
- d. Decision Report 22: Rural Zone
- e. Decision Report 28I: Zoning Pōkeno
- f. Decision Report 30: Definitions
- g. Decision Report 32: Miscellaneous Matters;
- 10. The Decisions above are reflected in the following parts the PDP.
- The Appellants appeal provisions of the PDP as set out in the following provisions and to the extent requested in the submission of the Appellants numbered submission 525 and 636.
 - a. Part I: Introduction and General Provisions:
 - i. Interpretation:
 - I. Part I_5: Definitions
 - 2. Part I_6: Abbreviations
 - b. Part 2: District wide matters:
 - i. Strategic Direction
 - I. Part 2_1: Strategic Directions
 - 2. Part 2_2: Urban Form and Development
 - ii. Energy, Infrastructure, transports
 - I. Part 2_12: Water, Wastewater and Stormwater
 - 2. Part 2_3: All Infrastructure
 - iii. Hazards and risks
 - I. Part 2_15 Natural Hazards and climate change
 - iv. Natural environmental values
 - 1. Part 2_22: Ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity;
 - 2. Part 2_23: Natural character
 - 3. Part 2_24: Natural features and landscapes
 - v. Subdivision
 - I. Part 2_25: Subdivision

- vi. General district-wide matters
 - I. Part 2_29: Earthworks
 - 2. Part 2_31: Noise
 - 3. Part 2_33: Temporary activities
- c. Part 3: Area specific matters
 - i. Zones
 - I. Part 3_Residential Zones
 - 2. Part 3_Rural Zones
- d. Part 4: Schedules and appendices
 - i. Part 4_19: Havelock Precinct Plan

Reasons for Appeal

- 12. The reasons for the appeal include, but are not limited to:
 - a. The proposed strategic direction of the PDP to urbanise previously productive land used for rural and agricultural purposes in Pōkeno is inconsistent with sustainable management direction set out in section 5 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (the Act).
 - b. The PDP is inefficient and fails to assess the costs and impact of climate change on the conversion of rural land to urban;
 - c. The PDP is contrary to section 32 of the Act; and
 - d. The PDP results in the inefficient and unsustainable pattern of development in the District and limits the ability of rural land to be used in the manner zoned.

Relief Sought

- 13. The Appellants respectfully seek the following relief:
 - For the rezoning of Pokeno in the PDP to be declined until such time as all water infrastructure issues have been resolved to preclude the flooding of the Appellants land and other rural land;
 - b. For the Havelock Precinct Plan to be set aside;
 - c. All consequential amendments to give effect to the relief sought.

Attached are the following documents

- a. A copy of the appellant's submissions, Attachment I
- b. A copy of the relevant decision, Attachment 2
- c. A list of submitters to be served with a copy of the appeal, **Attachment 3**.

Dated: I March 2022

S Stienstra Counsel for the Applicant

THIS DOCUMENT IS FILED BY **SAM KHALESI**, OF GML LAWYERS, BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS. COUNSEL ON THE FILE IS **SETAREH STEINSTRA**.

Electronic address for service	(A) Sam Khalesi, Partner/Director, GML Lawyers <u>sam@gmllawyers.co.nz</u>
	(B) Setareh Stienstra, Barrister: setareh@publiclawchambers.com
Telephone	(A) Sam Khalesi: 09 537 1600 ext 707
	(B) Setareh Stienstra, Barrister: 09 309 7889
Post	 (A) Sam Khalesi GML Lawyers Barristers and Solicitors PO Box 82024 Highland Park, Auckland, 2143 (B) Setareh Stienstra, Barrister Kate Sheppard Chambers Post: Refer to solicitor
То:	The Environment Court, Auckland
And to:	Waikato District Council
And to:	Submitters listed in Attachment 3.

ADVICE TO RECIPIENTS OF COPY NOTICE OF APPEAL

How to become party to proceedings

- 1. You may be a party to the appeal if you made a submission or a further submission on the matter of this appeal.
- 2. To become a party to the appeal, you must,
 - a. within 15 working days after the period for lodging a notice of appeal ends, lodge a notice of your wish to be a party to the proceedings (in form 33) with the Environment Court and serve copies of your notice on the relevant local authority and the appellant; and
 - b. within 20 working days after the period for lodging a notice of appeal ends, serve copies of your notice on all other parties.
- 3. Your right to be a party to the proceedings in the court may be limited by the trade competition provisions in section 274(1) and Part 11A of the Act.
- 4. You may apply to the Environment Court under section 281 of the Act for a waiver of the above timing or service requirements (see form 38)

How to obtain copies of documents relating to appeal

5. The copy of this notice served on you does not have attached a copy of the appellant's submission and (or or) the decision (or part of the decision) appealed. These documents may be obtained, on request, from the appellant.

Advice

6. If you have any questions about this notice, contact the Environment Court in Auckland, Wellington, or Christchurch: https://environmentcourt.govt.nz/contact-us/ Attachment I: Appellant's Submissions

SC Set N		ECM PROJECT DPRPh5-03
Waikato DISTRICT COUNCIL Fe Kauramere au Takwar, o Wakato	n Submission form RECEIVED 9 OCT 2018	ECM# Submission# Customer #
To submit electronically please go to: <u>www.waikatodis</u>		rioperty#
This is a submission on the following Waikato District Council proposed plan. Please note that the (*) are required fields and must be completed		
SUBMITTER DETAILS		
First Name* Anna	Last Name:* Noakes	
Organisation: On behalf of:		
Postal Address:* 227A Kuraka North Rd	2	
Suburb: RDI Papalenva.	_ City/Town:	
Country:	PostCode:* 2580	
Daytime Phone: eMail:* <u>NoakesaQginai (.com</u>	Mobile: 021 1183775	
Please tick your preferred method of contact:*		
Correspondence to:		
Trade competition and adverse effects: I could I could not Gain an advantage in trade competition through this subr	nission	
Note to person making submission If you are a person who could gain an advantage in trade submission may be limited by clause 6(4) of Part 1 of Sche	-	-
Would you like to present your submission in person at a Yes	hearing?	
I do NOT wish to speak in support of my submission an	nd ask that the following submission be	e fully considered
If others make a similar submission I will consider present would not consider a joint case) Yes No	ing a joint case with them at the heari	ng (do not tick if you
Additional requirements for hearing:		

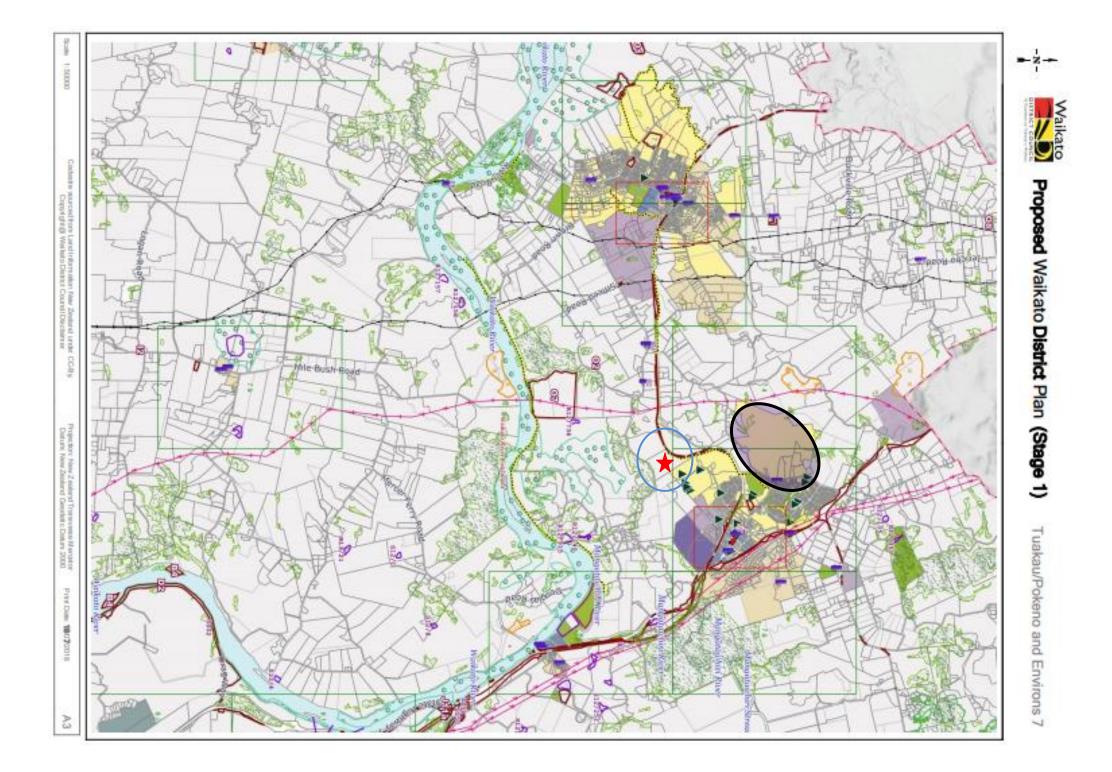
PROPOSED DISTRICT PLAN

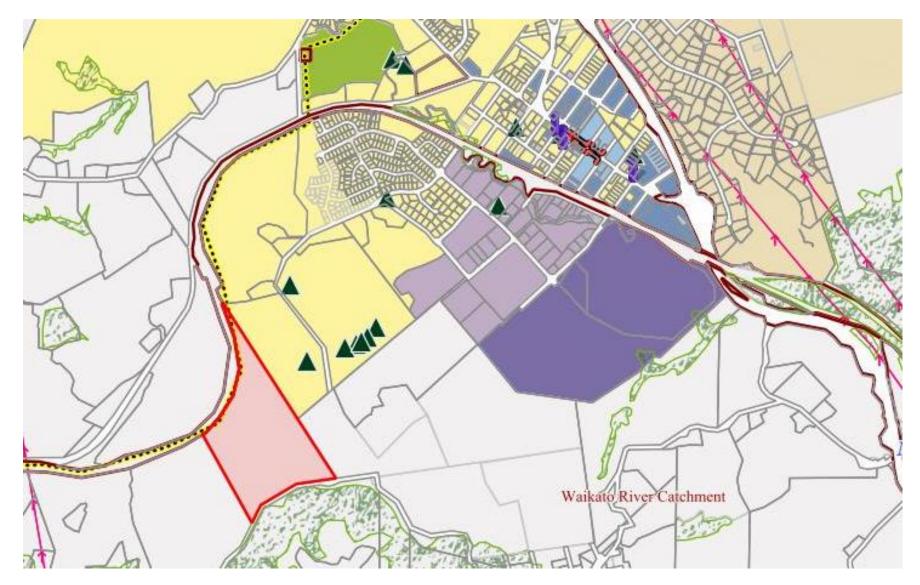
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Section Numb	er: 22.4	Section Heading:	Subdivision
Rule Number:	22.4.1.2	Rule Heading:	General Subdivision
Activity:	RD1	Activity Number:	(a)(i)
Section B: O Section C: R	ojectives and P Iles		
Section D: A	opendices and	Schedules	
Section E: D	esignations		
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	X. Second	Submission#
	RECEIVED	Customer #. 75917
DISTRICT COUNCIL Te Kaurinera aa Takwac, o Waikato		Property#/a
To submit electronically please go to: <u>www.waikatodis</u>		
This is a submission on the following Waikato District Council proposed plan Please note that the (*) are required fields and must be completed	BY: email SIC	
SUBMITTER DETAILS		
First Name* Anna	Last Name:* Noakes	
Organisation:		
On behalf of:		
Postal Address:* 2274 Kuraka North Ro	l	
Suburb: RDI Papalenva.	City/Town:	
Country:	PostCode:* 2580	
Daytime Phone:	Mobile: 021 1183775	
eMail:* noakesaggmail.com		
Please tick your preferred method of contact:*		
Correspondence to:		
Trade competition and adverse effects:		
I could I could not		
Gain an advantage in trade competition through this sub-	mission	
Note to person making submission		
If you are a person who could gain an advantage in trade submission may be limited by clause 6(4) of Part 1 of Scho		
Would you like to present your submission in person at a		
V Yes		
I do NOT wish to speak in support of my submission ar	nd ask that the following submission be	fully considered
If others make a similar submission I will consider present	ting a joint case with them at the hearir	ng (do not tick if you
would not consider a joint case)		
Additional requirements for hearing:		

PROPOSED DISTRICT PLAN

Example:		
Section: C		
Chapter Number:	22 Chapter Heading:	Rural Zone
Section Number:	22.4 Section Heading:	Subdivision
Rule Number:	22.4.1.2 Rule Heading:	General Subdivision
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	ectives and Policies	
Section C: Rule		
	endices and Schedules	
Section E: Desig	gnations	
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Noakes Property highlighted immediately to the West of Pokeno Residential zone and adjacent current subdivision activity.

APP14 – Havelock precinct plan

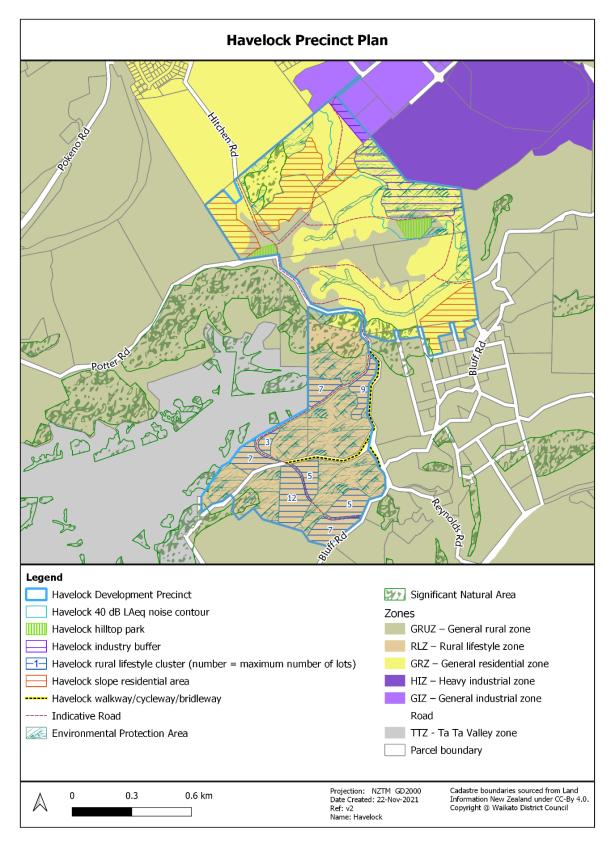


Figure 56 – Havelock precinct plan

Submission on Publicly Notified District Plan

Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991

To: Waikato District Council **Date:** 08/10/2018 **Submission method:** on-line

Submitter Details: Anna Noakes - C/ Planman Consultants Ltd

Email id: john@planmanconsultants.co.nz Contact Name: John Manning Name: Anna Noakes Address: c/ 9 Berkley Avenue , Hillcrest, Hamilton, 3216, New Zealand Phone daytime: 64 07 856 6544 Mobile: 022 6200653

I wish to be heard in support of my submission.

If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing. I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

This is a submission on the Waikato District Council Proposed District Plan (the Proposal):

The specific issue	Support, Oppose or Support in part	My Submission is:	I seek the following decision from the local authority and/or
and/or Proposed			make the following Recommendation:
District Plan			
provision(s) of the			
proposal that my			
submission relates to			
is:			

Timing of the notification of the Proposed Plan	General Comment	 Legislative reforms are currently occurring with other documents being updated: Draft National Planning Standards (NPS) have been through consultation, with indications of adoption in 2019. The NPS are set to improve consistency in Plan structure format and content. The Ministry for Environment has signaled a desire for cost savings and standardisation - particularly with regard to definitions. The Proposed Plan is required to 'give effect to' to the Objectives and Policies of the Operative Waikato Regional Policy Statement (WRPS). While the WRPS was Operative 2016, the Objectives and Policies are yet to fully encompass the northern areas of the District that transferred from the former Franklin District. The WRPS will be reviewed to encompass this additional area and is largely informed with regard to settlement patterns, by 'Future Proof' which is also being updated over the 2018/19 period. New National Standards, potential changes in land use patterns through the adoption of revisions in Future Proof that will then inform the WRPS, all raise question marks regarding the timing of the review as subsequent changes to the Proposed Plan brought about by these other documents will be unnecessarily time consuming and expensive. 	Potentially defer hearing of submissions until post NP adoption, and/or post stage 2 of the review of Futur Proof,/updated WRPS. Deferring the Proposed Plan wi also allow for more thorough editing of the document
Section A 1.4.4. (a)	Support in Part	The impact of Urban development on the rural environment should not restrict the productive capacity of the rural resource to existing levels. The policy should allow for enhanced rural productivity.	Add and enhance following maintain in the first sentence so that it reads:
			A key issue for the district is to maintain and enhance the productive capacity of the rural resource and en- sure that population growth and associated built devel- opment is managed in a way that results in efficient and high-amenity urban areas. Development needs to be managed so that emphasis is placed on achieving high amenity standards, while retaining existing valued characteristics as far as practicable. In these areas, de- velopment can support local infrastructure, services and other facilities, while at the same time minimising adverse effects on productive rural activities. Commer- cial activity should be of a size or function that does not compromise the vitality and viability of the primary commercial centres. It is also important that we take a 'centres-based' approach to retail as per the Waikato Regional Policy Statement (WRPS). A range of housing options should be provided for, with varying land values and amenities.

1.5.2. (a)	Oppose in Part	The Environment Court has questioned the legality of the use of Structure Plans/Master Plans and the like where the activity status of a proposal is determined through such documents Further the need for owners of properties within a 'Structure Plan' area to collaborate over development in accordance with 'required' Structure Plan provisions is also questionable. Delete reference to master plans/structure plans from the Policy. Future Proof is a dynamic document and will undergo change throughout the term of the Plan - reference to the current document may be misleading.	Amend to read: Defined growth areas have been zoned and their development will be guided through the application of objectives and policies and through processes such as the development of master plans, comprehensive structure plans, within the district plan and any future changes to the district plan. The agreed Future Proof settlement pattern for urban growth and development is to will assist to avoid unplanned en- croachment into rural land and is to be contained within defined urban areas to avoid rural residential fragmentation.
1.10.1.1 (a)	Oppose in Part	Refers to wrong WRPS Policy in the second line.	by virtue of Policy 6. 11 in the Waikato Regional should read: Policy 6.1.1.
1.12.1 (b) & (c) & (f)	Oppose in Part	The policy relating to the use of 'Master Plans' where adherence to the Plans may change the activity status of a proposal is questioned for the same reasons as the query on Structure Plans above. Further it is not clear in the document what is meant by Master Plans, (although Policy 4.7.14 also refers to them) and where they are referenced in the Rules.	Delete 1.12.1 (b) & (c)
Section B 4.1.1 (a) & (b)	Support	Support sustainable communities and the objective of providing for 13,300 - 17,500 additional dwellings within the District 2018 - 2045	Provide Policies and support for additional residential zoning opportunities to cater for anticipated demand for the next 27 years. Increase residential zoned areas around existing established communities in line with Future Proof expectations.
4.1.2 (a)	Support	Support the Objective in consolidating growth around existing towns/villages	
4.1.3 (b)	Support in Part	Urban Growth should align with the Waikato Regional Policy Statement informed through 'Future Proof', however the 'Future Proof' settlement patterns are to be updated 2018/19 to take into account legislative reforms such as the National Policy Statement n Urban Development Capacity and strategic requirements	Amend to read: Locate urban growth areas only where they are consistent with Legislative requirements and strategic documents such as Future Proof the Future Proof Strategy Planning for Growth 2017 .
4.1.4	Support	This submission supports the integrated and staged approach to development where infrastructure supports such development	

4.1.5 (b)	Support in part	Support the minimum density requirements, but note that physical/geotechnical limitations and market trends may impede achieving minimum requirements especially when existing land holdings are in fragmented ownership.	
4.1.11 (a) (ii)	Support in part	Support where walking and cycling networks form part of the urban framework but opposed to Policy which may lead to walkway cycleways impinging on property rights where the underlying land is not part of the planned urban area.	See submission regarding proposed walkway/cycleway alignment indicative on Planning Maps located on Lot 2 DP 176205 - see property identified with red star on attached Proposed District Plan zoning Map Tuakau/Pokeno and Environs 7.
4.2.14	Support	Earthworks that facilitate residential subdivision is supported.	
4.7.3	Support in Part	That subdivision development responds to the outcomes of the Urban Design Guidelines is supported - but it is noted that the document referenced directs users to the Operative Plan provisions rather than Proposed Plan. The status of this document forming part of the decision making process of the Proposed Plan is also questionable with regard to the ability of the public to submit on changes to the guidelines.	Clarify position regarding guidelines and activity status and/or process for changes to guidelines.
4.7.6 (a)(ii) & (iii)	Oppose	Opposed reference to Structure Plans for the previously mentioned reasons.	Delete reference to Structure Plans.
4.7.7 - 4.7.10	Support		Ensure Subdivision Rules enable the required outcomes of these Policies.
4.7.11 (a) & (b)	Support in Part	While the Policies discuss protecting against reverse sensitivity, identified areas for Residential development with communities such as Pokeno do not contain any buffer between the proposed residential and existing rural environment. Residential development, has the potential to impact on existing farming operations whether or not they are intensive in nature, and/or may be negatively impacted by existing farming practices	Encourage new residential areas to be developed where topographical or physical constraints provide a natural separation between conflicting land uses. (for example use roads/rail lines, significant planted areas as the buffer)
4.7.14	Oppose	Opposed reference to Structure Plans/Master Plans for the previously mentioned reasons.	Delete reference to Structure Plans/Master Plans.

6.4.1	Support	This submission supports the objective of the integration of infrastructure with subdivision and development.	
6.4.2 - 6.4.7	Support in part	This submission supports the stated Policies.	Ensure that the Rules relating to subdivision give effect to the proposed Policies, and that where green field sites are identified for urban growth that the ability to appropriately, effectively and efficiently service these areas in comparison to other areas has been adequately investigated through Section 32 RMA analysis.
6.5.2(a)(iv)	Support in part	While supporting pedestrian and off road cycleways, the identification and location of such should not impact on property rights without Council Designating land for such purposes	Remove indicative walkway cycleways from planning maps unless the underlying land has been earmarked for residential or commercial/industrial development
Section C Chapter 13 Definitions: Fill Material	Support in part	Clarify the that the list is not inclusive - other materials could be fill such as sand	Amend: Means material used for filling activities including, but not limited to, materials such as sand, soil, clay or aggregate.
Impervious surface	Support in part	Definition is unduly restrictive and does not cater for 'pervious' materials that may be used for driveways etc	Amend: Means a surface such as a road, rooftop, footpath, paving, decking, swimming pool, patio, driveway, vehicle access and manoeuvring area or highly-compacted soil that is not vegetated and does not infiltrate runoff. It excludes wooden decks with spacing between boards of 4mm or more, or surfaces such as gobi paving, where water is allowed to drain through to a permeable surface below the deck.

Planning Maps	Oppose	There appears to be some inconsistency in terminology used in the Overlays on the Planning Maps v provisions within the text - for example in the Rural zone reference Outstanding Natural Character v Maps Natural Character	Amend terms to provide consistency between maps and text.
Planning Maps	Oppose	The Proposed District Planning Maps (inclusive of Legend) refer to Stage 1 - no apparent explanation	Provide explanation as to what is meant by Stage 1.
Planning Maps - Map 07 Tuakau/Pokeno & Environs	Орроѕе	The proposed residential zoning of the 160 hectare block identified on attachment V1 hatched in purple know as Pokeno West. The zoning of this block appears to have been initially developed as a private plan change then added to the current review of the District Plan and consequently has not gone through the consultative processes normally anticipated from private Plan Changes before being adopted by Council. In adopting this proposed zoning for the site Council has not completed an independent Section 32 to ensure robust decision making in achieving the purpose of the RMA. There has been no analysis of alternative sites for residential zoning on the periphery of Pokeno, particularly with regard to the proposed Objectives and Policies for the Residential zone. For example, while the proposed zoning provides for a degree of residential growth as indicted as being needed for Pokeno within 'Future Proof'' and the Proposed District Plan, the constraints within the land make achieving the density targets of both Future Proof and the Proposed District Plan likely unachievable. Further it is unclear as to the nature and ownership of the large areas of 'open space' within the indicative 'Master Plan' for the development. If in public ownership such a high level of public open space will place a potentially excessive burden on the rate payer for development and ongoing maintenance.	Council to examine all zoning options for growth within land in Pokeno and surrounds to provide for the required level of Residential for the next 30 year period as detailed within the Future Proof Strategy. Areas chosen for residential growth should be consistent with the Objectives and Policies of the Residential zone, as well as Regional and National Legislative and Strategic documents. Potentially hold off in zoning the land until new legislative planning requirements, and revised regional growth strategies, have been determined. While not completely discounting the proposed site for residential development, further analysis is needed prior to the determination that this area should be 'next off the block'.

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Planning Maps Map 07 Tuakau/Pokeno & Environs	Oppose	The Noakes property, being Lot 2 DP 176205, is a 23.5 hectare block of gently rolling land immediately west of the existing residential zone boundary of Pokeno, and adjoining the Pokeno Village Estate subdivision (site identified with a red star on attachment V1 & highlighted on attachment V1.1). The Proposed District Plan zoning of this site is Rural. This Rural zoning is considered inconsistent with the residential growth expectations for the Operative duration of the Proposed District Plan as identified in the Future Proof strategy, and further is not consistent with the Objectives and Policies of either the proposed Rural zone or Residential zone growth expectations. The eastern boundary of the property is within approximately 250 metres of where earthmoving machinery is currently operating to develop residential sections to cater for CURRENT demand for sections within the Pokeno Village Estate subdivision. The block can be serviced from the east, is in proximity to new water supply infrastructure and includes the location of a future walkway cycleway identified through the District Plan review process. The geographical location of the site, separated from rural land to the north by the east west rail line, and to the south by a substantial covenanted bush block makes the property ideal for the type of residential subdivision anticipated by the Objectives and Policies within the Residential zone of the Proposed District Plan. The block does not contain any dwelling or other substantial impediments to development, and subject to a developer coming on board, is ready to go. Further to the above, the site provides for a logical extension of the residential development of the adjoining land, offering connectivity, access and development options that otherwise may be difficult to realise in the future if connectivity is lost through a lack of appropriate zoning to facilitate development options. In noting that the land is ready, it is recognized that, even if zoned residential, the development of the site will b	Council has simply not identified enough land zoned residential within Pokeno and the immediate surrounds to meet the residential growth expectations within Future Proof. Lot 2 DP 176205 should be zoned Residential and be subject to the Regulatory controls regarding subdivision and development contained within the Residential zone.

Attachment 2: A copy of Decisions

Link: https://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/your-council/plans-policies-andbylaws/plans/waikato-district-plan/district-plan-review/decisions/proposedwaikato-district-plan

Attachment 3: List of Submitters to be Notified

Name (submitter of submission	Address for Service
524)	
Annie Chen	
Havelock Village Limited	
Mercury NZ Limited	
Hamilton City Council	
CSL Trust & Top End Properties	
Limited	
Pokeno Village Holdings Limited	
Watercare Services Limited	
Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport	
Agency	
Te Whakakitenga o Waikato	
Incorporated (Waikato Tainui)	
Hynds Pipe Systems Limited	
Waikato Regional Council	
Blue Wallace Surveyors Limited	

Name (submitter of submission 636)	Address for Service
Mainland Poultry Limited	
Alstra (2012) Limited	
Mercury NZ Limited for Mercury B, Mercury E,	
Federated Farmers	
Combined Poultry Industry on behalf of the Poultry Association of NZ Inghams Enterprises (NZ) Ltd Brinks NZ Chicken The Egg Producers Federation of NZ Tegel Foods Ltd 	
Mainland Poultry Limited	
CSL Trust & Top End Properties Limited	
Hamilton City Council	
Blue Wallace Surveyors Limited	