



Waikato District Council
Ngaruawahia office
15 Galileo Street
Ngaruawahia 3742

20 March 2020

Attention: Sandra Kelly

Dear Sandra

Ministry of Education – Waikato District Plan Review - Letter to be Tabled at Hearing 11: Lakeside Te Kauwhata

The Ministry of Education (the Ministry) has lodged a submission on the Proposed Waikato District Plan (submitter 781) and further submissions (submitter FS1277). The Ministry has chosen not to attend Hearing 11 Lakeside Te Kauwhata scheduled to commence Friday 20th March 2020 and requests that in lieu of attendance this letter be tabled for the Hearing Commissioner's consideration.

The Officer's report for Hearing 11 – Lakeside Te Kauwhata has been received. The Ministry's response to the Officer's report recommendations on these submission points are set out below.

Submission 781.14 Chapter 22: Rural Zone - Lakeside Te Kauwhata Precinct - 22.8.4 Discretionary Activities

Through its submission, the Ministry sought to change the activity status of educational facilities in Chapter 22 Rural Zone Te Kauwhata Precinct from discretionary to restricted discretionary under Rule 22.8.3 and proposed the following matters of discretion:

RD3: Education Facilities

Matters of discretion:

- 1. The extent to which it is necessary to locate the activity in the Lakeside Te Kauwhata Precinct.*
- 2. Reverse sensitivity effects of adjacent activities.*
- 3. The extent to which the activity may adversely impact on the transport network.*
- 4. The extent to which the activity may adversely impact on the streetscape.*
- 5. The extent to which the activity may adversely impact on the noise environment.*

The Reporting Officer has recommended that the Ministry's submission be rejected. The Reporting Officer notes that an 'Education facility' is not provided for as a restricted discretionary activity in either the Residential Zone or Business Zone of the Lakeside Te Kauwhata Precincts nor has the Ministry sought the restricted discretionary activity status within the Lakeside Te Kauwhata Precincts of these zones. The Reporting Officer also recognises that there are submission points from the Ministry seeking that the restricted discretionary activity status apply to the Residential and Business Zones (outside Lakeside Te Kauwhata).

The Reporting Officer considers that given the activity status will be discretionary or non-complying in the Residential Zone and Business Zone of the Lakeside Te Kauwhata Precincts respectively, and Policy

4.1.12(b) seeks to retain a compact urban form, the existing discretionary activity status for education facilities in the Rural Zone Lakeside Te Kauwhata Precinct would be appropriate.

The Ministry disagrees with the Reporting Officers recommendation and considers that a restricted discretionary activity status is appropriate for education facilities in the rural zone of the Lakeside Te Kauwhata Precinct. Education facilities such as schools, community education, early childhood education, tertiary education institutions, work skills training centres, outdoor education centres and sports training establishments are located within rural areas and are considered an essential social infrastructure required to support rural areas.

The Ministry are seeking a restricted discretionary activity status in the rural zone of the Lakeside Te Kauwhata Precinct which would enable Council to have the discretion over the effects these activities may generate on a case-by-case basis. The matters of discretion covering; necessity, reverse sensitivity, traffic/transport network, noise and amenity would, in my opinion, appropriately address any actual or potential effects on the environment that may be of concern to the Council or to neighbours and the consent authority can then decide whether to grant consent, grant consent with conditions or decline consent – as provided for in S104C, RMA.

The Ministry therefore requests that education facilities are provided for as a restricted discretionary activity under Rule 22.8.3 Lakeside Te Kauwhata Precinct.

Should you have any queries or seek clarification on the above, please contact me on the details below.

Yours sincerely



Alec Duncan
Planner

on behalf of

Beca Limited

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