

Waikato Region Future Proof Strategy

Waikato Region | June 2024

What is the Waikato Region Future Proof Strategy?

The Future Proof Strategy is a plan that outlines how the region's growth and housing will be provided for over a thirty-year period. This is required under the National Policy Statement for Urban Development and consulted on using Section 83 Special Consultative Procedure under the Local Government Act.

Key changes/provisions

HortNZ were successful in getting the treatment of LUC 1, 2 & 3 land in line with the National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land (NPSHPL). Below are some specific changes and amendments made to the Future Proof Strategy.

- Amending wording to *B1. Overview* to include the following benefits to compact and concentrated growth - Natural environment and access to rural resources.
- Amending *B3 Waahi Toituu and Waahi Toiora* to remove references to LUC 1, 2 & 3 land and ensure these land use classes are considered and protected in keeping with the NPSHPL.
- Adding wording to *Chapter B4 Responding to Climate Change* to discuss the positive outcomes that can occur via a transition to a low emissions food production activity.
- Adding a new directive to *B8. Growing a prosperous economy* - Support and provide opportunities for the rural economy including horticulture.
- Amending *B9. Rural Areas* to elevate the importance of the sub-region for food production and food security - Highly productive land is protected for their productive potential including food production in recognition of the sub-region's role in domestic food security and exports.
- Investigating an additional KPI in the implementation plan to consider the impacts on loss of highly productive land.

Further to this, Waikato Regional Council will add an action to the Implementation Plan to consider including food security and lower emission food production systems into the next iteration of the strategy. This will allow for these concepts to be incorporated in a considered way through all relevant parts of the strategy in the next review of the strategy.

WHERE TO GO FOR MORE INFORMATION

- [Home | Waikato Regional Council](#)
- Keep an eye on HortNZ's website [Home | Horticulture New Zealand – Ahumāra Kai Aotearoa \(hortnz.co.nz\)](#)
- HortNZ contact: leanne.roberts@hortnz.co.nz