

Auckland Unitary Plan

Notice of withdrawal of Proposed Plan Change 26: Clarifying the relationship between the Special Character Areas Overlay and the underlying zone provisions

Auckland Council gives notice of the withdrawal of Proposed Plan Change 26: Clarifying the Relationship Between the Special Character Areas Overlay and Underlying Zone Provisions under clause 8D of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991. The decision was made by resolution of the Planning Committee on 6 May 2021.

The reasons for the withdrawal are as follows:

- overall, the decision version of Plan Change 26 does not achieve better outcomes than can be achieved without the plan change;
- the resource consent process efficiencies gained by clarifying which provisions have greater weight are outweighed by the outcomes that could result if greater weight is always afforded to the Special Character Areas overlay provisions;
- the Council's resource consent practice was adjusted after the *Budden* Environment Court declaration and the approach adopted is proving to be not as onerous for both applicants and the council as first thought, when the plan change was prepared and publicly notified; and
- Kāinga Ora's appeal on Plan Change 26 raises issues regarding the relevance of the National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020 to the geographical extent of the Special Character Areas overlay. These issues are of significance to the Council and the implementation of the National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020 is currently the subject of a comprehensive Council workstream. It is far more appropriate to deal with the extent of the Special Character Areas overlay and underlying zones in a comprehensive and integrated manner as part of implementing the National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020 in a future plan change process than through the Plan Change 26 appeal process.

For further information on Proposed Plan Change 26, please visit the Auckland Council website at www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/planchanges.

Dated 20 May 2021