



## MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** RACHEL MORGAN  
**FROM:** GARY BRAMLEY  
**SUBJECT:** DRURY EAST PLAN CHANGE – ECOLOGY RESPONSE ON BEHALF OF FULTON HOGAN  
**DATE:** MARCH 20, 2020  
**CC:**

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### INTRODUCTION

This memo has been prepared to address particular ecological responses as required by the Request for Further Information (RFI) from Auckland Council for the Drury East Plan Change application by Fulton Hogan. This memo should be read in conjunction with the joint ecologists' response, the joint stormwater response and the planning response and only applies to those specific matters outlined below. Each matter is identified by the item number used in the RFI with the prefix E (denoting Ecology, Fulton Hogan).

### RESPONSE

**EFH10.** Section 4.1 of our earlier ecology report notes that to facilitate urban development of the land, some stream removal is likely to be required and estimates that, based on the proposed master plan, the stream removal totals 655m, comprised of 188m of intermittent and 467m of permanent streams.

Auckland Council have requested further detail in relation to the total length of intermittent and permanent streams within the plan change area so that the relative scale of this level of stream loss can be assessed and a precinct map that shows all streams.

The Master Plan does not represent a detailed subdivision design, and for that reason the extent to which streams will be removed or retained is still theoretical. This matter is addressed further in the planning response.

**EFH11 and EFH12** request that more information is provided to assess the effects of sediment and erosion on the life supporting capacity of the marine significant ecological area, including the effect that increased imperviousness would have on stream erosion

and sediment input to the downstream marine SEA. These matters are dealt with in the joint ecologists' response.

**EFH13** considers the part of the proposed plan change north of Waihoehoe Road and notes that that area currently discharges to Slippery Creek catchment yet once developed will discharge to the Hingaia Stream and requests an ecological assessment in relation to the effect of that change.

The stormwater management plan avoids discharges to Slippery Creek due to the existing downstream flood risk. The part of the plan change area north of Waihoehoe Road comprises 22,435m<sup>2</sup> (0.022km<sup>2</sup>). The Slippery Creek Watercourse Assessment Report (2015) prepared for Auckland Council estimates the size of the Slippery Creek catchment as 46.3km<sup>2</sup>. On that basis the area north of Waihoehoe Road represents less than 0.05% of the Slippery Creek catchment and redirection of that portion of the catchment is expected to have effects which are barely discernible on the ecology of the lower reaches of Slippery Creek. Similarly, the Hingaia Stream Watercourse Assessment Report (2018) prepared for Auckland Council estimates the size of the Hingaia Stream catchment as 54.9km<sup>2</sup>. The area north of Waihoehoe Road represents c. 0.04% of the Hingaia Stream catchment and the effects of adding such a small area to the lower catchment is expected to be barely discernible.

**EFH14** relates to the width of riparian margins. That matter has been addressed in the planning response.

**EFH15** relates to area of the proposed blue – green network in the northeast of the plan change area that is not reflected in the zoning plan. This particular area of the Blue-Green Network is considered to be of potentially higher ecological value given that it connects to multiple SEAs on the other side of Drury Hills Road.

It is acknowledged that this area is potentially of higher ecological value. We note that the identified area would be affected by the ultimate location of Mill Road, which is outside the plan change process.

The ecological connectivity across that part of the plan change area will be affected by Mill Road, with the extent to which the area is affected varying with which alternative Mill Road route is selected. Decisions relating to this part of the site can be finalized once the proposed alignment is chosen.

**EFH16** relates to the method of protection of the proposed plantings. This matter is dealt with in the planning response.

**EFH18 – EFH20** are dealt with in the planning response.

## **CONCLUSION**

I trust that this is sufficient for your purposes. Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.