

Memo

16 February 2017

To: Central Government's Local Government and Environment Select Committee
cc: Phil Goff – Mayor of Auckland
Josephine Bartley – Chair, Maungakiekie-Tamaki Local Board
All Devonport-Takapuna Local Board members
From: Grant Gillon – Chair, Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

Subject: Devonport-Takapuna Local Board submission on the *Point England Development Enabling Bill*

Introduction

1. The purpose of this memo is to submit feedback on the proposed *Point England Development Enabling Bill* (the Bill).
2. Due to limited timeframes to respond to the Bill, this feedback has been approved by the local board chair and will be considered by the local board at their 21 February 2017 business meeting.

General comments

3. The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board (the local board) welcomes the opportunity to submit on the Bill prior to being considered by Central Government's Local Government and Environment Select Committee.
4. The local board notes concern with the limited timeframe for the public, council and local boards to consider and understand the impacts and implications of the Bill. The local board recommend the submission timeframe be extended to allow for meaningful and effective public engagement on the Bill.

Specific comments

5. The local board opposes the intent and purpose of the Bill, as this approach to land acquisition for development purposes sets a concerning precedent to future developments across the Auckland region.
6. The local board oppose Central Government using this approach to amend the recently adopted Unitary Plan, as it circumvents the regulatory process for rezoning land and avoids important aspects such as public consultation and hearings.
7. The local board recognise that the Point England area is going to experience both significant population growth and intensification in the next ten years, and therefore retaining the land is critical to providing high-quality open spaces for them.

8. If the Bill becomes legislation, the local board recommends that all proceeds of the sale are reinvested into providing public open space in the Point England area. This process should include working with the Maungakiekie-Tamaki Local Board to identify the appropriate site, and also provide open space amenities that reflect community need.
9. The local board expresses disappointment that no consultation with iwi, council or the Maungakiekie-Tamaki Local Board has been undertaken prior to the release of the Bill for public submissions.
10. The local board note that there is no supplementary documentation to provide the necessary due-diligence and analysis to support the rationale for the Bill.

Grant Gillon

Chair, Devonport-Takapuna Local Board