

31 January 2017

Local Government and Environment Select Committee
Parliament Buildings
Wellington

FAO: Committee Secretariat

By email: LGE@parliament.govt.nz

Point England Development Enabling Bill submission

1. The Waitakere Ranges Local Board of Auckland Council 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.
2. The Board is particularly concerned that this reserve is held under the Reserves Act and is opposed to the removal of Reserves Act status for reserves in the Auckland region.
3. 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 the populations of the area.
4. Under the Unitary Plan, significant areas of Auckland are ear-marked for intensification, that is, population growth but with people living in apartments and terraced housing with little or no grounds around them. It is critical that more open space is provided in intensified areas rather than less.

5. 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.
6. The Tamaki Estuary has special environmental and cultural values with the presence of wading birds. Development of the reserve for housing will have negative effects on these environmental values and these can be avoided if the reserve remains undeveloped.
7. The Board does not oppose the setting aside of land on the reserve as cultural redress for Ngati Paoa, but does not believe a reserve should be used for economic redress. The Crown has other mechanisms available to it for economic redress, such as the option of transferring to Ngati Paoa some of the Crown's shareholding in the Tamaki Development Company.

Waitakere Ranges Local Board

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