

Feedback on:

Central government's proposed Essential Freshwater package

6 October 2019

For clarifications and questions, please contact:

Mal Ahmu

Local Board Advisor – Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board

Context

1. Central government have publicly released their discussion document entitled Action for Healthy Waterways, which is a key outcome of the Essential Freshwater work programme.
2. The Essential Freshwater Package covers three instruments:
 - National Policy Statement Freshwater Management (NPS FM)
 - National Environmental Standards Freshwater Management (NES FM)
 - 3 Waters Review.
3. The discussion document places significant emphasis on improving freshwater outcomes through regulatory and non-regulatory actions. The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management is the primary regulatory instrument being reviewed, with introduction of other measures through a new National Environmental Standard for Freshwater Management.
4. Proposals include greater emphasis on Te Mana o te Wai, ecosystem health attributes, and reducing the effects of rural activities.
5. There is an interrelationship with wastewater and stormwater consenting and discharge management through the Three Waters Review. National Environmental Standards are being developed by central government to improve consistency, transparency and national oversight for human drinking water, as well as for wastewater discharges and overflow management.
6. The Essential Freshwater package will work with other initiatives from central government including a National Policy Statement on Highly Productive Land and National Policy Statement for Urban Development.
7. At the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board's 27 August 2019 business meeting, it delegated authority to Chairperson, Chris Makoare and Deputy Chair, Debbie Burrows to input into Auckland Council's submission on the Ministry for Primary Industries and the Ministry for the Environment proposed National Policy Statement on Highly Productive Land (resolution: MT/2019/134).
8. Due to the coordinated nature between the National Policy Statement on Highly Productive Land with the National Policy Statement on Urban Development and the Essential Freshwater package, the delegation for the Chair and Deputy Chair to provide local board feedback has been extended to enable the local board to input into the Auckland Council submission.
9. The due date for submissions to Central Government is 17 October 2019. On 19 September 2019 there was a workshop with the Planning Committee and Local Board Chairs to discussing the three national directions that have been proposed (NPS on Highly Productive Land, Urban Development and Fresh Water). To meet these timeframes local board feedback is due by 10 October 2019.

Relevance to the Local board

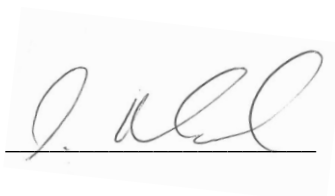
10. Local boards are responsible for decision-making on local issues, activities and services and providing input into regional strategies, policies and plans. Local boards also have a role in representing the views of their communities on issues of local importance.
11. Every three years local boards set their strategic direction through a local board plan. Central government's proposed Essential Freshwater package, has relevance to the following outcomes and objectives the 2017 Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board Plan:

Outcomes	Objectives
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki is a community that cares about its environment	Demonstrate environmental leadership and support community sustainability initiatives. Clean, beautiful waters and waterside areas.
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki is the place to be	Our suburbs and town centres are sought-after destinations to live, work and play.
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki has quality infrastructure to match growth	Other infrastructure needs.

Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board feedback on the Central government's proposed Essential Freshwater package:

The Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board provides the following input:

- a) note that the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board area is bordered by two bodies of water, the Manukau Harbour and the Tāmaki Estuary. The health of our waterways is important to the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki community and a key objective in the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board Plan 2017
- b) endorse in principle the Essential Freshwater package as it aims to strengthen the health of our waterways
- c) endorse upholding Te Mana o te Wai in the management of water; the integrated and holistic health and wellbeing of water
- d) recommend ensuring that the level of compliance is achievable and if implemented central government provides further funding to support local authorities to enforce regulatory matters



Chris Makoare
Chair
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board



Debbie Burrows
Deputy Chair
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board

End.