

7. The proposed NPS-HPL would sit alongside other RMA national direction instruments. This would include the proposed National Policy Statement for Urban Development (NPS-UD), which is designed to strengthen and build from the existing National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity. The proposed NPS-UD is a key component of the Government's Urban Growth Agenda which aims to remove barriers to the supply of land and infrastructure and make room for cities to grow out and up.
8. The Treasury has signalled concerns that the NPS-HPL may conflict with the goals in the Urban Growth Agenda due to introducing restrictions on land use that do not currently exist. However, we consider that the flexibility in the proposed NPS-HPL policies and a focus on redirecting (rather than constraining) growth will ensure these instruments can work alongside and complement each other. This will help councils to better assess and balance the trade-offs between protecting highly productive land for primary production while providing for greater urban capacity. We consider this will ensure the Government's objectives for urban development are not compromised as well as promoting the best use of our highly productive land resource to deliver the most benefit for New Zealand.