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## FEEDBACK

National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land

**Healthy Families Waitākere**

10<sup>th</sup> October 2019

**Healthy Families Waitākere contact:**

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## **About Sport Waitakere and Healthy Families Waitakere**

Sport Waitakere (SW) was registered as a Charitable Trust in 1991 and is a Regional Sports Trust (RST). Sport Waitakere has extensive experience in working strategically, collaboratively, and across sectors and settings to achieve positive outcomes for our community by engaging with communities by offering locally led solutions and a wide range of services via projects, events and programme delivery. We align with the strategic outcomes of Aktive - Auckland Sport and Recreation and as such provide a means to reach local communities through the Auckland Approach by offering a local presence. We also work closely with the strategic outcomes of central and local government and work within the boundaries of Auckland Council's three Local Boards – Whau, Waitakere Ranges and Henderson Massey.

Healthy Families Waitākere is a prevention-based initiative, uniting community leadership to improve health and wellbeing equity where we live, learn, work and play. Funded by the Ministry of Health, Healthy Families NZ is implemented in ten regional locations with higher than average rates of preventable chronic diseases (such as diabetes and obesity) and/or high levels of deprivation. Our team work to make the changes in our communities and empower people to eat well, be physically active, be smoke-free and only drink alcohol in moderation. Through the collaboration and co-design, community leaders identify, ideate and implement systems change to help people make healthier choices, lead healthier lives and communities to thrive. These environments include, but are not limited to early childhood education settings, schools, workplaces, food outlets, sports clubs, marae, businesses, places of worship and more. Healthy Families Waitākere is led by Sport Waitākere and is one of ten Healthy Families NZ communities across the country.

### **General Feedback**

- We agree that our land is precious taonga and that our economy depends on it and our history and culture are tied to it.

- We support the introduction of a National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land and agree that it is important to have consistent direction at a national level to facilitate policy and to assist in good decision-making.
- We agree that highly productive land should be given adequate consideration and prioritised in order to improve the local food system. Our insights show that existing food growing hubs in West Auckland allow for capability building in growing and using fresh produce and reducing waste.
- Existing food hubs build adaptive resilient communities by reducing carbon footprint and providing community with the opportunity to purchase food that is grown locally.
- We see food growing hubs providing a platform for Māori communities to engage with the natural environment and reignite indigenous practices such as cultivating traditional kai and rongoā, Maramataka and Kaitiakitanga.

We hope you can consider our say in your feedback discussions on the National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land.

Ngā mihi

Kerry Allan