



21 March 2023

Hutt City Council
30 Laings Road
Private Bag 31-912
Lower Hutt 5040

Attention: Hearing Commissioners for Plan Change 56

Dear Commissioners

Ministry of Education – Letter to be Tabled at the Proposed Plan Change 56: Enabling Intensification in Residential and Commercial Areas Hearing

The Ministry of Education – Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga (the Ministry) lodged a submission on Proposed Plan Change 56 (PPC56) to the Operative City of Lower Hutt District Plan (submitter S222). The Ministry has chosen not to attend the hearing for PPC56 scheduled to be held between the dates of 12 – 21st April 2023 and requests that this letter be tabled for the Hearing Commissioners' consideration instead.

The Ministry's submission points sought to retain Policy 4G 3.1 and amend the following provisions to ensure stronger enabling measures for educational facilities in the operative district plan:

- Objective 4G 2.6
- Rule 4G 5.5.1

We have reviewed the s42A report prepared by the Council Planning Officers' (dated 7 March 2023). The Ministry's response to the recommendations in the s42A report on the original submission points are set out below.

In regard to the Ministry's submission point relating to Objective 4G 2.6, the s42A Council Planning Officers rejected the Ministry's request as this objective provides for network service infrastructure. The s42A report clarified that provisions for additional infrastructure such as education, social, and community facilities locating in the zone is provided for under Objectives 4G 2.1 and 4G 2.2 as part of an urban environment that enables people to provide for their needs, and as non-residential activities that are compatible with the zone. The Ministry supports this approach.

The s42A report rejected the Ministry's submission point on Rule 4G 5.5.1 as the addition of this rule to the High Density Residential Heritage Precinct is a minor consequential amendment to the Plan. The site at 31 Hautana Square is an existing scheduled site in the Operative District Plan, and this rule retains the existing rules applicable to the site. The Ministry supports this recommendation, but requests the correction of the site address from 313 Hautana Square to 31 Hautana Square in the plan change.

The Ministry supports the recommendations made by the s42A report to retain Policy 4G 3.1 as it supports the establishment of educational infrastructure in residential areas to support communities social, economic and cultural well-being and contribute to a high standard of living.

The Ministry agrees with the s42A Council Planning Officers' assessment and recommendations and confirms that, if adopted, the Ministry's submission points are adequately resolved (with the amendment of the property address outlined above). Please contact the undersigned on behalf of the Ministry if you have any questions or require further clarification.



Yours sincerely,



Aabhas Moudgil

Planner - Beca Ltd

(Consultant to the Ministry of Education)

Date: 21 March 2023