



16 October 2015

Upper Hutt City Council
Private Bag 907
Upper Hutt 5140

Re: Submission on Upper Hutt Urban Growth Strategy review

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on the Upper Hutt City Council Draft Urban Growth Strategy. Regional Public Health supports the development of an Urban Growth Strategy for Upper Hutt. We look forward participating in the key government informant focus groups and providing in-depth feedback at these forums.

Council and Regional Public Health have a common agenda – working with communities where they live, work and play to improve and protect their quality of life. Regional Public Health wants to work with Council to make our common goal achievable. By finding mutual points of interest and working together we can be more efficient, reduce the burden of engagement on our communities and be more effective in our policy implementation.

Upper Hutt City is a unique place with distinctive geography. These characteristics lend to ensuring that the natural capital of the region is strengthened and used smartly to create opportunities for resilient growth that benefits the community. We note during the long term plan process, Upper Hutt City Council identified five strategic priorities areas: environment, community, city centre, economy and infrastructure. It is encouraging to see the integration of these aspirational initiatives into the practical application of the Urban Growth Strategy.

Regional Public Health recognises that smart planning for growth will form an integral part in securing the future health, wellbeing and economic prosperity of the community. Built environments that are conducive to wellbeing allow for the people in those communities to live healthier, happier and more productive lives. Regional Public Health wants to support Council with opportunities that make the best use of the urban environments through the Urban Growth Strategy. A collaborative approach will also facilitate smarter use of each agency's finite resources.

We would appreciate the opportunity to work together and we will be pleased to provide further information or clarification on any of the points raised in letter. The contact point is:

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Nāku noa, nā

Toby Regan
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