

Hon Dr Megan Woods

MP for Wigram

Minister of Housing

Minister of Energy and Resources

Minister of Research, Science and Innovation

Associate Minister of Finance



Hon Mayor Chadwick JP
Mayor, Rotorua Lakes Council

Sir Toby Curtis
Chair, Te Arawa Lakes Trust

Te Taru White
Chair, Te Tatau o Te Arawa Board

Dear Mayor Chadwick, Sir Toby and Te Taru

Order in Council under the Resource Management (Enabling Housing Supply and Other Matters) Amendment Act

Thank you for your letter on 16 December 2021 requesting Rotorua Lakes Council (RLC) be directed by Order in Council under the Resource Management (Enabling Housing Supply and Other Matters) Amendment Act (the Act) to notify an Intensification Planning Instrument (IPI) to implement the medium density residential standards (MDRS) and the National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD).

We agree that Rotorua is experiencing acute housing need. This is causing social harm, disproportionate impacts on Māori, and needs to be addressed. On 14 March 2022 the Governor General made an Order in Council directing you to implement the MDRS which will enable you to significantly increase opportunities for housing.

The Order in Council will enable RLC to notify an IPI which you will use to implement the MDRS and give effect to the NPS-UD and must be notified by 20 August 2022. As the IPI can include papakāinga provisions we encourage RLC to consider provisions that will enable papakāinga and additional opportunities for development where appropriate.

Officials from the Ministry for the Environment and Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga – Ministry of Housing and Urban Development are supporting RLC staff with implementation of the Act. We have asked them to assist you in setting out engagement, timeframes and any reporting requirements for the IPI.

We are pleased to see that you can see the benefits of the MDRS and the impact it will have on addressing acute housing need in Rotorua.

Ngā mihi,

Hon Dr Megan Woods
Minister of Housing

Hon David Parker
Minister for the Environment