

Attachment 10

Arboricultural Memo



Urban & Environmental

MEMORANDUM



TO: s 9(2)(a) – *Building Intelligence Group*
FROM: s 9(2)(a) – *Greenscene Limited*
DATE: 6 March 2025
ADDRESS: 14 Edmonton Road, Henderson
SUBJECT: Arboricultural Memorandum to support a Fast Track application at 14 Edmonton Road, Henderson

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) proposes to lodge a Notice of Requirement application for a referral project under the Fast Track Approvals Act 2024 for a new Justice Facility at 14 Edmonton Road in Henderson, Auckland. This memorandum addresses site constraints with regards to trees and vegetation on the site that are relevant to the construction of a future building on the site.

The proposed new Justice Facility will be constructed on the existing carpark site on the corner of Edmonton Road and Alderman Drive, see Figure 1 below.

This site is zoned:

- Business - Metropolitan Centre Zone and
- Open Space - Informal Recreation Zone

This site has a Management Overlay of:

- Natural Heritage: Notable Trees Overlay - 1842, Kauri (2)

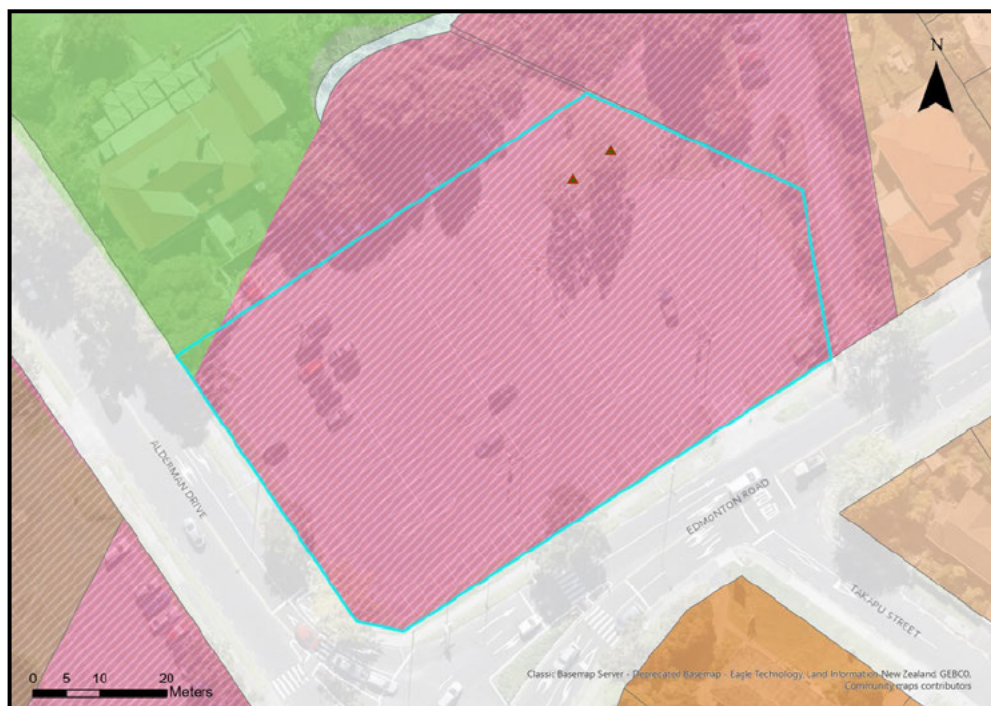


Figure 1: AUP_OP Zones and Overlays

As identified this site contains two (2) Notable Kauri trees (ID# 1842) growing in the northeast corner of the site (Photo 1). Also within the site (to the southwest) are three large non-protected trees growing adjacent to the road reserve, two (2) European ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and one (1) English oak (*Quercus robur*).



Photo 1: Notable kauri trees growing on site

A future building design for the proposed Justice Facility seeks to recognise and respond to existing site constraints, whilst ensuring the operational and functional requirements of the facility are met. In the first instance, the concept design work undertaken to date sought to retain and protect the notable Kauri trees, however, additional site constraints include flooding levels, separation of public and staff using the courthouse, processing of custodial and ancillary staff and processing of jury duty attendees.

The following details highlight the constraints that have resulted through the bulk and location concept development exercise undertaken for an indicative building footprint on the site.

Public Spaces:

- Large public space required on the ground floor required to process the public coming into the courthouse. This includes passing through security and having service desks in this space.
- Following clarification on the number of people from the public expected to visit the court daily, the number of public lifts has had to increase and therefore requiring additional space to accommodate to meet the operational requirements of the Justice Facility.

Entry Plaza:

- Large entry plaza off Alderman drive is required to help manage people entering and gathering outside of the courthouse, while not compromising public access on footpath.

Jury Assembly:

- Up to 250 people can be summoned for jury service at any one time, these people are processed separately from the public entrance so separate ground floor access is required.
- Was considered moving up floors into building, but would mean the ground floor entrance space would need to double in size to accommodate the amount of people which will need to be processed.

Custodial:

- Processing Persons in Custody on the ground floor seen as the best approach as it does not require double handling when they arrive / depart.
- Moving to second floor was considered, however it would require a larger ramp to get the vans to the first floor which also mean the trees would also need to be removed. Due to the increase in van length, it would also create a lot of dead space.

Ancillary:

- Staff entrance required to be separate from main entrance on ground floor.
- End of trip facilities for staff also required on ground floor due to limited staff parking available within building / on site.

Due to the various constraints in keeping these various groups separate and accommodating the anticipated flood levels the ground floor design has been increased significantly. The results of the ground floor redesign will significantly impact on the Notable trees. The proposed ground floor design and vehicle access ramp will require the removal of the two Notable trees as shown in Figures 2 and 3 below.

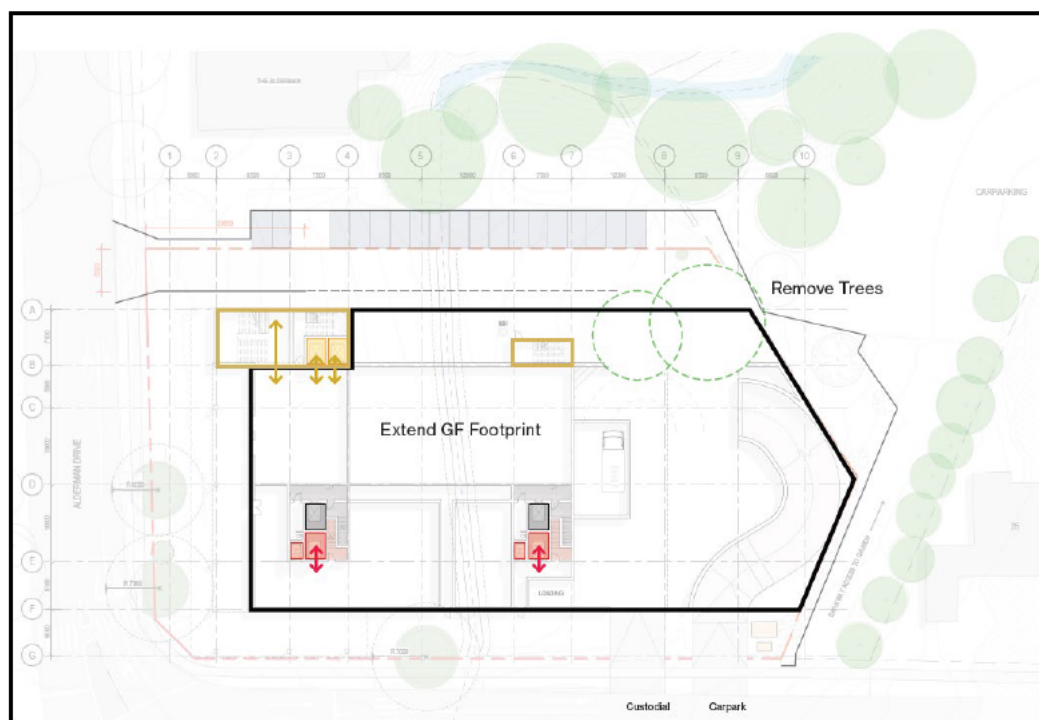



Figure 2: Extended ground floor design impacting Notable trees

s 9(2)(ba)(i)



One of the kauri trees (the westernmost tree) is declining in health. Original site assessments undertaken in March 2020 of this tree showed signs of ill thrift. Since then there has been significant dieback in the growing tip of this tree with approximately the top 2m devoid of leaves.

The bulk and location of the indicative building footprint for the future Justice Facility on the site would also significantly reduce the visual amenity provided by these trees even if they could be retained.

The indicative building shown will retain the large mature trees growing in front of the building which will provide a better landscape amenity value and provide a natural buffer that will soften the visual impact of the bulk of the building.

By maintaining a setback from the road reserve to retain these mature trees there is the potential to provide for additional future landscaping initiatives allowing for continued growth and the potential for additional plantings.


Potential replacement planting for the kauri trees could be situated at the front of the building which will contribute to the landscape in a more positive way in the long term.

Based on the design requirements, site constraints and benefit to the wider public in providing an essential new courthouse for future growth and with the declining health of one of the Notable trees and potential reduction in visibility of these trees that removal should be considered.

Please call me on s 9(2)(a) if further comment is required.

Kind regards,

s 9(2)(a)



Greenscene Limited

s 9(2)(a)



QUALIFICATIONS

s 9(2)(a)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

s 9(2)(a)