



Belmont Quarry Development – Part B

Substantive Application
Appendix B.18 – Waka Kotahi Letter
Winstone Aggregates

16 August 2026

NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi Reference: Application-2025-1291

3 July 2026

Winstone Aggregates

C/- Phernne Tancock (Barrister – Harbour Chambers)

Sent via Email: [g \[REDACTED\]](#)

Dear Phernne,

Belmont Quarry Development – Proposed Land Exchange – 541 Hebden Crescent, Kelson

Thank you for your request for updated comments from NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) in relation to the land exchange under sections 32–36 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (FTAA). NZTA provides this letter to confirm that it no longer has an informal interest in the area of land subject to the proposed land exchange. NZTA's position is set out below.

NZTA interests in the subject conservation land

NZTA previously advised that we have an informal interest in the area of conservation land that is subject to the proposed land exchange. This interest related to offset planting required as part of the State Highway 58 Safety Improvements Project (SH58). NZTA's designation conditions require planting to be undertaken within Belmont Regional Park to offset the removal of indigenous vegetation along the SH58 alignment. NZTA had previously proposed to undertake this offset planting within the area of conservation land subject to the land exchange, as shown in green in Attachment 1.

NZTA has since progressed an alternative location for the required offset planting within Belmont Regional Park. This alternative location is outside the area of land subject to the proposed land exchange.

Consultation

NZTA has worked with Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) to identify suitable alternative offset planting location within Belmont Regional Park. NZTA is now finalising a contract with GWRC to undertake these works in the alternative location and is no longer reliant on the area of land subject to the proposed land exchange to fulfil its SH58 offset planting obligations.

NZTA has already obtained the necessary approvals from Hutt City Council (HCC) and Upper Hutt City Council (UHCC) for the offset planting to proceed at the alternative locations. Copies of those approvals in principle are appended to this letter as Attachment 2 and Attachment 3.

Resolution on NZ Transport Agency Interests

Given the above, NZTA can now confirm that it no longer has an informal interest in the area of land subject to the proposed land exchange. NZTA's previous informal interest was limited to the potential use of that area for SH58 offset planting. As NZTA is proceeding with alternative offset planting locations within Belmont Regional Park and has obtained approval in

principle from both HCC and UHCC for those alternative locations, NZTA no longer requires access to, or use of, the proposed land exchange area for that purpose.

For completeness, this letter is limited to confirming NZTA's current position in relation to its previous informal interest in the land subject to the proposed land exchange. It does not constitute NZTA's comments on the substantive FTAA application. NZTA will provide comments on that application if invited to do so by the expert panel in due course.

If you have any queries regarding the above or wish to discuss matters further, please feel free to contact the Environmental Planning team at environmentalplanning@nzta.govt.nz.



Luke Braithwaite

Senior Planner

Poutiaki Taiao / Environmental Planning, System Design, on behalf of NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi.

Enclosed:

- Attachment 1: Proposed Land Exchange Plan;
- Attachment 2: Correspondence with Upper Hutt City Council regarding offset planning compliance
- Attachment 3: Correspondence with Hutt City Council regarding offset planting compliance

Attachment 1: Proposed Land Exchange Plan



Attachment 2: Correspondence with Upper Hutt City Council regarding offset planning compliance

From: Emily Thomson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, 26 November 2025 8:07 am
To: Luke Braithwaite
Subject: RE: NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi Planting Offset in the Belmont Regional Park
- Confirmation on Approach

Hi Luke.
I am happy to confirm that this will be an appropriate and acceptable offset planting area and plan.
Regards
Emily

Emily Thomson
Strategy, Planning and Policy Manager



Te Kaunihera o Te Awa Kairangi ki Uta | Upper Hutt City Council
838 - 842 Fergusson Drive, Private Bag 907, Upper Hutt, 5140, New Zealand
DN: [REDACTED] Ema: [REDACTED]
T: [REDACTED] | W: upperhutt.govt.nz | F: [fb.com/UpperHuttCityCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/UpperHuttCityCouncil)
63 [REDACTED]

From: Luke Braithwaite [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 25 November 2025 2:48 pm
To: Emily Thomson [REDACTED]
Subject: NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi Planting Offset in the Belmont Regional Park - Confirmation on Approach

Hi Emily,

We have just received the attached quote from the Greater Wellington Regional Council (version with monetary values redacted), and are seeking confirmation following our previous correspondence that you agree this mitigation approach outlined in the quote would be sufficient to meet the requirements of Designation UPHCC-NZTA3 – Condition NOR1.6.

I note that the majority of the details around both sets of Conditions have already been addressed in the 'State Highway 58 Safety Improvements: Ecological Mitigation Plan - Stage 1 (Hutt Valley) Works' submitted September 2019 and approved by HCC & UHCC on 19 December 2019 (I am happy to provide this if needed). Therefore this will be the last outstanding item being the location of the mitigation planting and it's extent of 4.8ha; which reflects the maximum potential mitigation shortfall calculated within the approved EMP.

The attached quote includes:

- The total area of mitigation being 4.8ha as required by the 2019 EMP.
- The number of plants being 21,600 native plants
- The planting and management proposal,
- The location of the planting ([Google Maps Link](#))

We are seeking confirmation that the attached proposal would be sufficient to meet our offset requirements. If you can please advise your position that would be greatly appreciated.

I am happy to discuss the above.

Ngā mihi,

Luke Braithwaite (he/him) BEP, DIPVAL

Senior Planner - Pouaki Taiao (Environmental Planning)
Environmental Planning | Transport Services | Te Toki Tārai



Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency
Hamilton Office, Level 1, Deloitte Building, 24 Anzac Parade
PO Box 973, Waikato Mail Centre, Hamilton 3240, New Zealand



www.nzta.govt.nz

Attachment 3: Correspondence with Hutt City Council regarding offset planting compliance

From: Tim Johnstone [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 24 September 2025 3:57 pm
To: Luke Braithwaite
Cc: Nathan Geard
Subject: RE: NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi Letter Regarding Planting Offset in the Belmont Regional Park - Request to Hutt City Council

Hi Luke

As discussed, in principle Hutt City Council do not have concerns in relation to the proposal that NZTA engages GWRC to undertake the mitigation work at another location in Belmont Regional Park as set out in your letter. However, it is important that you still demonstrate that the new mitigation planting and location is sufficient to fulfil the requirements set out in Conditions 4.1 - 4.3 of the designation.

Regards

Tim

Tim Johnstone
Head Of Planning

Hutt City Council, 30 Laings Road, Hutt Central, Lower Hutt 5010
[REDACTED] www.huttcity.govt.nz



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From: Luke Braithwaite <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, 22 September 2025 12:14 pm
To: Tim Johnstone <[REDACTED]>
Subject: NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi Letter Regarding Planting Offset in the Belmont Regional Park - Request to Hutt City Council

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Kia ora Tim,

I am the Project Planner on the State Highway 58 Project, and I am trying to progress the requirements of Designation TN4 - Conditions 4.1 - 4.3. I am requesting the Hutt City Council's position on our request in the attached letter regarding our approach to complying with these conditions.

As part of Stage 1 of the State Highway 58 Safety Improvement Project NZTA agreed to do works within the Belmont Regional Park to remove exotic trees, undertake planting and undertake weed control as part of the designation requirement to monitor, manage, and mitigate the adverse effects of the construction activities on terrestrial vegetation values as part of the Project. Unfortunately due to issues regarding gaining access to the Belmont Regional Park to undertake the works, and more recently the Belmont Quarry Development Fast Track Proposal over the area mitigation was previously proposed, NZTA are seeking a change in approach.

NZTA seek the agreement from the Hutt City Council (and Upper Hutt City Council via Emily Thomson) that, in lieu of undertaking the works as outlined in the Ecological Mitigation Plan, NZTA are able to engage the Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) to undertake 4.8ha of mitigation works within the Belmont Regional Park and in return NZTA receive correspondence from GWRC that this mitigation work has been completed. If you are able to confirm if this approach is acceptable to the Upper Hutt City Council that would be greatly appreciated.

I am happy to discuss this approach, or provide any additional information required.

Ngā mihi,

Luke Braithwaite (he/him) BEP, DIPVAL

Senior Planner - Poutiki Taiao (Environmental Planning)
Environmental Planning | Transport Services | Te Toki Tārai



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