



Environment Weekly Update

For the week starting 29 August 2022

Hon. David Parker, Minister for the Environment

Hon. Kiri Allan, Associate Minister for the Environment


Hon. Phil Twyford, Associate Minister for the Environment

Hon. James Shaw, Associate Minister for the Environment

Minister's comments

Context

Out of Scope



Urban

1.2. Urban trees

Following conversations with Minister Twyford, an aide memoire sent to Minister Parker on 3 August 2022 confirmed changes to recommendations in BRF-1710 RM Reform 183 in relation to urban tree provisions in the Natural and Built Environments Act. The following recommendation was included:

40. Note further advice is being developed to outline options for the NPF that connect urban trees and vegetation with NBA Part 2 environmental outcomes, including the consideration of blanket protection of specimen trees.

Officials are looking at options to improve outcomes for urban trees and vegetation. This includes providing direction on trees through urban design guidelines and the national direction on Indigenous Biodiversity in the NPF, and providing direction through the

infrastructure content of the NPF on the use and management of green infrastructure and nature-based solutions as directed by the ERP and NAP.

Officials consider it is likely that each of these options can support better outcomes for urban trees and vegetation, however work programmes such as those on nature-based solutions are in their early phases.

The Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment is also progressing an investigation on urban green space, which includes identifying barriers to the provision of urban greenspace.

To achieve an integrated approach to urban trees, officials will further investigate the relationship between these options and opportunities they present and provide an overview of how they could contribute to improved outcomes for urban trees.

You are meeting with Auckland Mayor Phil Goff on 13 September 2022 to discuss options for urban trees. We will provide you with talking points to support this conversation.

Out of Scope

