



## BRF-1167 RM Reform 147 - Progressing work on urban design in the future RM system

Date Submitted:	12 April 2022	Tracking #: BRF-1167	
Security Level	In-Confidence	MfE Priority:	Non-Urgent

	<b>Action sought:</b>	<b>Response by:</b>
To Hon Phil Twyford, Associate Minister for the Environment	Agree to the recommendations in this briefing.	22 April 2022
CC Hon David Parker, Minister for the Environment		

Actions for Minister's Office Staff	<b>Return</b> the signed report to MfE.
Number of appendices and attachments	Appendix 1: Background paper on urban design Appendix 2: Table of options to ensure appropriate technical expertise in policy development

### Ministry for the Environment contacts

Position	Name	Cell phone	1 <sup>st</sup> contact
Principal Author	Alex Kitson & Pernelle Vari		
Responsible Manager	Linley Wilkinson	022 493 0144	✓

## BRF-1167 RM Reform 147 - Progressing work on urban design in the future RM system

### Key Messages

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1. This briefing seeks your agreement to:
  - a. the proposed high-level aims for urban design in the future resource management (RM) system
  - b. develop a discrete policy instrument with statutory weight for urban design, ready for consultation and engagement by the end of 2023
  - c. establish a technical advisory group to assist in developing direction on urban design in the future system, at pace.
2. RM reform is an opportunity to embed good urban design practice in the future system to achieve quality urban outcomes in a flexible manner, that reflects the needs and identity of mana whenua and local communities, now and into the future. You have stated that direction on urban design in the future system must not be used inappropriately to lock in aesthetic or highly subjective values.
3. This briefing proposes high-level aims for urban design in the future system that will guide policy development required for urban design in the future system.
4. You have expressed a preference for using a tool with statutory weight to provide for urban design in the future system. The regulatory pathway to provide for urban design is through the National Planning Framework (NPF). The content of the NPF will need to be closely aligned with the Purpose and Principles of the Natural and Built Environment Act (NBA).
5. The first NPF will focus on redrafting existing national direction, infrastructure content and Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) direction. Direction on urban matters will be derived from translating and redrafting the National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD) and the Medium Density Residential Standards (MDRS) from the Resource Management (Enabling Housing Supply and Other Matters) Amendment Act to ensure it is fit for purpose in the future system.
6. You have expressed that the NPS-UD and the MDRS do not go far enough in providing for the quality of the built environment, and that the future system needs a discrete policy instrument with statutory weight to provide for urban design. As such, officials propose that work on a discrete policy instrument for urban design is progressed at pace, to be completed and ready for engagement and consultation by the end of 2023. This policy instrument would be developed for inclusion in the NPF, noting that timelines for the development of the first NPF and subsequent amendments to the NPF will be determined by the RM reform project timeline.
7. To ensure work on developing direction on urban design is continued at pace, officials seek your agreement to establish an urban design technical advisory group to assist with the policy development process. Establishing a technical advisory group will allow officials to draw on a breadth of experience, which will be key to effectively developing policy on a multidisciplinary practice like urban design. The group will provide the appropriate technical expertise to ensure the direction required for urban design reflects current best practice and has credibility and buy-in from professionals working in the design and land development sectors.

8. Given the significance of urban design to urban development and housing, Ministry for the Environment (MfE) officials will need to work in consultation with Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga – Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to progress this work. Subject to your agreement to establish a technical advisory group, MfE officials will consult with HUD about appointment processes and deliverables of the urban design technical advisory group. Further consultation with HUD will be required when providing future advice about the direction required for urban design in the future system.

## Recommendations

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9. Officials recommend that you:
- a. **Agree** to the proposed high-level aims for urban design in the future resource management (RM) system  
Yes / No
  - b. **Agree** to develop a discrete policy instrument with statutory weight for urban design, ready for consultation and engagement by the end of 2023  
Yes / No
  - c. **Agree** to establish an urban design technical advisory group to assist in developing the guidance required for urban design in the future system, at pace  
Yes / No

## Signature

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Linley Wilkinson  
Manager  
**Urban Policy – Future System**

Hon Phil Twyford  
**Associate Minister for the Environment**

**Date**

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## Supporting material

### Purpose

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1. This briefing seeks your agreement to:
  - a. the proposed high-level aims for urban design in the future resource management (RM) system
  - b. develop a discrete policy instrument with statutory weight for urban design, ready for consultation and engagement by the end of 2023
  - c. establish a technical advisory group to assist in developing direction on urban design in the future system, at pace.

### Context

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2. You have been delegated responsibility for other matters relating to urban policy, primarily as they relate to RM reform. Officials understand that the Minister for the Environment has asked you to lead work on urban design in the future system.
3. There has been some foundational work on urban design completed, including the scoping session that you had with officials in November 2021. This foundational work has informed the drafting of this briefing. A background paper that summarises this work is attached as Appendix 1.

### Analysis and Advice

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#### *The future system needs to provide for the quality of the built environment*

4. Under the current RM system, decision makers can consider urban design matters under section 7 of the RMA, which requires decision makers to have particular regard to:
  - s7(c) “the maintenance and enhancement of amenity values”, and
  - s7(f) “the maintenance and enhancement of the quality of the environment”.
5. The Resource Management Review Panel (the Panel) recommended excluding amenity values from the NBA, as the concept of amenity can be highly subjective and can create uncertainty in planning decisions. As per the Panel's recommendation, the NBA exposure draft did not include reference to amenity. However, the explanatory note for the NBA exposure draft states that the removal of amenity values will “not be at the expense of quality urban design, including appropriate urban tree cover”.
6. The NBA exposure draft, released in June 2021, states that the NPF and all plans must provide for a range of mandatory matters, including “urban areas that are well-functioning”. Urban design has a clear role to play in providing for well-functioning urban areas, and in providing for other environmental matters such as biodiversity, emissions reduction, and freshwater health, in the context of the built environment.

7. Recent changes in the legislative landscape, including the National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD) and the Resource Management (Enabling Housing Supply and Other Matters) Amendment Act 2021, enable greater heights and densities in our largest cities to respond to demand for additional housing. As Aotearoa New Zealand's largest urban areas continue to grow and intensify, more direction on urban design is required to ensure that urban areas are doing density well and support urban communities to make low emissions choices.
8. Urban design provisions in the future system could also be used to provide for urban tree and vegetation cover. You recently received advice on providing for urban tree protection in the future system. In this advice, it was noted that rather than relying on blanket tree protection rules across untargeted areas of the built environment, the future system will instead empower decision makers to use a variety of regulatory and non-regulatory approaches that sit across the range of local government functions, land uses and vegetation types [BRF-894 *Background on urban tree protection and managing urban trees in the new system* refers]. As access to nature and green infrastructure are often positive outcomes associated with good urban design, urban design provisions in the future system could be one of the mechanisms available to decision makers to provide for urban tree protection and improved urban tree and vegetation cover.
10. You have stated that direction on urban design in the future system must not be used inappropriately to lock in aesthetic or highly subjective values. To ensure direction on urban design is developed to reflect this and the broader aims of the RM reform programme, officials propose a list of high-level aims for urban design that will guide policy development.

*Proposed high-level aims for urban design in the future RM system*

11. Cabinet agreed to five objectives for RM reform. These objectives, alongside the aspirations for the urban design work that you expressed at the meeting with officials on 16 March 2022, have informed the development of the proposed aims of urban design in the future RM system.
12. Officials propose the aims of urban design in the future system, are to:
  - a. provide evidence-based direction that focuses on the way that urban areas work and function - ie, does not embed an aesthetic but promotes urban design outcomes that are known to improve the wellbeing of communities, such as access to nature and open space
  - b. provide a clear road map for decision makers to ensure our urban environments are well-functioning – ie, provides enough detail to ensure that local decision makers are clear on the processes they need to follow to provide for urban design
  - c. provide consensus-based direction, with the flexibility to change and evolve over time to suit the needs of current and future generations – ie, as the needs of communities change, is flexible enough to allow for innovation and change
  - d. protect and restore the natural environment by aligning the design of our urban areas with other environmental outcomes such as freshwater health, protection of highly productive soils, promotion of biodiversity, and increasing tree and vegetation cover (RM Reform Objective 1)
  - e. better enable development within environmental limits by providing urban design solutions that help to lessen the environmental impact of urban development – eg, use of water sensitive design (RM Reform Objective 2)

- f. give proper recognition to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi by collaborating with iwi and Māori and actively involving iwi and Māori in local place-making (RM Reform Objective 3)
  - g. provide for greater recognition of te ao Māori and mātauranga Māori by designing urban areas that celebrate our bi-cultural identity and unique brand of Aotearoa New Zealand urbanism (RM Reform Objective 3)
  - h. better prepare our urban environments to adapt to climate change and risks from natural hazards, and help urban communities to make low emissions choices (RM Objective 4)
  - i. improve system efficiency and effectiveness by providing more certainty on how urban design will impact planning decisions (RM Objective 5)
  - j. retain appropriate local democratic input by ensuring local decision makers and communities are actively involved in local place-making (RM Objective 5).
13. These aims will guide policy development required for urban design in the future system.  
*Officials propose direction on urban design is completed and ready for consultation and engagement by the end of 2023*
14. Direction on urban matters for the first NPF will be derived from translating and redrafting the National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD) and the Medium Density Residential Standards (MDRS) from the Resource Management (Enabling Housing Supply and Other Matters) Amendment Act to ensure it is fit for purpose in the future system. In addition, there will be new content on infrastructure.
15. You have expressed that the NPS-UD and the MDRS do not go far enough in providing for the quality of the built environment and that the future system needs a discrete policy instrument with statutory weight to provide for urban design.
16. Developing a discrete policy instrument will involve the drafting of significant new content and will require a fulsome policy development process, with appropriate consultation and engagement. This consultation and engagement will be especially important to achieve Aim C of the urban design work [paragraph 12c of this briefing refers], which relates to the need for consensus-based direction on urban design.
17. As such, officials propose that work on a discrete policy instrument for urban design is progressed at pace, to be completed and ready for engagement and consultation by the end of 2023. This policy instrument would be developed for inclusion in the NPF and will need to be closely aligned with the Purpose and Principles of the Natural and Built Environment Act (NBA).
18. Officials note the timeframes for development of the first NPF and future amendments to the NPF will be determined by the broader RM reform programme timeline.  
*Technical expertise will be required to develop direction on urban design at pace*
19. Officials consider technical expertise from Treaty partners and key stakeholders will be required to ensure direction on urban design achieves the proposed aims for urban design in the future system.
20. Officials have considered three options for ensuring appropriate technical expertise in policy development. Analysis of the pros and cons of the options is included in Appendix 3. The three options considered are:
- Option 1: Establish an urban design technical advisory group with appropriate urban design and te ao Māori expertise.

- Option 2: Establish a council-led stakeholder group with appropriate urban design and te ao Māori expertise.
  - Option 3: Contract to a consultancy with appropriate urban design and te ao Māori expertise.
21. Officials recommend Option 1 and seek your agreement to establish an urban design technical advisory group to progress policy development at pace. This option will allow officials to draw on a breadth of experience to inform policy development, which will be key to effectively developing policy on a multidisciplinary practice like urban design. The group will provide the appropriate technical expertise to ensure the direction required for urban design reflects current best practice and has credibility and buy-in from professionals working in the design and land development sectors.
22. If you agree to establish a technical advisory group, officials will work quickly to develop further advice about the appointment processes and deliverables for the group. Officials intend to consult with HUD in the development of this advice.

### **Consultation and Collaboration**

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23. Officials have consulted with HUD in the development of this briefing. HUD noted the importance of this work to urban development and housing outcomes, and that the Minister of Housing would need to be involved to avoid misalignment. If urban design provisions are to sit in the NPF, their expectation is that the urban content of the NPF would be jointly developed between the Minister for the Environment and Minister of Housing.

### **Next Steps**

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24. The high-level aims will guide policy development required for urban design in the future system. Officials will work toward developing this direction so that it is completed and ready for engagement and consultation by the end of 2023.
25. With your agreement, officials will establish an urban design technical advisory group to assist with the policy development process.
26. Officials will consult with HUD to develop further advice about the appointment processes and deliverables of this group, to ensure that their work contributes to the aims identified in this briefing.

## Appendix 1: Background paper on urban design

### Purpose

1. This paper provides you with a summary of the foundational work on urban design in the future resource management (RM) system that was completed following your scoping session with officials in November 2021.

### Definition, scope, and scale of urban design in the future RM system

2. You met with officials in November 2021 to discuss the opportunities the urban design workstream presents. At this meeting, you agreed to urban design being “the form, layout, and function of the built environment at a variety of scales; from streets and spaces through to towns and cities.” You agreed urban design is about “the way places work and function” and is “three dimensional across a range of scales”.
3. Urban design considers both the form and function of urban areas to achieve a quality outcome, and the processes used to achieve this, through place making or other design-led initiatives.
4. Urban design within the future system is intended to provide direction at a range of different spatial scales, as detailed in Figure 1 below.

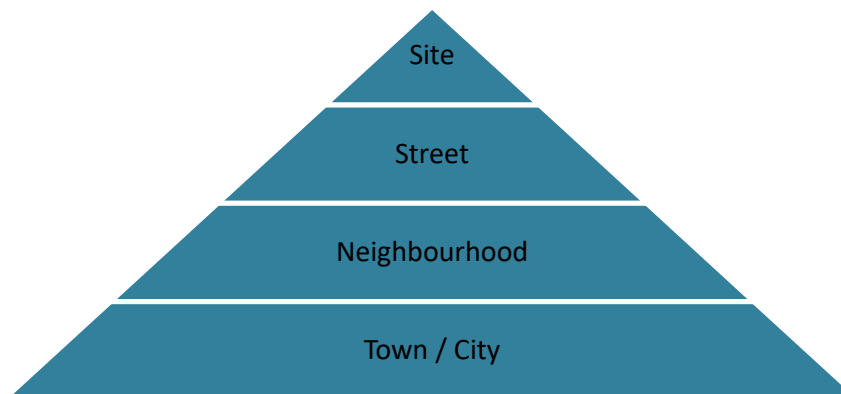


Figure 1: Spatial scales of urban design

### Existing direction on urban design currently sits across a range of acts and non-statutory guidance documents

5. There are a variety of tools for urban design that sit outside the RM system, both regulatory and non-regulatory. The most recent of these tools is the Aotearoa Urban Street Planning and Design Guide<sup>1</sup>, which was developed by Waka Kotahi. Officials consider this guide is a good resource to assist decision makers in providing for well-designed streets.

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<sup>1</sup> The Aotearoa Urban Street Planning and Design Guide is a national guideline providing an approach to street design to enable system changes in road safety, the application of best practice principles, and an overarching direction to support transport outcomes. It is designed to support well-functioning urban environments. The guide was released in final draft form in September 2021 and will be updated this year to integrate with the emerging planning context across Aotearoa New Zealand.

6. The National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD) is a regulatory instrument that sits under the RMA and contains some policy direction on well-functioning urban environments. To some extent, this direction promotes quality urban design outcomes and can be considered the functional start of this urban design work.
7. To support best practice application of RMA processes that impact urban design, the Urban Design Protocol was established by the Ministry for the Environment in 2005. It is a voluntary protocol that identifies seven essential design qualities for quality urban design: contact, character, choice, connections, creativity, custodianship and collaboration.
8. Te Aranga Māori Design Principles (Te Aranga Principles) were developed in response to the absence of a clear Māori voice in the Urban Design Protocol. Te Aranga Principles are a set of outcome-based principles founded on intrinsic Māori cultural values and designed to provide practical guidance for enhancing outcomes for the design environment<sup>2</sup>.
9. The Ministry for the Environment is currently producing a non-statutory medium density design guide to accompany implementation of the Density Standards introduced in the Resource Management (Enabling Housing Supply and Other Matters) Amendment Act 2021 (Amendment Act). This is intended to provide for good design outcomes for medium density housing at a site level.

#### **The Panel's recommendations for urban design in the future RM system**

10. The recommendations of the Resource Management Review Panel (Panel) are that “plans should not be trying to ‘micro-manage’ urban design issues through detailed land use rules. Rather they should focus on upholding clear environmental limits and addressing significant positive and negative social effects of development”.
11. While the RM Review Panel recommended that the Natural and Built Environment Act (NBA) outcomes include “[enhancement of] features and characteristics that contribute to the quality of the built environment”, this was excluded from the exposure draft to avoid subjective amenity values hindering development.
12. Officials have, and will continue to, consider the Panel's recommendations when developing policy options to provide for urban design in the future RM system.

#### **Good urban design is associated with a range of positive outcomes**

13. At the scoping meeting with officials in November 2021, you identified numerous positive outcomes and opportunities related to good design:
  - a. Access nature for everyone, including city residents
  - b. Adequate tree provision – both increasing access to nature, and also shade and shelter to alleviate the urban heat island effect
  - c. Equitable access to amenities such as retail and civic spaces
  - d. Safety is improved through passive surveillance
  - e. Identity and history are reflected in urban areas
  - f. Natural systems are protected and enhanced within the built environment

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<sup>2</sup> The principles include Mana, Whakapapa, Taiao, Mauri Tū, Mahi Toi, Tohu and Ahi Kā.

- g. Communities are strengthened and brought together
- h. Neighbourhoods are walkable and residents are not car dependent
- i. Urban areas have a wide variety of building types, and uses
- j. A specific brand of pacific urbanism is evident.

**The current system does not create the best enabling environment to support good urban design**

- 14. While there are numerous urban design resources that sit outside the RMA, there is only one national policy instrument that explicitly supports urban design best practice in the application of RMA processes: the Urban Design Protocol. The Urban Design Protocol has remained unchanged or updated since its development in 2005 and is no longer a reflection of current urban design best practice.
- 15. While the Urban Design Protocol provides some guidance on the qualities that create successful urban areas, it does not go far enough in clarifying the role of urban design in the application of RMA processes or specify how urban design provisions are best integrated into planning documents. As such, urban design provisions vary from council to council and can sit within plans, policies, and bylaws, or outside plans – eg, the Auckland Design Manual. This means that the application of urban design practice and its role in planning decisions can vary significantly across the country.
- 16. There is a significant lack of Māori input into urban design. Urban spaces today were typically indigenous spaces pre-colonial times yet there is often little recognition of Māori occupation or identity through current urban design practices. The Urban Design Protocol, for instance, does not reflect Māori values or recognise Māori design concepts.

**International cities provide us with examples of how the future RM system could create a better enabling environment for good urban design**

- 17. Officials have researched how international cities have provided for urban design. Some of this research was presented to you at your regular meeting with officials on 16 March 2022, and again on 30 March 2022.
- 18. As part of this research, officials have collated some examples from overseas of regulatory and non-regulatory levers used to provide for urban design, which are listed in Tables 1 and 2 below. Officials note that in many of these case studies it is a package or suite of policy levers that provides the best enabling environment for good urban design practice.
- 19. Work on developing a policy lever, or package of levers, that might be appropriate to provide for urban design in the context of Aotearoa New Zealand will take place throughout 2022-2023 as part of the Urban workstream of RM Reform.

Table 1: Overseas examples of regulatory tools that provide for urban design

Regulatory tools			
Specificity	High level direction at a national or state level	Detailed direction at a national or state level, excluding specific design standards	Detailed direction at a national or state level, including specific design standards
Detail	<p>National or state policies provide high level direction on good urban design outcomes and/or how they might be achieved.</p> <p>High level direction tools require local decision makers to translate the high level direction into planning documents, often leaving a significant amount of discretion to local decision makers.</p>	<p>National or state policies that provide detailed direction on the elements of good urban design, good urban design outcomes and/or how they might be achieved, sometimes requiring that councils translate this direction into specific urban design instruments (eg, the UK National Planning Policy Framework, which states local councils should produce design guides or codes).</p> <p>Detailed direction tools tend to provide significant guidance, while allowing local decision makers the flexibility to implement the direction in a way that accounts for local characteristics, context, and community feedback.</p>	<p>National or state policies that provide detailed direction on the elements of good design, good urban design outcomes and/or how they might be achieved, including specific urban design standards that must be included in planning documents.</p> <p>Detailed direction tools that include specific design standards require setting specific design outcomes and standards for different building typologies, land uses, or other considerations (eg, standards for apartment buildings, or standards that apply to residential land uses) that local planning documents must implement.</p>
Examples	<p>The Tokyo Metropolitan Government's six goals and seven basic strategies<sup>3</sup> that filter down into the masterplans of the city planning districts.</p> <p>The <i>Principles of Good Design</i> in South Australia's State Planning Policies<sup>4</sup> and the statutory requirement that these influence planning instruments.</p>	<p>The Montréal Master Plan<sup>5</sup>, which sets goals, objectives and implementation measures that provide detailed guidance on good urban design practice. Municipal planning authorities are required to give effect to the Master Plan in their bylaws and planning decisions.</p> <p>UK's <i>National Design Guide</i><sup>6</sup> and the associated <i>National Model Design Code</i><sup>7</sup>, which provide councils with detailed guidance on the production of design codes, guides, and policies to promote successful design. These codes, guides, and policies then influence development plans and become material considerations in planning decisions.</p>	<p>Singapore's urban design guidelines for specific development areas<sup>8</sup>, which set specific standards for design elements such as building edges, provision of public open space, greenery replacement and other standards provide for specific design outcomes.</p> <p>New South Wales' State Environmental Planning Policy No. 65 – Design Quality of Residential Flat Development (SEPP 65) and the associated <i>Apartment Design Guide</i><sup>9</sup>, which provides detailed design guidance, including design standards, such as minimum building separation distance standards.</p>
Risks	<p>Could continue inconsistency across councils in the application of urban design practices</p> <p>Could continue uncertainty about the role of urban design in RM processes, depending on how the direction was translated into planning documents</p> <p>Requiring councils to interpret high level direction could impose costs on councils to engage urban designers</p> <p>Could further embed status quo bias (eg, bias for lower densities or protection of subjective values)</p>	<p>Could continue inconsistency across councils in the application of urban design practices</p> <p>Increased policy development costs fall on councils; councils must develop their own specific and detailed direction that may require a significant amount of urban design expertise</p> <p>Could further embed status quo bias (eg, bias for lower densities or protection of subjective values)</p>	<p>Could be seen as overriding expression of local urban design outcomes</p> <p>Could stifle innovation</p> <p>Could lack flexibility to change over time; could be onerous to update national regulation to reflect changes in community needs or aspirations</p>

<sup>3</sup> Planning Tokyo's Urban Development. <https://www.toshiseibi.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/eng/pdf/2016-1.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> State Planning Policies. [https://plan.sa.gov.au/our\\_planning\\_system/instruments/planning\\_instruments/state\\_planning\\_policies](https://plan.sa.gov.au/our_planning_system/instruments/planning_instruments/state_planning_policies)

<sup>5</sup> Montréal Master Plan. [http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/portal/page?\\_pageid=2762,3101662&\\_dad=portal&\\_schema=PORTAL](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/portal/page?_pageid=2762,3101662&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL)

<sup>6</sup> National Design Guide. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-design-guide>

<sup>7</sup> National Model Design Code. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-model-design-code>

<sup>8</sup> Downtown Core Urban Design Guidelines and Plans. <https://www.uragov.sg/Corporate/Guidelines/Urban-Design/Downtown-Core>

<sup>9</sup> Apartment Design Guide. <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/apartmentdesignguide>

**Table 2: Overseas examples of non-regulatory levers that provide for urban design**

	Information and awareness raising					Guidance and implementation support					Incentives	
Lever	Smart cities and smart data collection	Education pieces	3D digital planning tools	Awards	Rating systems	Urban design advisory services	Public realm enhancement projects	Prototyping projects	National non-statutory direction	Local non-statutory direction	Direct investment	Other incentives
Detail	Data, interactive maps, and graphs that track how urban spaces work and function	Lessons learned from good urban design projects/toolkits to support good urban design practice	3D planning tools for scenario planning and impact assessment	Awards to recognise and reinforce sustainable urban design projects	Tools to rate sustainable design elements of a development or urban project	Use of technical advisory services to provide input into projects that pass a certain threshold	Public sector-led or partnership projects that enhance the public realm and provide for sustainable urban design	Prototyping sustainable urban design initiatives	National guidance on good urban design	Local guidance on good urban design	Contestable funds or subsidies for developments that promote sustainable urban design	Other financial (eg, tax exemption) or regulatory incentives for developments that promote sustainable urban design (eg, TDRs)
Examples	Galway Dashboard <sup>10</sup> ; University of NSW and Georges River Council's Smart Social Spaces Project <sup>11</sup>	MfE's <i>Urban Design Case Studies</i> <sup>12</sup>	Boston Planning and Development Agency's 3D 'digital twin' of the city <sup>13</sup>	The Australian Urban Design Awards <sup>14</sup>	The Green Building Council's Green Star rating system <sup>15</sup>	Auckland Urban Design Panel <sup>16</sup> ; Oregon Urban Design Studio <sup>17</sup>	The Lyon Confluence public development agreement <sup>18</sup> ; Auckland Council's Wynyard Quarter regeneration <sup>19</sup>	Waka Kotahi's model communities for walking and cycling <sup>20</sup> ; Kāinga Ora's public housing pilot <sup>21</sup>	<i>New Zealand Urban Design Protocol</i> <sup>22</sup>	<i>Auckland Urban Design Manual</i> <sup>23</sup> ; New York City's <i>Design and Construction Excellence 2.0 Guiding Principles</i> <sup>24</sup>	Canada's Smart Cities Challenge Fund <sup>25</sup>	Portland Oregon's Residential Infill Project – Floor Area Ratio Density Bonus <sup>26</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Galway Dashboard. <https://galwaydashboard.ie/>

<sup>11</sup> Georges River Council – Smart Social Spaces Project. <https://www.georgesriver.nsw.gov.au/Council/About-Your-Council/Smart-Cities>

<sup>12</sup> Urban Design Case Studies. [https://environment.govt.nz/assets/Publications/Files/urban-design-case-studies-colour\\_0.pdf](https://environment.govt.nz/assets/Publications/Files/urban-design-case-studies-colour_0.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> Are digital twins the future of urban planning? <https://www.smartcitiesdive.com/news/are-digital-twins-the-future-of-urban-planning/609232/>

<sup>14</sup> Australian Urban Design Awards. <https://urbandesignawards.com.au/>

<sup>15</sup> Green Star. <https://www.nzgbc.org.nz/greenstar>

<sup>16</sup> Auckland Urban Design Panel. <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/about-auckland-council/how-auckland-council-works/advisory-panels/Pages/auckland-urban-design-panel.aspx>

<sup>17</sup> Urban Design Studio. <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/index.cfm?c=43729>

<sup>18</sup> Lyon Confluence. <https://www.lyon-confluence.fr/en>

<sup>19</sup> Wynyard Quarter. <https://www.panuku.co.nz/wynyard-quarter>

<sup>20</sup> Model Communities Information Sheet. <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/model-communities-infosheet/>

<sup>21</sup> New Zealand public housing pilot to feature at UN Climate Change Conference. <https://kaingaora.govt.nz/news/new-zealand-public-housing-pilot-to-feature-at-un-climate-change-conference/>

<sup>22</sup> New Zealand Urban Design Protocol. <https://environment.govt.nz/publications/new-zealand-urban-design-protocol/>

<sup>23</sup> Auckland Urban Design Manual. <https://www.aucklanddesignmanual.co.nz/>

<sup>24</sup> Guiding Principles. <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/ddc/about/guiding-principles.page>

<sup>25</sup> Government of Canada launches the Smart Cities Challenge. <https://impact.canada.ca/en/node/117>

<sup>26</sup> Portland passes sweeping zoning reform. <https://www.theurbanist.org/2020/08/12/portland-passes-sweeping-zoning-reform/>

## Appendix 2: Table of options to ensure appropriate technical expertise in policy development

	Option 1: Establish an urban design technical advisory group, with appropriate urban design and te ao Māori expertise	Option 2: Establish a council-led stakeholder group, with appropriate urban design and te ao Māori expertise	Option 3: Contract to a consultancy with appropriate urban design and te ao Māori expertise
Detail	A technical advisory group that represents a range of technical expertise (eg, iwi and hapū, council practitioners, urban design professionals, architects, landscape designers) could be appointed, to provide advice on policy development	A council-led stakeholder group could be established, representing a wide range of councils, to provide advice on policy development	A tender process could award a contract to an urban design consultancy to provide advice on policy development
Pros	<p><b>++</b></p> <p>Appointment criteria and processes could produce candidates with strong urban design experience and appropriate te ao Māori expertise to progress this work</p> <p>Ensuring a wide breadth of experience across the group could give policy development processes credibility and buy-in from a range of audiences (eg, iwi and Māori, urban design professionals, developers, council practitioners)</p> <p>Involvement of council practitioners could ensure a pragmatic implementation focus</p> <p>Setting up the technical advisory group to work with officials in-house could ensure a more collaborative approach, and achieve a more integrated output</p> <p>Seeking technical expertise from a wide range of urban design practitioners may enable innovation and a shift away from existing practice</p> <p>Urban design is multidisciplinary practice; technical advisory group members could be appointed to represent a wide range of disciplines that better represent the multidisciplinary nature of urban design</p>	<p><b>+ +</b></p> <p>Councils could put forward members with appropriate urban design and te ao Māori expertise to progress this work</p> <p>Buy-in from council practitioners who will be required to implement direction on urban design could give policy development processes credibility</p> <p>Involvement of council practitioners could ensure a pragmatic implementation focus, including having regard to the broader legislative framework that councils work within</p> <p>Setting up the stakeholder group to work with officials in-house could ensure a more collaborative approach, and achieve a more integrated output</p>	<p><b>+</b></p> <p>Tender process could uncover the consultancy with the best combination of urban design and te ao Māori expertise to progress this work</p> <p>Officials can focus on feeding into other RM reform processes relating to urban while the contractor works on urban design</p>
Cons	<p><b>-</b></p> <p>Administrative burden of providing secretariat support for the technical advisory group</p>	<p><b>- -</b></p> <p>Administrative burden on the Ministry's limited resources to provide secretariat support for the stakeholder group</p> <p>Urban design is multidisciplinary practice that involves a range of expertise that may not be fully represented in a council-led stakeholder group</p> <p>Council practitioners, especially those with appropriate te ao Māori expertise, often have many demands on their time; not all councils will be able to allow these practitioners sufficient time to participate in these processes</p>	<p><b>- -</b></p> <p>Could be expensive to contract out a substantive piece of policy work</p> <p>The ever-evolving nature of RM reform and shifting timeframes will require very careful contract management</p> <p>Risk of misalignment between urban design policy instrument and the broader RM framework, if this policy work is contracted out and not completed in-house or collaboratively with officials</p> <p>Risk this could result in limited engagement and buy-in from Treaty partners and stakeholders</p>
Overall	<b>+</b>	<b>+ / -</b>	<b>-</b>