

Easy to use

Certainty

Flexibility

Transparency

Outcomes-
focussed

- An outcomes-focused planning system means that our primary focus is on the achievement of good planning and development outcomes across the various processes of the planning system. Good planning outcomes can be achieved at the different scales of the planning system. An outcomes focus goes beyond the built form and considers the broader policy outcomes that can be achieved through the planning system, such as wellbeing, health, recreation, employment, housing and environment outcomes.
- This means a system that focuses on the substantive matters to be addressed without specifying in detail how that will be achieved. It is one that is centred on the quality, results, and performance of planning system outcomes, rather than rule compliance.
- For strategic planning and spatial planning, this might be expressing the physical, environmental, economic and social outcomes that are desired and what that might mean and look like with regard to public realm, housing, connectivity and a range of other features.
- Under our current system, buildings are too often designed with a focus on complying with minimum rules to achieve development approval. Often a design doesn't add to and connect with its context, and this can lead to missed opportunities and not the best development or community outcomes.

Easy to use

Certainty

Flexibility

Transparency

Outcomes-
focussed

- In the reformed system, the authority will be more descriptive of what good planning outcomes are, and what the desired outcomes are for an area. This will be informed by strategic and spatial planning policy work, with desired planning outcomes set by the strategic planning and given effect through the Territory Plan and controls.
- For developments, the focus will be on how the development performs from a range of considerations rather than a limited focus on whether it meets individual prescriptive planning rules. Developments must perform well in their site context. This includes consideration of built form, public spaces and interactions with surrounding blocks, amongst other planning considerations.
- With the outcomes-focussed planning system, a hybrid approach is proposed for the new Territory Plan which will allow for many provisions to be written with an outcomes focus, but this doesn't preclude mandatory provisions, which will be included where it is considered relevant, for example, to limit impacts on neighbours and public spaces and control unsuitable development. This could also mean mandatory requirements for maximum height limit, site coverage or setbacks in residential zones that meet other performance outcomes as well.