## From SIA to WOA: The future after the RMA reforms

Hamish G. Rennie Panelist contribution to SIA for improved decision making, new directions at the NZAIA 2021 Conference, "Assessing social impacts for improved decision making", 210-22 April 2021, Tait Centre, Christchurch. New Zealand LINCOLN UNIVERSITY TE WHARE WÄNAKA O AORAKI

# Proposal: NBEA, SPA, CAA Purpose: Pretend to provide affordable housing for city folk and make life miserable for rural folk

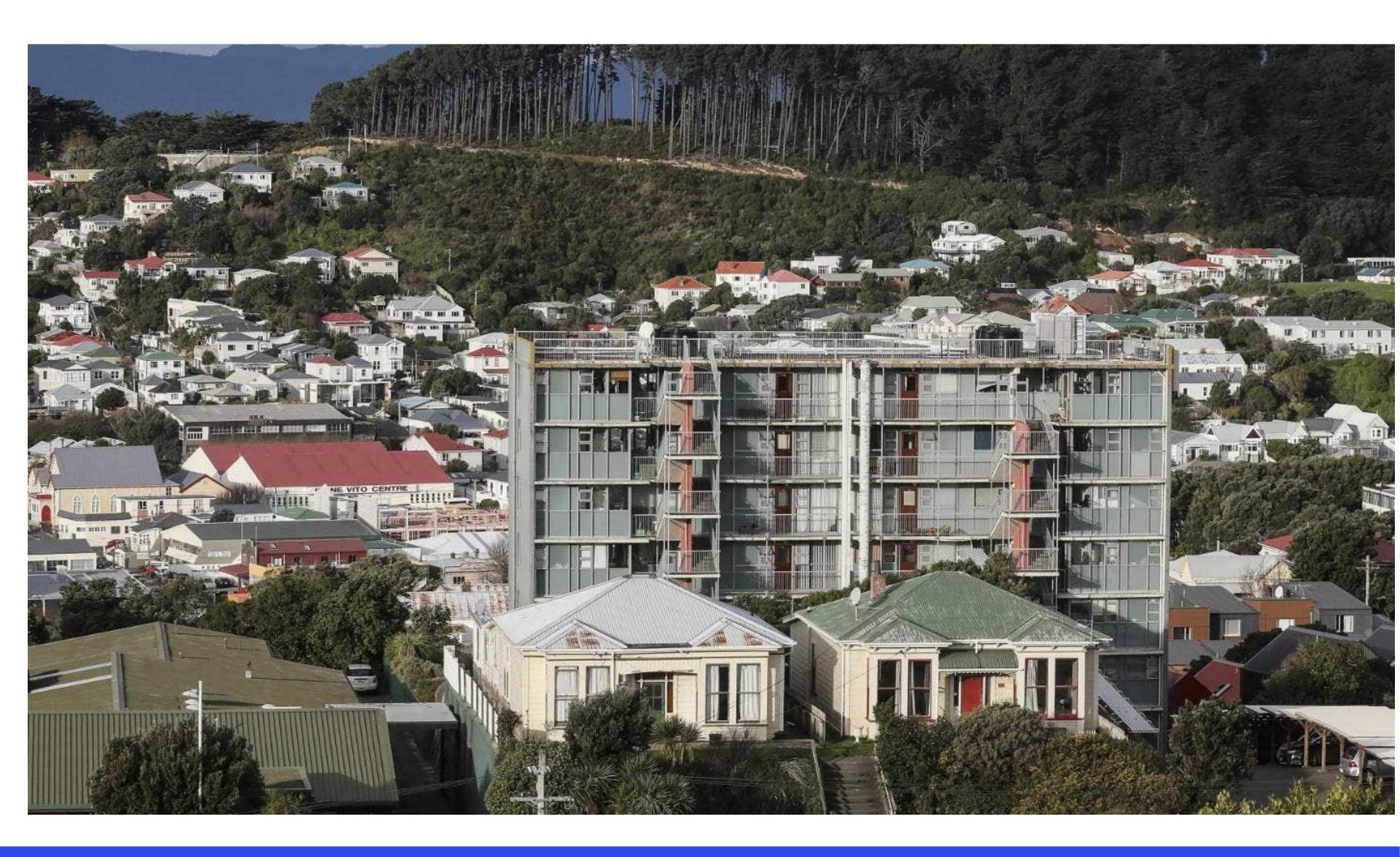
- •Promote the *quality* of the environment [includes people and communities] to support the **wellbeing** of present and future generations and to *recognise* the concept of Te Mana o te Taiao
- Ensure positive outcomes for people & communities are identified & promoted
  - · Wellbeing incl. social wellbeing, health and safety
- •SIA becomes SWOA social wellbeing outcome assessment
- Emphasis on biophysical limits



#### Cabinet paper

- Decisions made under the RMA have entrenched subjective amenity values and contributed to rapidly increasing urban land prices
- •The [Randerson] Panel recommended listing as an outcome the 'enhancement of features and characteristics that contribute to the quality of the built environment'. While it was not the Panel's intention, I consider this inclusion could perpetuate subjective amenity values hindering development. This has therefore been removed
- •Urban design considerations contribute to wellfunctioning urban areas.

#### Fendalton's Future?





#### Thoughts

- SPA 'spatial aspects of social development'
- •Establish need for:
  - Major social infrastructure
  - New regionally significant recreational or community facilities
  - Indicative locations for future social infrastructure (schools, hospitals)
  - All these proposals may have some gender or disability implications. The way urban areas are designed and planned has the potential to have significant implications for different groups (including for mobility and mental health)
- Justify in terms of social wellbeing or functioning
- •Regional or national level, so likely quantitative data driven; need' is a high bar
- consent level: effect on wellbeing
- Biophysical limits mental health impacts will be important





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