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## Section 5: Business Zones

### 5.1 Introduction

The buildings, infrastructure and car-parking areas within business zones represent significant investment, and are part of the physical resource of the District. Business activities provide employment and generate economic activity which enables communities to provide for their economic and social well-being. The land and buildings of business areas provide the space and resources for these activities to take place. It is therefore necessary that they are recognised for the importance of their role in the District's economy. These buildings may also be used for undertaking social and cultural activities, also important to the community's wellbeing.

#### 5.1.1 Ashburton

Ashburton (Kapuka) including Tinwald, is the District's largest business centre and offers a wide range of activities. These include retail shops, professional and administrative offices, civic facilities, personal and household services, entertainment, restaurants and industries. It represents the focus of business within the District and the activities reflect its role as a rural service centre. Many businesses provide services and equipment for farmers and are involved in the handling and processing of agricultural and horticultural produce.

The majority of retail and administrative and professional services are provided within an inner commercial area encompassed within East/Cass/Havelock and Moore Streets, and the sites fronting East Street between Moore Street and Kermode Street (**as zoned Business A**), while small suburban shopping centres providing local services are found throughout the town. A mix of retail, service and light industrial uses surround the inner commercial area and expand along East Street. Commercial and manufacturing activity is located to the west of the Ashburton (Kapuka) and Tinwald urban areas.

Ashburton's business areas represent the District's largest existing investment in buildings and car-parking. Buildings are generally one to two storeys high within the inner commercial area. In the town centre, the street frontage is mainly characterised by verandas and display windows, signifying areas of comparison and browsing shopping. There are also many commercial services available e.g. banks. Those parts of the inner commercial area with frontage to Moore, Cass, Havelock, parts of Tancred and Burnett Streets are characterised by a greater mix of activities where verandas and display windows are not a feature of the environment.

The Ashburton Business Estate (Business E Zone) is bounded by Northpark Road, Company Road, the Main South Railway Line and the Silver Fern Farms Meat Processing Plant, and provides 126 ha of business zoned land. The Estate provides for a broad range of service, commercial and industrial activities but limits the scale of retailing activities. This business estate is expected to provide sufficient industrial land to cater for Ashburton's needs for at least 10 years.

Additionally within Ashburton (Kapuka), there is the Riverside light industrial area which recognizes existing development but also provides for substantial future growth, dependent on achieving road access that avoids associated traffic passing through adjacent residential areas. Similar to the

Ashburton Business Estate, this area offers a significant growth opportunity, in this case for **limited types of commercial activity**, manufacturing and light industrial activity, including a relocation option that is still conveniently located for such activities that have historically located immediately surrounding Ashburton's town centre. A high standard of buffering to neighbouring river and residential areas, and achieving reasonable amenity levels internally will be important considerations in the development of the Riverside business area.

### 5.1.2 Methven

Methven is smaller than Ashburton and the range of business activities is not as broad. However, Methven's proximity to Mt Hutt ski field creates a seasonal variation to the provision of facilities and services with some businesses establishing for up to six months of the year to accommodate visitor needs.

Methven's shopping area is characterised by a concentration of commercial activities around The Mall (**Business A zone**). Activities within the industrial area to the northeast of the town centre are mainly associated with farming and forestry.

### 5.1.3 Rakaia

Rakaia's business activities are provided in three distinct areas. The area to the west of the railway line provides shops and services for the residents of Rakaia, while activities to the east of the railway line provide services for travellers passing through Rakaia, along the State Highway. In comparison with Ashburton and Methven, the number of commercial buildings is much smaller and the range of activities limited to those of a more essential nature. The industrial area located between State Highway 1 and the railway line, and State Highway 1 and Old Main South Road accommodates mainly rural service industries.

### 5.1.4 Other Business Areas

Small settlements such as Mt Somers, Hinds (Hekeao) and Mayfield (Te Puke Tai) also accommodate business activities. These are generally small businesses providing an essential service for surrounding residents or servicing visitors or travellers through the District. There are meat processing facilities established at Fairton, Seafield and Bridge Street, Ashburton (Kapuka).

## 5.2 Issues

### 5.2.1 Location, Growth and Consolidation of Business Areas

Inappropriate location of business activities or the fragmentation of business areas can result in loss of vitality, convenience, accessibility and the identity of such areas.

Town centres (**as zoned Business A**) are a source of identity for their communities, as they represent a meeting place for many people, particularly associated with comparison shopping, professional and administrative services **and commercial employment**. It is not a coincidence that the commercial heart of towns very often is physically located in or near their geographic centre. Consolidating the area within which these activities take place will reinforce the communities' perception of the character and form of their towns and their identity, not only as a place of business, but also as a venue for social and cultural events.

Providing for retail activities in a central location also maximises the opportunity for access on foot from the surrounding residential areas. A compact town centre enables pedestrians to walk to areas without the need to drive from one area of retail to another. Likewise in the suburban centres or smaller settlements, the provision of local **convenience retail and service** facilities reduces the need for vehicle use as they can be accessed on foot. However the advent of 'big box' **large format** retail has facilitated the need to use vehicles; the **limited provision for location of the large scale retail in Ashburton (Kapuka) on the opposite side of State Highway 1 to the town centre (Business B zone) allows additional capacity for such retail activities that would not otherwise be able to be incorporated in the Town Centre (Business A zone) and** ~~does inhibit limit~~ but not prevent pedestrian access **to the town centre. Similarly, a 'Supermarket Overlay' has been provided to recognise and provide for existing modern large scale supermarkets established outside the Business A zone and limited further Supermarket development, as necessary to meet the wellbeing needs of a growing Ashburton township.** It is not considered **either efficient or appropriate** to provide for retail activities throughout **all Business zones, or** the residential and rural areas of the District ~~and neither for such activities to be located in every business zone.~~ Such development has the potential to create reverse sensitivity effects, **reduce consolidation of commercial activities in the Business A zone,** as well as the need to extend infrastructure into areas otherwise not currently serviced.

However, in recent years there has been a growth in the number of car yards and businesses selling large machinery such as agricultural equipment. It is not suitable to provide for these within the traditional retail areas of the District as the nature of such activities would undermine the finer grained retail areas and their character provided by verandas and large windows. As such, it is proposed to provide for such **Trade Suppliers** ~~activities~~ within the commercial area surrounding the main retail area of Ashburton (Kapuka) **(Business C zone)**, and within the lighter industrial areas **(Business D zone)**, where it is considered that they will not cause adverse effects on the functioning of the area or its character. The nature of such large scale retailing activities requires large, open yards with few buildings and little landscaping. This type of activity is therefore more appropriate in the commercial and lighter industrial areas of the District rather than within the finer-grained retail areas.

The same principles apply to commercial, service and industrial activities, which should be located in reasonably accessible areas that are or can be economically serviced. Industrial activities, in particular, may require locations away from residential and sensitive activities therefore the Council have zoned the Ashburton Business Estate for this purpose. It is also important to note that this area has connections to State Highway 1 and the railway, providing access to an existing transport network for the carriage of goods. It is essential that all existing and future business areas have access to good transport routes, preferably not being totally reliant on road networks.

In addition, retaining business activities within the settlements and distinct areas provides for the efficient use of rural land. It also allows efficient use of sites, as the requirement for setbacks from residential zones can make the development of some sites economically unviable. As such, Council has and will continue to provide business zoned land in suitable locations allowing for the growth of existing and new business areas. For example, the Plan provides for the extension of the Riverside Industrial area once a suitable option is found for access to the State Highway network without compromising the amenity of the adjoining residential areas.

Consolidation of business areas will prevent the general dispersal of activities into new locations, which may leave existing areas vacant, unattractive, under-utilised and unable to provide the services

the community desires. Given the central and or convenient location of most business areas within the District, consolidation of business activities into defined areas, combined with public investment in roads and other services in these areas, will assist the vitality of business centres. This has benefits for the District's community in terms of the range of services available, their convenience, pleasantness and accessibility.

Consolidation of boundaries defining business areas may also prevent the outward spread of business activities into residential areas. This spread may have an adverse effect on the amenity values of those areas and their presence may fragment the residential community. However, it is recognised that a limited number of business facilities within residential areas can provide convenient services for residents' e.g. home occupations.

### 5.2.2 Amenity Values

The establishment and operation of business activities can result in adverse effects on business areas and their surroundings, such as from noise, emissions, loss of visual amenity, lighting and traffic congestion.

In addition to making business areas physically accessible to the public, it is also necessary to enhance their amenities to make them pleasant and enjoyable to visit and work within. The level of amenity will vary between different business areas.

Areas providing for business activity, and particularly industrial activities are likely to have lower standards of amenity than may be found in a residential environment or the town centre and this is accepted by most people. For example, people expect there to be more trucks and cars in business areas and therefore they tolerate more traffic noise and fumes than they would in their residential environment. However the Council wishes to ensure that the environment of business areas is not degraded so that they remain visually attractive to new businesses and are acceptable environments within which to work.

The visual environment of the inner ~~retail~~ commercial areas is characterised by one and two storey buildings built up to all boundaries, often with large display windows, verandas and advertising signs. Important issues with regard to visual amenity are to:

- retain the existing scale and spatial distribution of buildings;
- retain verandas as a feature of the streetscape;
- prevent the erection of large blank walls to the street.

In order to maintain a visual environment that is attractive to shoppers and maintains the existing form and identity of commercial areas, it is important that any new building does not significantly exceed existing heights or create large blank walls which have no visual interest or appeal. Verandas are a traditional feature of New Zealand towns which provide continuity to the street appearance as well as providing shelter from the weather.

Industrial areas can be divided into three categories. There are those which provide for meat and food processing only (**Business F zone**), those that provide for moderate to heavy manufacturing and processing activities (**Business E zone**) and those areas which provide for lighter industrial activities along with service and commercial activities (**Business D zone**).

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Meat and produce processing, and heavy industrial areas do not attract the same number of visitors

as do lighter industrial or commercial areas. They are **less typically not** involved with direct selling to the public or providing public facilities or entertainment so that generally only those people who work or need to conduct business will travel to an industrial area. These factors combined with the nature of the activities means that people are less concerned with amenities in industrial areas and expect them to be noisier, dustier and less visually pleasant than other areas. In fact, compliance with an environmental standard could be prohibitive to their ability to operate. Such industries therefore require specific sites or separation from areas of higher amenity.

Within industrial areas there is more heavy traffic than occurs elsewhere in the District. As there is not a concentration of retail activities, there is not a significant potential for conflict between vehicles and pedestrians, **or amenity expectations between the different types of businesses.**

Within the lighter industrial areas, noise, fumes and congestion generated by traffic is expected to occur as people and goods must be transported to and from these areas for business to take place. However there is a need to ensure that public safety is not compromised by the conflict between pedestrians and vehicles and that areas where there is a high concentration of pedestrians are kept as free as possible from traffic noise and fumes. In addition traffic efficiency and safety should not be compromised by vehicular conflict. This is an issue of particular concern along State Highways which carry a large volume of through traffic which is not stopping to conduct business. The location of businesses in relation to the road hierarchy is therefore also of concern.

Accepting the functional requirements of industrial areas, Council is striving to maintain and improve the amenity of all parts of the District. Although the number of visitors to industrial areas may be smaller than to commercial areas, the industrial areas within the District would benefit from their street appearance being improved; this could be achieved through appropriate setback of buildings from road boundaries, controlling the height of buildings, screening outdoor storage areas and requiring landscape plantings to be established which will be effective at screening, softening or otherwise enhancing the view of the industrial site from public viewpoints or neighbouring residential properties.

In addition to a basic environmental quality within zones the Council is concerned with the protection of amenity along the interface between business and living areas. The issue is how a range and variety of business activities can establish in the business areas without detracting from an acceptable standard of amenity values within and adjoining those areas. Within business areas, effects need to be considered both individually and cumulatively, as well as in terms of the proximity of living or other sensitive areas. Effects to be considered include noise, glare, visual appearance and odour.

Noise from activities is mostly of concern from industrial activities in proximity to residential areas. A higher level of noise is normally acceptable within the business area but needs to be strictly controlled at the residential interface.

Glare created from lighting, large unpainted buildings and car-parking areas is of concern where it affects residential properties, recreation areas and roads. The location of and direction of lights should therefore be controlled while the establishment of landscaping can reduce glare from buildings and cars.

## 5.3 Zone Description

### 5.3.1 Business A

Although providing for a range of accommodation, community and commercial uses, the Business A Zone provides principally for small scale **for commercial activity (such as offices, commercial services, hospitality, and retail activity)**. This zone covers the inner commercial area of Ashburton (Kapuka) and the suburban shopping centres of Ashburton (Kapuka), whose primary function is to provide for the local retail and service needs of the surrounding community. It also provides for the core retail and commercial centres of Rakaia, Methven and Mt Somers, Hinds (Hekeao), Mayfield (Te Puke Tai) and Chertsey.

~~The Business A Zone represents the focal point of the District's small scale shops, which provide opportunities for comparison or "browsing" within environments that are intended to be pedestrian friendly. In addition, this Zone provides for residential, visitor accommodation, community and commercial activities. This~~ **The** diversity of activities aims to encourage the continued vitality, pleasantness and convenience of the District's Business A Zone and encourage efficient use **and reinvestment in** of existing infrastructure and buildings.

In central Ashburton (Kapuka), shop-top apartments (residential activities above retail and commercial activities) rather than detached residential units will be encouraged. Residential activities will not be promoted at ground level to ensure the strong retail character of the town centre is retained. If managed effectively, this mix of activities can retain the vibrancy of the town centre as permanent residents will utilise local services and can assist in keeping the area 'alive'; whereby there is continual activity created by both the retail and residential elements. ~~Although it is acknowledged that many trips to and from the commercial centre of Ashburton (Kapuka) will likely involve private vehicles, retailing activities that are strongly vehicle oriented are discouraged from the Business A Zone in that location.~~ The emphasis **on amenity and urban design and the consolidation of commercial activities** is **to** ~~on maintaining~~ **strengthen** and ~~enhancing~~ **reinforce** an environment that, whilst accessible, is safe, attractive and convenient for ~~the pedestrians~~.

In respect of Ashburton's suburban centres, these business areas tend to be characterised by existing built development that is typically quite small in scale, situated in close proximity to surrounding residential environments, and where the zoned land area reflects the extent of historical activity. The Council however accepts that business activity, including retailing, that is consistent with those characteristics ought to be able to locate in these suburban centres to provide readily accessible daily services within these communities, provided that can occur without compromising the objectives for other business zoned areas, or lead to undue conflict or detract from local amenity levels, such as due to generated vehicle use and parking demand (e.g. on-street alongside neighbouring residencies).

Outside of Ashburton (Kapuka) within the District's rural townships, the role of commercial centres, the historical mix of activities within those centres, and the retailing opportunity outside of the Business A Zone often distinguishes these locations from the situation of Ashburton (Kapuka). ~~Accordingly, the Zone anticipates some larger retail premises where they meet the day to day needs of the local community, as well as servicing the travelling public (e.g. community grocery stores), and do not compromise the functioning, integrity, viability and convenience of those smaller rural town centres, or associated pedestrian safety and accessibility. This also acknowledges that moderately~~



sized grocery stores serving those purposes already exist in several of those town centres (e.g. Methven, Rakaia).

### 5.3.2 Business B

The Business B Zone provides predominantly for large-scale retail activities, sometimes called “big box” or “large format” retail, which frequently require large areas of associated car-parking or outdoor space. These large-scale retailing activities are limited to single purpose stores, **with the establishment of commercial offices or smaller scale retail activities prevented**, to prevent avoid the establishment of shopping malls limiting the potential for dispersal of retail activities and, therefore, any detracting from the role and function of the finer-grained, more pedestrian retail oriented Business A Zone areas of Ashburton (Kapuka).

The Business B Zone is located close to the inner commercial area of Ashburton (Kapuka) and already contains a significant number of large-scale retailing activities. It has convenient road access from Moore Street (SH77) and surrounding local roads avoiding the need to connect directly to State Highway 1. The sites within the Zone are generally large with the ability to provide adequately for onsite vehicle-parking and loading.

This zone also provides for the establishment of supermarkets as the amenity values anticipated within the zone will be compatible with supermarket shopping. As shoppers are likely to travel by car to the supermarket and other large scale retail outlets, it reduces pedestrian traffic crossing State Highway 1. The Zone also anticipates some smaller retailing premises, such as vehicle sales **Trade Suppliers** and **Food and Beverage** outlets which either benefit from large sites for display purposes with good vehicle access or principally service the needs of those engaged in the zone or otherwise travelling by vehicle.

### 5.3.3 Business C

The Business C Zone provides for **limited commercial activities**, ~~retail~~, service and community activities, **as well as a range of light industrial activities**. Commercial activities include recreational facilities **and Entertainment Activities** such as bowling alleys and ice-rinks which are conducted within large buildings and for which a fee is paid. These types of indoor pursuits are considered to be partially protected from the effects of surrounding activities.

~~The commercial and service areas of the District are located adjacent or close to Business A and B Zones, and their activities are complimentary but the level of amenity anticipated in the Zones differs. The Business C Zone provides for larger scale retailing and will never be able to replicate the intimate atmosphere and character of the Business A Zone. The buildings are anticipated to be larger with no verandas and large shop windows. Retail activities such as car yards require large, open sites that can be viewed from the road thereby restricting the landscaping of road frontages. The character is therefore defined by comparatively large buildings with some off-street parking and limited landscaping.~~

~~Medium to large sized retailing premises are anticipated in the Business C Zone but in the case of Ashburton (Kapuka) it is expected that larger format retail outlets will locate in the Business B Zone where traffic access is often going to be more convenient, access to the State Highway network is achievable without necessarily relying on surrounding local roads, and sites are typically large and therefore able to accommodate desired parking and loading on-site. Although vehicle access can also~~



~~be convenient in parts of the Business C Zone, in other parts of the zone local roads provide access and more sensitive residential neighbourhoods sometimes directly adjoin business sites, or are otherwise located over the road or close by. The mix and nature of activities, and the form of built development also tends to be more variable in the Business C zoned area relative to the Business A and B Zones.~~

~~Commercial type activities are anticipated to include offices, both large and small scale providing parking for staff and visitors on site. Parking will often be provided in the street setback. Service activities will be encouraged to locate in this zone as their location provides ease of access from central Ashburton (Kapuka) and other town centres, and is convenient to places of work.~~

#### 5.3.4 Business D

Light industrial, service and **limited** commercial activities are anticipated within this zone ~~with limited retailing~~. However, to ensure the viability of the District's main commercial areas, retailing activities **and offices** are to be ~~auxiliary~~ **ancillary** to an industrial or service activity. Some parts of the zone will undergo a gradual change but established businesses will have existing use rights, so are anticipated to continue to operate within what will be a changing environment. It is anticipated that this zoning may introduce a higher level of amenity to some areas, in particular parts of the Riverside industrial area that adjoin residential areas. This recognises its location adjacent to the River and residential areas. This has in part been enabled by the establishment of the Ashburton Business Estate, which provides a suitable, alternative location for heavy industry.

#### 5.3.5 Business E

This zone provides for medium to heavy industrial activities that may create adverse environmental effects such as high levels of noise, dust and heavy truck movements; in addition, to other activities including **ancillary** offices, storage and warehousing activities. Industrial activities often prefer to locate away from urban areas where reverse sensitivity may curtail opportunities for expansion and people may be affected by excessive noise and trucks accessing sites. It is nevertheless desirable for industrial activities to be located adjacent to principal road networks or railway lines that allow ease of transportation of goods without utilising local roads.

The Business E Zone is characterised by large utilitarian buildings built up to internal boundaries with a minimum setback from roads. Buildings will often be enclosed by security fencing with signs displayed in conjunction with a business. Land surrounding buildings may be used for car-parking and outdoor storage and may or may not be sealed. Industrial areas are not therefore areas of high visual amenity with on-site development related only to the operational needs of the business.

This zone includes land within the Ashburton Business Estate, whose development is required to conform to an Outline Development Plan to ensure mitigation of potential noise and visual effects at the boundary of the adjoining residential zone and traffic safety and efficiency on the adjoining road network. This Outline Development Plan requires a 75m buffer to be put in place with mounding and planting along the Residential D Zone interface. In addition, activities are intended to be graduated across the site with office, lighter service and industrial activities located on that half of the site closest to the Residential D Zone and the heavier, manufacturing activities closer to the eastern boundary, adjoining the meat processing facility.

In Rakaia, additional land has been zoned for industrial activities. Any development will be required to conform to an Outline Development Plan to protect the amenity of the adjacent State Highway at the entrance to Rakaia, and also where there is an adjoining residential zone.

Remaining Business E zoned land is located on the outskirts of Tinwald and includes the existing saleyard facilities.

### 5.3.6 Business F

The zone provides for all activities related to meat processing including the yarding and slaughtering of animals, the associated processing of meat (including by-product and co-product processing) rendering, fellmongery, tanning, casing and pelt processing; and the associated chilling, freezing, packaging and storage of meat and associated products. The Zone provides for the spreading of effluent on some defined areas where this activity has historically been carried out. The zone also provides for the processing of other food products. An exception has been made for Lot 1 DP 46816 as shown on Appendix 5-1A (Area 2) to enable Service Activities to establish on this site.

Activities on several sites within this zone are governed by Outline Development Plans. Permitted activities are required to be located in accordance with the Plans to avoid the impact of adverse effects.

The locations of the zone, usually surrounded by rural activities, allow these facilities to operate without adversely affecting residential or other business activities, and provide room for future growth. Adverse effects on surrounding properties generated from food and meat processing include loss of visual amenity, traffic, noise and odour.

## 5.4 Objectives and Policies

### Objective 5.1: Business Area Development and Effects

~~Growth, maintenance and consolidation of business areas, provided that adverse effects on the environment are avoided, remedied or mitigated.~~

**The contribution of business activities to the economic and social wellbeing of the district is recognised and provided for, with:**

- 1. commercial activities and retail activities primarily focused to support vibrant and viable centres, and**
- 2. business activities able to operate efficiently and effectively within the District's business zones as subject to environmental standards which reflect their function, location and role.**

### Policy 5.1A

~~Maintaining and enhancing~~ **Reinforce and strengthen** the function, integrity, convenience and viability of the inner commercial areas **(Business A zones)** of Ashburton, Methven and Rakaia, and small villages, **including through avoiding activities with the potential, either individually or cumulatively, to impact on the continuing ability of town centres to provide for:**

- 1. their community's social and economic wellbeing;**
- 2. maintained or enhanced amenity and vibrancy; and**
- 3. the function and role of Ashburton Town Centre (Business A zone) as the primary**

**commercial, retail, recreational, cultural and entertainment centre for the district.**

### Policy 5.1B

Ensuring that **Provide** opportunities are available in the suburban areas of Ashburton for the establishment and on-going operation of business activities, ~~providing limiting~~ retail **activities** and **commercial** service activities to **where these:**

1. **meet the convenience needs of** local neighbourhoods, ~~in locations which are convenient.~~
2. **are ancillary to, or support anticipated business activities; and**
3. **do not compromise the viability or vibrancy of Town Centres (Business A zones);**
4. **provide for supermarket development as associated with the supermarket overlay and in accordance with Policy 5.1C.**

### Policy 5.1C

**Avoid supermarket activity in the Business C and Business D zone except as provided for within the Supermarket Overlay as notated on the planning maps, and where:**

- (a) **the supermarket activity will not result in significant adverse distributional effects on the Town Centre (Business A zone).**
- (b) **the supermarket activity achieves an attractive and integrated frontage with roads, and an appropriate level of amenity at the interface with adjacent activities, whilst taking into account the functional and operational needs of the activity.**
- (c) **The location, scale and design of the activity is appropriate, having regard to:**
  - i. **the potential for reverse sensitivity effects on permitted activities;**
  - ii. **the extent of any adverse effects from vehicle movements, including on the safety, efficiency and effectiveness of the transport network; and**
  - iii. **the extent of any adverse effects on street parking supply.**

### Policy 5.1C

Providing **through the Business B zone limited opportunities** for the establishment of large format/big box retail activities **and trade suppliers:**

- (a) **that are difficult to accommodate in the Business A zone due to their scale or functional requirements; or**
- (b) **that generate high volumes of traffic and require large areas of parking; and, in locations which**
- (c) **where such activities do not detract from:**
  1. **from the amenity of adjoining areas;**
  2. **the safety and efficiency of the roading network; or**
  3. **from the consolidation of the inner retail area of central Ashburton through limits on the establishment of small-scale retail activities or offices.**

### Policy 5.1D

Recognition that **Differentiate and manage** heavy and noxious industrial activities **that** have the potential to create adverse environmental effects and therefore ensuring there are appropriately located areas where they may establish **and operate efficiently and effectively.**

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**Policy 5.1EF**

Avoiding an accumulation of activities which, either individually or together would generate significant pedestrian activity on State Highway 1, in order to prevent pedestrian/vehicle conflicts and maintain safety.

**Explanation and Reasons**

The inner commercial areas (the Business A zone) of Ashburton (Kapuka), Methven and Rakaia are the focal points for a broad range of commercial, professional and administrative activities in these towns, particularly their comparison or “browsing” and retailing functions and extent of commercial office activities. The other established commercial centres in Ashburton (Kapuka) provide important local retail and service needs for their communities. The Plan aims to encourage the continued vitality, pleasantness and convenience of these centres and their important role in the attractiveness and identity of the towns. ~~In this regard Council may choose to consider how a proposal responds to urban design principles contained in the Ministry for the Environment Urban Design Protocol 2005. These principles consider important matters such as design, creativity and choice that provide for a diverse and rich urban environment.~~

The consolidation of business areas is ~~important~~ **critical** to ensure that people have access to well-maintained and functioning business areas with a wide range of business activities that maintain their vitality, pleasantness and convenience. The dispersal of ~~business~~ **commercial** activities to new locations can leave existing Business A zoned areas vacant, under-utilised, unattractive, and unable to provide the services or identity the community desires. The consolidation of ~~business~~ **commercial activities in Business A zoned** areas assists in making efficient use of public investment in roads and other community and public services ~~in the business areas~~; assists in retaining the vitality of ~~the~~ **Business A zoned** areas; and the perception of the District’s towns as prosperous and lively centres. Dispersal of business activities throughout the District can also result in the mixing of incompatible activities.

In order to maintain the vitality and pleasantness of existing business areas and to make efficient use of their resources and servicing, the ongoing occupation and redevelopment of existing sites is to be encouraged through enabling a broad range of activities to establish throughout the business areas of the District. ~~However, the objective and policies are not intended to prevent growth of the business areas, alongside the existing areas, provided that the adverse effects of this growth, including adverse effects on the consolidation of the business areas, are avoided, remedied or mitigated.~~

~~Accordingly, it is anticipated that the majority of business activity will be accommodated within areas zoned for that purpose, but with some opportunity for future expansion.~~

**Objective 5.2: Qualities of Business Areas**

Business areas that are pleasant places to visit and work within.

**Policy 5.2A**

Maintaining and enhancing the existing form and character of retail areas in terms of building height, setback, coverage and where appropriate, the provision of display windows and verandas.

**Policy 5.2B**

Ensuring the frontages of sites for industrial and service activities present an attractive, landscaped aspect to the street.

**Policy 5.2C**

Ensuring noise levels within business areas enable the functioning of anticipated activities, whilst remaining pleasant places to visit and work within.

**Policy 5.2D**

Avoiding ad hoc and disjointed development of significant business areas through the adoption of Outline Development Plans, including requiring:

Within the Business E Zone at the Ashburton Business Estate:

- that any development is carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Outline Development Plan for that zone so as to achieve the integrated development of that area to a high standard of amenity;
- that the publicly accessible and administrative parts of buildings e.g., office and reception areas, to face the road within specified parts of the Business Estate with a maintained, grassed frontage;
- that the Business Estate be divided with cycle and pedestrian walkway connections with a high standard of tree planting;
- a centrally located open space area in the Ashburton Business Estate to provide an amenity area for people working and visiting the Ashburton Business Estate;
- the use of design guidelines for assessment of new built development in that part of the Business Estate located nearest to adjoining residentially zoned land.

Within the Business F Zone at Seafield and Christys Roads, as well as land at Northpark Road and Bridge Street:

- that development conforms with the respective Outline Development Plans;
- that activities are located so as avoid detrimental effects on environmental quality and amenity values;
- that spreading of effluent is limited to defined areas;
- that in the case of Bridge Street, plant expansion is limited beyond the extent of existing development to protect the amenity of surrounding residential areas.

Within the Riverside industrial area:

- that development conforms with the Outline Development Plan;
- that development is first dependent on road access into the area being established through land zoned Business C to State Highway 77;
- boundary buffer setback distances, including landscaping requirements and building restrictions within those buffers, to protect residential and riverside amenity values.

Within the Rakaia Business E Zone:

- that development conforms with the Outline Development Plan;
- boundary buffer setback distances, including landscaping requirements, access and building restrictions within those buffers, to protect residential and State Highway amenity values.

### Policy 5.2E

Excluding residential and visitor occupation, other than for custodial or site management purposes, within specified industrial areas, in order to avoid any nuisance to residential occupants and conflict with the anticipated effects of activities in the industrial areas.

### Explanation and Reasons

Business areas are important resources within the District, where many people work and visit. The establishment and operation of business activities can result in adverse effects, such as noise, fumes, loss of visual amenity, lighting and traffic congestion. In order to make these areas pleasant and enjoyable to visit and work within, it is necessary to ensure that these adverse effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated. However, the appropriate level of amenity values will vary between different areas, depending upon the role of the area, its location, and its proximity to other activities, particularly residential areas. The local and inner commercial areas of the towns, where people go for their shopping, professional and administrative services need to be convenient, accessible, identifiable, **consolidated** and pleasant places to go to. However, opportunities need to be available for the establishment of activities that could not meet these high standards, in locations where they will not adversely affect the amenity values of other business areas or residential areas. These policies provide direction on how the Council will maintain and improve the amenity and quality of its business environments.

The adoption of outline development plans for new or large areas of development enables a comprehensive plan to guide, as appropriate, integrating roading, landscape treatment, pedestrian and cycle accessibility and open space and amenity provisions for workers and visitors to the business area. Such an approach can effectively enhance the amenity of business areas by avoiding ad hoc and disjointed development.

Residential occupation of buildings within medium to heavier industrial areas is generally not permitted, except for custodial or site management purposes. There needs to be a balance between the need for on-site security, surveillance and accessibility and a lower level of amenity compared with areas of typical residential occupation. The anticipated level of effects created by industrial buildings and activities is not compatible with residential activities with respect to their height,

proximity to site boundaries, potential noise, dust, odour and lighting effects and traffic generation. These potential effects exceed the levels acceptable in a residential context and there is the potential that complaints over such effects may result in conflict over the operation of legitimate industrial activities. Excluding residential activities generally from industrial areas, therefore, has the effect of enabling industrial activities to be undertaken within an environment which has been established as appropriate for such activities, without being subject to complaints from residential occupants.

**Objective 5.3: Effects of Business Areas on Surrounding Amenity**

Areas of business activity which do not detract from the standard of amenity in adjoining areas.

**Policy 5.3A**

Protecting residential and rural environments by:

- imposing the residential standards for height and admission of sunlight to buildings on sites adjoining residential areas;
- imposing the residential standard for noise on activities adjoining residential areas;
- preventing the unacceptable spill of light onto residential sites from business activities;
- requiring landscape planting along the boundaries of business sites adjacent to residential sites to protect the visual amenity of the residential areas and rural areas e.g. Business F Zone.

**Policy 5.3B**

Enabling future commercial and industrial opportunities, principally in the Ashburton Business Estate and Riverside locations, by requiring:

- any development in the Ashburton Business Estate is carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Outline Development Plan for that area so as to ensure the protection of the amenities and quality of the environment in the adjoining Residential D Zone to the south and west;
- a landscaped buffer be provided between residential and business activities in the Ashburton Business Estate;
- the development of a structure plan(s) incorporating landscape treatment, noise mitigation and control of the location of activities prior to subdivision and the establishment of activities in the Ashburton Business Estate;
- vehicle and pedestrian conflicts are avoided, remedied or mitigated at the rail crossings on Northpark and Works Roads;
- provision of future development in the Riverside area dependant on the establishment of a suitable alternative road access;
- protection of residential properties adjoining the Riverside area through buffer areas and landscaping;
- possible provision of links to the river corridor and recreational facilities from the Riverside extension.



### Explanation and Reasons

These policies seek to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the surrounding environment created by business activities. Of particular concern is the effect that business activities may have on lowering the quality of living environments adjacent to business areas. They also consider public safety and the need to minimise pedestrian and vehicle conflicts. This is of particular importance where industrial activities increase the frequency of truck or heavy traffic movements through residential areas.

The Ashburton Business Estate has been established with a comprehensive set of provisions which are intended to enhance amenity and protect the surrounding areas of residential and rural land.

In addition, provision has been made for an extension to the Riverside business area to enable future commercial, manufacturing and light industrial development. This business area is expected to take many years to develop and is premised on the need to provide an alternative road access to the land and a high standard of buffering between business and residential activity. It is proposed that this land will provide for commercial and light industrial activities that are more compatible with being closer to residential activity. It is also hoped that this area will provide a relocation opportunity over time for businesses that are currently operating in areas that are intended to change in character e.g. businesses on the eastern side of the Ashburton (Kapuka) CBD.

## 5.5 Anticipated Environmental Results

- Enhancement and ~~retention~~ **reinforcement** of the vitality, convenience, accessibility, character, and pleasantness of towns' central retail areas **(Business A zones)**.
- Maintenance of amenity levels within business zones through the minimisation of noise disturbance and provision of landscaping.
- The spatial separation of business activities into defined zones **based on their functions, effects and need to operate effectively and efficiently.**
- **Limited (re) development of large scale supermarket activity within confined and notated areas within the Business C and D zones.**
- Business areas that are integrated with and sensitive to their surroundings.
- Enhanced street appearance through landscaping.
- Traffic and pedestrian generating activities located away from local roads;
- Limited access to business activities directly from state highways.
- Preservation of the living environment adjacent to business areas in terms of light admission, noise and low glare.
- Limited residential occupation of buildings within business areas.
- The consolidation of the form of business areas.

## 5.6 Methods of Implementation

### Through the District Plan

- The use of rules to put in place performance standards for street appearance (setback, height and landscaping), noise, glare and car-parking.
- The use of rules and performance standards to define the location of businesses fronting arterial roads.

- The use of rules to set down performance standards for activities adjacent to residential areas and to control residential activity within business areas.
- The use of structure/outline development plans to direct the location of activities, buffers, landscape treatment, noise mitigation and roading layout and external road connections.
- The use of zoning to separate activities which generate traffic and pedestrians and to separate activities which may create noxious effects such as noise. Zoning therefore reflects location (proximity to residential areas); the quality of amenity sought and function of activities provided for.

### Through the LTP

- Provision of finance and initiation of projects for street and open space enhancement and the provision of public facilities and conveniences.
- Through the acquisition and development of land, as necessary, for roads, service lanes and car-parking.

## 5.7 Reasons for Rules

### 5.7.1 Height of Buildings

This rule seeks to achieve a consistency in the scale of business development that reflects the desired character for an area and, to limit the extent of buildings overshadowing other buildings, properties and public spaces.

The character of an area is very much influenced by the scale of buildings. As height is an important component in the scale of buildings, limits have been included which allow flexibility of design, while providing for the maintenance of the general character of each area.

The height within the Ashburton Business Estate allows greater ability for those activities that need gantry fittings or additional working or storage height to be accommodated and it is considered a more efficient utilisation of land to allow for increased capacity through height.

At the Riverside industrial area, building height is limited in the buffer area adjoining the Ashburton River (Hakaterere) to protect amenity values along the river margin.

### 5.7.2 Setback from Streets

The positioning of buildings up to the front or road boundary of properties is considered acceptable in the context of some areas of commercial development, particularly if the Council simultaneously encourages continuity in retail frontage. However in some parts of the business areas a setback also affords the opportunity for landscaping and planting which can assist in giving areas, such as industrial and commercial areas, a degree of amenity for those visiting or working in them.

Within the Business A Zone no building setback is permitted. This means that all buildings are required to be built up to the street boundary and reflects the Council's desire to maintain the traditional appearance of the District's main shopping areas and a continuous vista along its main streets. It also

ensures that continuous veranda coverage, where it is required, is able to be achieved. This provision also contributes to a sense of enclosure which defines this zone as a focal point of activity. Continuous frontage also maximises the accessibility and convenience of shops and services to the public.

In the Business C Zone in Tinwald, a setback has been required to provide sufficient area for car parking off State Highway 1, and also a setback on State Highway 77 is required, as a measure of protecting the safety and efficiency of the State Highways. Elsewhere in the Business C Zone a 2m setback is required to provide a minimum area for the establishment of landscaping.

In the Business D and E Zones a 5m setback is required to keep noxious or often unsightly business activities away from the direct view of the road and to provide sufficient area for the establishment of landscaping. However, within the Ashburton Business Estate a variable setback is prescribed from Company Road, depending on the height of the building. Buildings up to 5m in height need only be setback 5m, which is sufficient width to establish landscape planting. A 10m setback is required for buildings up to 10m high which have greater potential to impact on the view and amenity of Company Road. A setback is not required along Northpark Road as a 75m buffer, vested in Council as reserve is proposed to achieve separation and amenity in this location. A lesser distance has been prescribed for setback from local roads where the volume of traffic is not as significant. These setbacks also provide the opportunity for landscape treatment within the zone.

The Business F Zone has extensive setbacks of 10-30m due to the potential noxiousness of onsite activities, the size of the buildings and the rural location which has an open space character.

### **5.7.3 Setback from Neighbours**

Within the Business A Zone no setback from side boundaries is required. This standard is one of a number that the Council uses to maintain the traditional form of the main shopping areas and to ensure that there is a visual continuity to building frontage. This enables continuous veranda coverage to be provided without gaps and maintains the predominant character associated with the main shopping area.

The Business F Zone requires extensive setbacks of 10-30m which is considered necessary because of the noxiousness of activities onsite, the size of plant facilities and the open character of their rural locations.

In the Business E Zone, a setback from neighbours is required in the Ashburton Business Estate between sites which directly adjoin the buffer. For properties within Area 1 of the Estate a setback between buildings on neighbouring sites is appropriate to ensure that a continuous wall is not created which adversely affects the amenity and outlook from the buffer and Residential D Zone. In all other business areas no controls have been placed on setback from neighbours as it is considered that this achieves little with regard to amenity in such areas and instead provides maximum opportunity for individual sites to be used efficiently and economically. Where applicable, building coverage limits are also likely to avoid comprehensive site coverage.

In the business zones amenity values are often not significant and premises share common walls. In these areas building setback achieves little with regard to amenity and limits the economic use of property.

#### 5.7.4 Building Coverage

The purpose of this rule is to control the density of commercial and industrial development and to retain a degree of open space on sites, consistent with the potential needs and expectations of occupiers and local amenity values. The rule also seeks to ensure sufficient open ground is available for stormwater percolation to ground.

This standard controls the amount of each section that is retained as open space and is therefore a key factor in determining the visual amenity and spaciousness within business areas.

Maintenance of the existing general scale and character of the business environment requires site coverage and open space levels for new development which are consistent with the prevailing character.

Within the Business A Zone in Ashburton Town Centre, 100% site coverage is provided for as the inner commercial area of Ashburton (Kapuka) is recognised as an area of intensive business activity. As there is no provision for setback from boundaries or the road and no requirement for onsite car parking, it is anticipated there will be an extensive level of building development. All other parts of the Business A Zone have a lower standard of site coverage because sites generally adjoin residential zones and this ensures that reasonable levels of open space are maintained consistent with the amenity values of the residential areas.

In all other cases within the Business B, C, D and F Zones, a site coverage of 75% is provided for, which realises reasonable development opportunities, some degree of spaciousness and the ability to comply with standards for landscaping, parking, loading and manoeuvring. In the Business F Zone

75% site coverage recognises the industrial character of those areas already occupied by plant and buildings, as shown in the Outline Development Plan. Other parts of the Zone are rural in character and the site coverage provision is the same as for the Rural Zones in recognition of this characteristic.

In the Business E Zone a new standard is introduced to maintain 20% of the site as a permeable surface to ensure that there is sufficient open ground for stormwater treatment and disposal on each site.

#### 5.7.5 Verandas

Verandas are a traditional feature of many New Zealand towns and have a significant role in the visual and architectural integrity of the “main” streets of Ashburton (Kapuka) and Methven. They also provide shelter from the weather. The Council wishes to retain this traditional appearance of its main shopping areas, including that of the smaller townships, and promote achieving continuous veranda coverage throughout the Business A Zone.

The standard controls aspects of design and construction to ensure that continuity in veranda design is achieved and to ensure safety from collision with vehicles. Although, in Methven and Rakaia veranda posts are permitted to assist in the maintenance of the traditional character and amenity values of the streetscape.

### 5.7.6 Windows

The Council wishes to retain its traditional main shopping areas as attractive to the public and seeks to avoid the creation of large blank walls which would break the continuity of window displays and have little visual appeal. A minimum percentage of the wall to be dedicated for window will ensure that large blank walls are not created.

### 5.7.7 Outdoor Storage and Display

Within the main shopping locations the Council wants to ensure that the form and integrity of building frontage is retained for visual and amenity reasons and has therefore created a rule which does not allow the use of vacant land for storage, display or sale of goods. This control is part of a package of rules which aim to maintain a traditional street frontage with a continuum of buildings facing the street. Within the Business A-D Zones the outdoor storage of goods (excluding vehicles) is limited to the rear of buildings to control the visual amenity of the zone and protect that of adjoining areas where they are residential.

### 5.7.8 Landscaping

The dominant form of landscaping is the planting of trees and shrubs. Landscaping has the benefits of enhancing the appearance and/or the screening of a site and buildings as viewed from or across streets, or from adjoining properties.

A landscaped area is not required in all Business zones. In the Business A Zone the Council undertakes any street beautification works and opportunities for onsite landscaping are extremely limited with buildings typically positioned up to the road boundary.

In the Business B, C, D and E (except Ashburton Business Estate) Zones, landscaping or tree planting is required along all road boundaries. The Council wishes to ensure that the commercial and light industrial areas of the District are functional but still retain some level of amenity. Tree planting will partially screen bulky buildings and storage areas whilst providing a pleasant frontage when viewed from the street or adjoining properties. Tree planting is often more practical to achieve and maintain. Landscaping areas require more maintenance but provide a pleasant amenity over time. In Tinwald there is a large building setback to accommodate car parking and a landscaped area adjacent to the State Highway is required.

In the Business E Zone at Ashburton Business Estate, the landscape treatment for the zone is to be provided within the road reserve by Council. This includes a grassed berm and shelterbelt planting along specific roads through the zone to provide an overall structure to planting, visually break up the large land area, to provide a visual link with the distinctive shelterbelt planting in the surrounding rural land and to ensure landscape treatment is appropriately maintained. Along the Company Road frontage hedge planting is required to ensure that the road frontage maintains a pleasant visual amenity to the travelling public.

In the Business F Zones, landscaping is required along road and rural zone boundaries to screen activities and buildings on sites from adjoining properties and publicly accessible places. The rules are specific in the type and height of trees to be planted as well as the distance between trees and rows of trees at the time of planting. The activities being undertaken on sites within the Business F Zones

can create effects such as noise, odour and reduced visual amenity therefore the landscaping is required to mitigate these effects and maintain amenity values in the surrounding area.

#### **5.7.9 Amenity**

The purpose of this rule is to achieve a scale of development which is consistent with the character of the adjoining land and to ensure that building development does not unduly deprive neighbouring properties of sunlight or impact significantly on their amenity. These are indirectly a means of affording some degree of privacy to property occupiers and some retention of opportunities for outlook and views.

These standards seek to maintain the scale of development on sites adjoining residential, rural or open space land to a level that is more consistent with that within the residential environment as a means of preserving the character and amenity of these areas or the character of the adjoining land. The provision for setback and screening will assist in the separation of potentially incompatible activities and affect the standard of visual amenity by reducing the dominance of buildings, and securing levels of privacy and access to daylight.

#### **5.7.10 Setbacks from Stopbanks and Water Bodies**

This rule seeks to avoid or limit the vulnerability of buildings, contents and occupants to extreme flooding events which could occur due to failure of stopbanks, and to limit the vulnerability of stopbanks to the direct effects of development.

Stopbanks are designed to protect buildings and their occupants from flooding. However, in the event that they fail, buildings in close proximity to them are highly vulnerable to damage due to the surge effect of water. Failure through overtopping or breaching cannot be predicted in any particular location. It is important therefore to anticipate this vulnerability along any stopbank and to mitigate this by locating buildings back from the stopbank wherever practical.

Additionally the construction of buildings or carrying out of works in close proximity to or into/onto stopbanks can reduce the integrity of the stopbank and in order to maintain stopbanks, buildings need to be set back to retain their accessibility.

Also buildings are required to be setback from water bodies for a variety of reasons, including for the avoidance of the adverse effects of natural hazards and to retain some degree of access along their margins, including for mechanical maintenance purposes.

#### **5.7.11 Design and Appearance**

These rules intend to maintain and enhance the amenity of areas both within and adjoining the Ashburton Business Estate.

Area 1 of the Business Estate's Business E Zone is intended to be developed with a higher level of internal amenity than other areas of the Business Estate. In addition, Area 1 of the Business E Zone directly adjoins a buffer providing physical separation from an adjoining Residential D Zone. A higher standard of building design is appropriate in this location. Similarly, the rule requiring compliance with a colour palette for buildings adjoining the buffer is to ensure that the visual outlook from the buffer

and the Residential D Zone is not adversely affected by brightly painted buildings which may detract from outlook and the planting of the landscaped buffer.

#### **5.7.12 Offensive Processes**

Industrial activities may include processes which involve the handling or processing of products which are dangerous or have the potential to create noxious effects. It is generally not appropriate that these activities are located in areas close to residential areas where a higher standard of amenity and environmental quality is expected and where significant numbers of people are at risk. In addition, some business areas have a comparatively higher level of amenity that would be threatened by these activities. To protect these areas, and maintain the amenity outcomes sought, businesses which involve specified processes are not provided for in most Business Zones and require Council assessment and consent.

#### **5.7.13 Hours of Operation, Including the Sale of Liquor**

The hours over which a business activity operates is a significant determinant in the level of adverse effects likely for neighbours as a result of vehicle and pedestrian movements, noise levels, loss of privacy and security and general disturbance, which are incompatible with residential environments. These effects are generally as a result of operations during hours when neighbours can reasonably expect a more peaceful environment. For this reason, limitations have been placed on the acceptable hours of operation for each day, with the exception of residential and accommodation activities, and emergency call outs which most residents would reasonably expect to occur infrequently and without such restriction.

In the case of activities involving the sale of liquor adjoining residential areas, the Plan recognises that such activities can result in activities which give rise to adverse effects on the amenity values of residential areas. These can be as a result of late night vehicle and pedestrian movements; noise of voices; vehicle doors banging; antisocial behaviour; and a loss of feeling of security for neighbours. Where the sale of liquor would otherwise be permitted as-of-right without any restriction on hours of operation, limits have been placed on the hours over which liquor may be sold on sites adjoining residential zones. This will enable the assessment of the appropriateness of the activity and the extent to which it will have adverse effects on residential amenities, by way of a resource consent application.

#### **5.7.14 Effluent Disposal**

These rules seek to protect the environmental quality and amenity values of land within and surrounding the site at Fairton, and to ensure that the environmental quality and amenity values of land at and surrounding the sites at Seafield and Christys Road are not affected to a standard below that considered as acceptable under the terms of resource consents previously granted.

Effluent disposal is a permitted activity within the Business F Zone where it is acknowledged that effluent disposal is an integral part of a meat processing facility. However, on the sites at Seafield and Bridge Street, the disposal of effluent is an activity that has been approved under consents issued by the Ashburton District and Canterbury Regional Council's. It is appropriate that conditions imposed by the District Council on effluent disposal at the Christys Road and Seafield sites are transferred into the District Plan to ensure that the requirements and environmental quality required by these consents



are maintained. The “testing” or consideration of the suitability of the land at Fairton and Northpark Road has not been undertaken through the planning process and it is therefore necessary to ensure that this activity is not permitted without the need for further consents. This is necessary due to the potentially noxious effects associated with effluent disposal.

#### **5.7.15 Residential and Visitor Accommodation Activities**

With respect to the provisions for residential and visitor accommodation activities in Business Zones, it is appropriate for residential and visitor accommodation activities to be located in the Business A, B and C Zones. These zones provide principally for retail and commercial activities, which do not generally create noxious effects and are therefore considered suitable areas for such types of accommodation. Similarly residential and other accommodation buildings are of a scale that is compatible with other uses provided for within these zones and therefore would not have adverse effects on character.

In the Business A Zone in particular, residential activities such as shop top apartments can provide support for other activities and increase the vitality of town centres. The proximity of residents to services such as restaurants and entertainment and their likely use of cafes during the weekends often means that town centres do not ‘close’ at 5pm, and maintain a vibrancy beyond the normal operating hours of many businesses.

It is however appropriate that such residential activities in the Business A, B and C Zones are limited to above ground floor level and also comply with the Residential A Zone rules. That way the primary purpose of individual sites is still encouraged to be for business activity and any residential component enjoys an acceptable minimum level of amenity. Given the nature of anticipated activities in the Business B and C Zones, the effects that they may create (e.g. noise, fumes etc) and the sensitivity of occupiers of residential accommodation, there is also a requirement that ventilation of bedrooms is not reliant on opening windows.

In the Business C Zone it is considered appropriate to enable Visitor Accommodation activities at all levels to provide for motels, hotels or similar activities. A number of motels are already located within the Business C Zone and these appear to operate without any undue conflict.

Although intended for medium to heavier industry, there may be sites within the Business D Zones where residential and visitor accommodation is appropriate. Environmental quality and amenity values however can vary considerably within this zone and accordingly it is appropriate to make residential activities and visitor accommodation a Discretionary Activity and assess the suitability and effects of such developments (including effects on adjoining businesses) on a site by site basis. An exception is however made for limited residential accommodation to be a permitted activity where it is for custodial or site management purposes, provided it is ancillary to on-site business activity, associated bedrooms do not rely on open windows for ventilation and the Residential A Zone rules are complied with for that component of any development.

The Business E and F Zones are industrial and meat and produce processing Zones. Permitted activities are potentially noxious and objectionable; and in particular the Ashburton Business Estate has the potential to develop as a transport hub. These are generally unacceptable environments for residents

(other than for custodial or site management purposes) or those using visitor accommodation as the levels of adverse effects exceed those generally considered acceptable or pleasant to live within, even on a temporary basis. Even if more stringent standards were required for residential activities, the level of noise, vibration, fumes, dust, traffic movements, and the style, proximity and density of building on adjoining sites would not be compatible with residential use or visitor accommodation. In addition, the establishment of residential activities, other than for custodial purposes, or visitor accommodation may result in complaints over environmental quality and amenity values and result in unreasonable restraints being imposed on legitimate business activities. In situations where custodial or site management accommodation is anticipated, there is less likelihood of reverse sensitivity effects arising given the inherent connection with business activity being undertaken on the site. Therefore, subject to the same limitations as for the Business D Zone, such activities are also permitted in the Business E and F Zones.

#### 5.7.16 Commercial Activity Limits ~~Retail Floor Space~~

There are a range of reasons for ~~the retail floor space rules~~ **limitations on commercial activities within Business zones** including:

- to ensure the consolidation of the business areas and the functioning, integrity, convenience and viability of the inner commercial areas **(Business A zones)** of the towns is realised;
- to protect adjoining environments from the adverse effects of retail activity, including pedestrian and vehicle traffic generation;
- to limit the attraction of the general public to areas of noxious or heavy industrial activity;
- to avoid, remedy or mitigate vehicle and/or pedestrian conflicts, and protect traffic safety and efficiency.

The dispersal of general ~~retail~~ **commercial** activity throughout the business areas may result in adverse effects on the functioning, convenience, vitality, pleasantness and viability of the inner commercial areas of the towns. Fragmentation and dispersal of general retailing activities **and office activities** may result in closure of shops in the inner commercial areas, a reduction in the range of services available in these areas, a loss of vitality and attractiveness to shoppers, and an undermining of their roles as principal areas for comparison retailing, and as focal-points and sources of identity for their communities.

Unlimited ~~retail~~ **commercial** activity throughout the business areas may also result in the dispersal of activity along the State Highways, with consequential adverse effects on traffic safety and efficiency, traffic congestion and vehicle/pedestrian conflicts. Furthermore existing public infrastructure in the inner commercial areas, in the form of public car-parking, **civic and community facilities** ~~and other street developments~~, may become inefficiently used.

~~An upper limit on retail floor area in the Business A Zone seeks to ensure that such premises are still encouraged and attracted to locate in these areas, but they do so in a way and at a scale that maintains some consistency in terms of existing built character, that accessibility and convenience for pedestrians is retained, and that retail activities that are strongly vehicle oriented are discouraged. These will be important considerations in terms of the acceptability of retailing that may be proposed above the floor area limit by way of resource consent. There are no~~ **The same restrictions on commercial activity in the Business A zone, recognising the need to consolidate and coordinate commercial activity in the zone and support a wide range of retail, commercial, civic and social**

**activities.** ~~does not apply to other activities, including those of a community or commercial nature, to support achieving some activity mix and diversity, and recognizing that retailing typically is, and is expected to remain, the predominant activity in these locations. These non-retail a~~Activities are however still subject to other controls (e.g. relating to windows and verandas) directed to maintaining the consistent character and a pleasant, pedestrian friendly environment.

For suburban commercial centres in Ashburton (Kapuka), ~~the same floor area restriction supports achieving similar objectives,~~ **development standards** reflecting the traditional scale of development in these locations, but also the proximity of these centres to neighbouring residential activity and the desire to protect the amenity values of those neighbourhoods, while still enabling the day to day servicing needs of local communities to be readily met.

In the District's rural townships outside of Ashburton (Kapuka), provision has been made for community grocery stores to be considered ~~at sizes greater than the Business A Zone maximum gross floor area limit, but~~ below the size of a modern supermarket, as controlled activities. This recognizes the historical role of those centres, as distinct from the larger township of Ashburton (Kapuka). It also reflects their comparative size, accessibility and established mix of activities, and therefore reduced likelihood of vehicle/pedestrian conflicts arising; the limited population base of such townships to support larger full service supermarkets; and the presence of grocery stores of that size already established in some of those town centres.

The minimum retail floor area restriction for the Business B Zone, which is specific to Ashburton (Kapuka), seeks to ensure an **limited** opportunity exists for larger format retailing, ~~still close to~~ **outside of, but on the fringe of** the town centre, but where vehicle access is convenient and sites are sufficiently large. A number of such retailers are already concentrated in this location. The retail floor area rule for the Business B Zone also provides for restaurant and take-away food outlets and **trade suppliers** ~~specific vehicle oriented retailing of less than 500m<sup>2</sup>. This is intended to cater for the needs of those working in these areas, whilst reducing the need for vehicle trips into central Ashburton (Kapuka) such as during lunch breaks, and also for the needs of activities such as service stations and vehicle display/sales with similar expectations for vehicle accessibility and land area. Key considerations in terms of other~~ **A strict limitation on** smaller sized retailing activities seeking to locate within the Business B Zone **is provided to ensure maintenance of the** ~~will be maintaining~~ the function, convenience, integrity and viability of the Business A Zone; the potential for fragmentation of retailing activity to compromise achieving that and other Business Zone objectives; and the need to protect pedestrian safety and convenience in a location that is recognized to be predominantly vehicle oriented.

The establishment of **limited opportunity for** large-scale, vehicle-oriented retail activities, including supermarkets, on the west side of the Ashburton (Kapuka) town centre is not considered to have significant adverse effects on the town's inner commercial area. ~~In Ashburton (Kapuka), a significant number of shopping trips combine supermarket shopping and other retailing. Vehicle movement between the retail areas east and west of the railway line in Ashburton (Kapuka) is convenient, quick and safe, and parking is easy to obtain in the central areas. Consequently, people will find it convenient to move between supermarket shopping, whether on the east or west side, and comparison retailing or other commercial activities on the east side of the railway line. The separation of these two retail areas does not present a significant hurdle to shoppers and they can move freely from one area to the other, visiting both areas during one shopping trip.~~

The rule as it applies to the Business C Zone restricts the establishment of commercial activities, excluding trade suppliers, food and beverage outlets and entertainment activities. This is an appropriate response to these fringe town centre locations which could, if left unregulated could result in substantial retail and office activities establishing outside of the town centre. a maximum gross floor area restriction on most retailing, but at a level greater than that of the Business A Zone. This is to provide an opportunity for those retail activities that are not suited to the intimate environment of the Business A Zone, or are not necessarily large enough or as suited to the Business B Zone in the case of Ashburton (Kapuka), but still benefit from a location near to the town's commercial centre. Although vehicle access can be convenient in parts of the Business C Zone, in other parts of the zone local roads provide access and more sensitive residential neighbourhoods are often directly adjoining sites or are situated very nearby. An upper limit on retail floor space also seeks to prevent large scale development on any particular site generating a concentration of traffic in that location, with the effects of that traffic adversely impacting on the functioning of the local road network and/or residential amenity. The rule being a zone standard reflects these sensitivities, and for Ashburton, the preference for large format retailing to locate in the Business B Zone.

The restriction in the Business D and E Zones is to small scale retailing of goods produced or processed on the site. With f Food and beverage outlets and trade suppliers are provided for in the Business D zone recognising that these activities are not incompatible with the light industrial and logistics activities undertaken in this zone. Food and beverage outlets are not necessarily anticipated in the Business E zone, with the need to consider the scale of such enterprises, and sensitivity to surrounding heavy industrial activities. restaurants and take-away food outlets, as well as retailing from vehicle sales and other outdoor display and sales. Provision for sales from the Ashburton Saleyards recognises the historical use of this site, which is not otherwise permitted in the Business E Zone.

Limited and confined provision is made for larger scale supermarkets in the Business C and D zone within the Supermarket Overlay, as subject to appropriately managing amenity effects, transport effects, and any significant distributional (retail) effects on the town centre. This recognises that larger scale supermarkets are already established outside of the Business A zone or will be needed to meet the needs of the growing community. Redevelopment or establishing a large-scale modern supermarket could be difficult in the Business A zone given the fragmented property titles in the town centre.

With respect to ~~restaurants and take-away food~~ **food and beverage** outlets, these tend to be vehicle-oriented in many locations and their function is not necessarily related to the comparison retailing which is sought to be concentrated in the inner commercial areas. This function is not related to the size of the restaurant or take-away food outlet and it is not considered to be necessary to generally restrict the size of these activities either in Ashburton (Kapuka) or in other smaller townships. They also can serve an important service role for those engaged in or visiting industrial and business areas, often avoiding the need for vehicle travel when they are readily accessible.

The same option for such food sales is not however provided for in the Business F Zone, which is specific to meat processing, and where the scale of the Zone and inherent nature of the industrial environment does not lend itself to such activities. Accordingly, retailing is more limited in this zone to goods processed or manufactured on site.

### 5.7.17 Lighting

Illumination from lighting can interfere with the enjoyment of a property and with the sleep of occupiers; therefore the standard seeks to limit the amount and intensity of light spillage onto adjacent properties. Inappropriately directed lighting can also cause safety hazards on roads by distracting, confusing or temporarily blinding drivers. Where the receiving property is within a business zone the standard has been set to reflect the amount of illumination generally anticipated in the business areas of the District's towns, where there is already a degree of night-time illumination from street, security, shop window and other neighbourhood lighting.

Residential sites adjoining existing business zones are in some instances subject to increased illumination as a result of neighbouring business activities. In recognition of the sensitivity of residential areas the standards for activities within the Business Zones require those activities to meet acceptable residential illumination limits at the boundary of any property zoned residential.

### 5.7.18 Outline Development Plans

The purpose of these rules is to ensure that activities are located in areas that will assist in the avoidance, mitigation or remedying of adverse effects.

The Business F Zone (Appendices 5-1A, 5-1B, 5-1C and 5-1D) includes the plant and buildings of the meat processing plant at Seafield and surrounding land, as well as land at Northpark Road. Not all of the permitted activities are appropriate throughout the zone due to the potential for adverse effects to occur which may detrimentally affect environmental quality and amenity values. For example, food processing may be appropriate at the Northpark Road site, however, the slaughtering of animals or disposal of effluent are not activities that are considered suitable. The Outline Development Plan defines the appropriate location of activities and the Zone Standard requires compliance with this Plan. In the Business F Zone at Bridge Street the land surrounding the existing plant is zoned for meat processing activities. However, there is no provision for expansion, in order to ensure that a larger plant is not provided for which may contribute to cumulative adverse effects. The company has consent to dispose of its effluent on to the surrounding area and provision is made for this through the Outline Development Plan.

Ashburton Business Estate (Business E Zone. Appendix 5-2A) is located adjacent to Residential D Zone along its western boundaries. To ensure that business activities do not adversely affect the amenity values of the residential area it is necessary to control the location of potentially more objectionable or noxious industrial activities away from the residential boundary. Accordingly, the Business Estate has been divided into two Areas. Area 1 closest to the residential zone provides for offices, commercial, service and industrial activities with limitations on industrial activities adjoining the buffer zone and vehicle refuelling and maintenance. Additionally, standards in the Business zone rules require consent for undertaking Offensive Processes within the Business Estate.

Area 2 applies to that half of the site further away from the residential area and provides for heavier industrial activities including manufacturing and food and produce processing activities. Area 2 is adjacent to the Silver Fern Farms meat processing facility which is an established heavy processing activity and is not likely to be adversely affected by further industrial development on its boundary.

The reason for the part of the rule restricting the location of some activities to within buildings, is to ensure industrial activities located adjacent to the buffer area and residential zone do not adversely affect the amenity values of the residential area and therefore it is necessary to control the location of potentially more adverse industrial activities away from the residential boundary.

Whilst some industrial activities generally involve manufacture, assembly, processing or fabrication of a product it is seen as important to control this at the boundary such that there is a limited chance of noise or other industrial related effects such as odour or glare emanating across the buffer into the residential area. As the definition for an industrial activity is broad it is hard to determine the actual effects however if they are limited to within a building this will in itself act as mitigation and avoidance of potential effects. Council does not wish to see large scale activities operating outside of buildings where the site adjoins the buffer and where the likelihood of potential effects can occur.

The outline development plan puts in place a 75m buffer along the shared length of the Residential D / Business E boundary providing physical separation between residential and business activities. Seventy five metres provides sufficient width to incorporate mounding and sufficient distance to ensure that noise effects are mitigated to the district plan standard at the residential boundary. The limitation on window and door openings for buildings on sites directly adjoining the buffer provides further mitigation of any adverse noise effects at the residential boundary.

The buffer also provides space for landscape planting, stormwater treatment together with pedestrian and cycleway connections to the Business Zone.

The Business Estate provides an area for the Ashburton rail yard to be relocated away from the town centre to a new site. A rail yard has the potential to create adverse noise effects and the Outline Development Plan locates the yard in a location, where coupled with an appropriate noise barrier, noise standards at the residential boundary are anticipated to be met. This mitigation must be in place prior to the establishment of any rail activities within the zone. The rule requires the added measure of an acoustic report to satisfy Council that the acoustic barrier erected as mitigation is of an appropriate standard prior to the activity commencing.

The limitation on the number of access roads connecting with the local roading network and requirements for curved road alignments are to ensure that traffic is dispersed appropriately onto the wider roading network and that the roading layout accommodates easy access to those main road connections.

The Riverside industrial area comprises of Business D Zoned land situated on the lower river terraces along the western margin of Ashburton (Kapuka) township. It provides a significant area for future light industrial activity to establish beyond the extent of existing development, but the zoning is first dependent upon achieving suitable access routes into the area from the south that avoid associated traffic directly impacting on neighbouring residential areas. The Outline Development Plan addresses these access matters, and also stipulates necessary boundary setback buffer distances, including landscaping requirements and building restrictions within those buffers.

Another Outline Development Plan exists for the Business E Zone at Rakaia, specifying setback, access, building and landscape requirements in relation to the State Highway and adjoining residential land. These are directed to protecting amenity values, particularly where the Business E Zone directly adjoins a residential zone, and also to maintaining the safe and effective functioning of the State Highway.

The Outline Development Plan for the Silver Fern Farms meat processing facility at Fairton sets out the activities that can be undertaken within Area 1 and Area 2. Area 1 provides for Meat Processing, Food and Produce Processing as permitted activities whereas Area 2 provides for the treatment/disposal of wastewater, forestry and farming activities only. The company has consent to dispose of its effluent within Area 2 and provision is made for this through the Outline Development Plan.



### 5.7.19 Community Activities

Community activities are permitted within the Business A, B and C Zones as these both adjoin and provide for residential activities. The character of these areas and scale of buildings often means that such activities are compatible with the existing environment. In addition, the Business A, B and C Zones attract large numbers of visitors and have a higher amenity than other business zones, and therefore are considered appropriate locations for community activities.

Within the Business D Zone not every site may be appropriate for community activities and as such, they will be assessed as discretionary activities. Consideration will be given to matters such as the appropriateness of the community facility within the Business D Zone; alternative locations; the number of visitors it may attract and the frequency of visits, as well as whether these will be outside the normal operating hours of the surrounding businesses; and the nature of adjoining business activities.

Community activities are generally not considered appropriate within the Business E and F Zones due to the nature of activities occurring there, and the potential for high numbers of visitors to potentially conflict with heavy traffic.

### 5.7.20 Recreational Activities

Recreational activities are considered appropriate within the Business A, B and C Zones. These Zones have a generally high level of amenity and attract high numbers of visitors, therefore recreational activities would not be considered inappropriate or in conflict with existing activities.

Within the Business D and E Zones, such activities may be appropriate on some sites and will be assessed as discretionary activities. For example, a cycle track or skate park within an industrial area may be appropriate depending upon the nature of adjoining activities, their hours of operation, and effects such as noise and odour and vehicle/pedestrian safety.

It is not anticipated that recreational activities will be considered appropriate in very many circumstances within the Business F Zone due to the nature of activities that occur there. Adverse effects such as noise and smell make this Zone generally inappropriate for such pursuits.

Throughout the business zones shooting ranges, as a recreational activity, have the potential to generate their own adverse effects (e.g. noise) and accordingly are not permitted in the more sensitive Business A and B Zones, but are identified as discretionary activities in the remaining business areas of the district.

### 5.7.21 Industrial Activities and Mineral Extraction

These rules generally seek to prevent the establishment of activities with potentially significant adverse effects in locations close to residential areas or in business areas which have a high standard of amenity.

Mineral extraction is considered inappropriate in the Business A, B and C Zones. These zones are areas where people will congregate and anticipate a pleasant working environment in which to conduct shopping, business and social activities. The potential effects of mineral extraction, such as increased

noise, vibration, fumes, dust and heavy traffic are considered incompatible with the level of amenity anticipated.

Even within the Business D and E Zones, mineral extraction is not considered appropriate as it would require large tracts of land to be taken out of use by business activities. In addition, the location of the majority of these zones close to urban areas makes them inappropriate for such mineral extraction, as adverse effects such as noise and traffic generation affect sites beyond the boundaries of the business zones.

Industrial activities are also considered inappropriate in the Business A and B Zones. These zones are intended for the development of retail, tourist related services and also community and recreational activities to serve the needs of the local community. The potential effects of industrial activities such as increased noise, vibration, or heavy traffic are considered incompatible with the level of amenity anticipated.

Industrial activity has a broad definition that may incorporate a range of activities. It is appropriate to provide for industrial activities in the Business C Zone in recognition of the fact that often manufacturing processes may be a complementary part of a retail sale or service business e.g. jewellery manufacture. It is therefore appropriate to make industrial activity a Discretionary Activity in this zone and assess the suitability and effects of such developments (including effects on adjoining businesses) on a site by site basis.

Industrial activities are permitted within the Business D and E Zones as these have historically been areas of manufacturing and industrial activity. As such, these are areas of low amenity with large buildings, outdoor storage and substantial areas of impermeable surfaces with little or no landscaping. These areas are often located away from residential areas and therefore provide an opportunity for industrial activities to operate without reverse sensitivity effects that may prevent the operation or expansion of such activities.

Industrial activities, except for those related to meat and food and produce processing, are incompatible with the activities in the Business F Zone due to the potential noxiousness of effects created by these activities. With respect to the Business F Zone in Bridge Street it is not appropriate to provide for a broadened range of activities as the site is more suited in the long-term for Residential zoning given the nature of surrounding land uses and the location of the zone in proximity to the urban boundary. The facilities at Fairton and Seafeld are purpose-built facilities and the range of permitted activities already encompasses all food, produce and meat related processing activities.

#### **5.7.22 Forestry and Intensive Farming Activities**

Forestry and intensive farming activities have the potential to generate effects which are incompatible with the levels of amenity values sought in business zones in urban areas. Effects include odour, visual impact, dust, noise, overshadowing, and dominance of outlook and loss of security. Within the Business F Zone however, forestry is permitted as these zones are located within rural areas where forestry is provided for in the surrounding areas and is a compatible land use. Intensive farming is not provided for in the Business F Zone due to the potential adverse effects created by this activity on the surrounding environment in terms of odour.

### **5.7.23 Farming and Food, Produce and Meat Processing Activities**

Farming is not provided for in the majority of the Business Zones in recognition of the effects that can arise from that diverse activity. Those effects can relate to impacts such as odour, dust, noise and visual impact which could be detrimental to many business activities, depending on the circumstances of the site. It is also recognised that many areas zoned for business activity are within or adjoin urban areas and residential areas in particular, where high levels of amenity are to be protected. Farming is however permitted in the Business F Zone reflecting the location of the zone within rural surroundings and the compatibility of uses in that context.

Meat processing activities similarly are generally not provided for outside of the Business F Zone which is specifically intended for that purpose. Meat processing is however contemplated in the Business E Zone as a Restricted Discretionary Activity given it is an offensive process, but is a non-complying activity within the part of the Ashburton Business Estate (Area 1) located nearest to the neighbouring residential zone.

Food and produce processing also is permitted in the Business F Zone. It is a Discretionary Activity in the majority of Business E Zone recognising the heavy industrial nature of that zone, but also the possibility of effects arising from such processing, including odour. Like meat processing it also is a non-complying activity in Area 1 of the Business Estate recognising the sensitivity of the neighbouring residencies.

Meat, food and produce processing are not anticipated to locate within the Business A-D Zones given amenity values within and surrounding those locations, and also issues of compatibility with activities provided for in those zones.

### **5.7.24 Service and Commercial Activities**

Controls over these activities in the various Business Zones support achieving the outcomes sought for those areas, particularly in respect of desired amenity values and also ensuring the compatibility of activities occurring both within and adjoining these zones.

Both are seen as unlikely to be acceptable in the Business F Zone, given its nature and very specific purpose. However, an exception has been made for Lot 1 DP 46816 as shown on Appendix 5-1A (Area 2) to enable Service Activities to establish on this site. It is also appropriate to manage activities of a commercial nature in the heavier industrial areas through a consent process, given their potential to attract people to those premises and the types of effects arising from industry nearby. Commercial activities are however generally anticipated in all other business locations, including town centres.

Service activities tend to involve storage, repair or maintenance elements which can be more compatible with medium to heavier industry. Accordingly they are generally anticipated in the Business C, D and E Zones, but may be less suited to locations within the more commercial and retail oriented Business A and B Zones. These activities can also attract high vehicle numbers and in themselves give rise to adverse effects (e.g. noise, visual distraction) making them less suited to these business areas.

### 5.7.25 Flood Risk

Low lying areas may be subject to flooding or inundation during significant rainfall events. The Riverside industrial area is located immediately adjacent to the Ashburton River (Hakatere) and thus activities, buildings and people need to be protected from flood risk. The flood risk rule requires new buildings in this location to have a minimum floor height so as to reduce that risk.

## 5.8 Rules – Business Zone

### 5.8.1 District Wide Rules

Attention is drawn to the following District-Wide Rules which may apply in addition to any relevant Zone Rules to activities undertaken in the Business Zones. If any one or more of the District-Wide Rules is breached, the activity may require consent in respect of those rules.

Subdivision	(Refer Section 9)
Transport	(Refer Section 10)
Noise	(Refer Section 11)
Heritage Values and Protected Trees	(Refer Section 12)
Signs	(Refer Section 13)
Utilities, Energy and Designations	(Refer Section 14)
Relocated Buildings and Temporary Activities	(Refer Section 15)
Hazardous Substances	(Refer Section 16)
Definitions	(Refer Section 17)

### 5.8.2 Permitted Activities

The following shall be permitted activities, provided that they comply with all the relevant Site and Zone Standards below and all relevant District Wide Rules, and are not otherwise specified as a controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or prohibited activity:

- a) **Residential Activity** in the Business A, B and C Zones;
- b) **Residential Activity**, for the purpose of custodial and site management, in the Business D, E and F Zones;
- c) **Visitor Accommodation** in the Business A, B and C Zones;
- d) **Community Activity** in the Business A, B and C Zones;
- e) **Recreational Activity** (excluding shooting ranges) in the Business A, B and C Zones;
- f) **Retail Activity** (excluding service stations) in the Business A Zone, other than where specified as a Controlled, Discretionary or Non-Complying Activity, ~~provided that:~~
  - ~~the maximum gross floor area of any individual retail tenancy shall not exceed 500m<sup>2</sup>;~~
- g) **Retail Activity** in the Business B Zone, other than where specified as a ~~Discretionary~~ **Non-Complying Activity**, provided that:
  - retail display and sales shall be limited to single retail outlets, each with a minimum gross floor area of 500m<sup>2</sup> located within buildings,

except that this limitation shall not apply to:

- 
- service stations for which any indoor retail floor area shall not exceed 150m<sup>2</sup> in area;
  - **food and beverage** restaurants and take-away food outlets;
  - **trade suppliers** vehicle sales and other outdoor display and sales.
  - **Yard based suppliers.**
  - lotto kiosk or café associated with and ancillary to supermarkets
- h) ~~Retail Activity~~ in the Business C Zone, other than where specified as a Non-Complying Activity, provided that:
- ~~the maximum gross floor area of any individual retail tenancy shall not exceed 750m<sup>2</sup>,~~
  - ~~except that this limitation shall not apply to:~~
  - ~~service stations for which any indoor retail floor area shall not exceed 150m<sup>2</sup> in area;~~
  - ~~vehicle sales and other outdoor display and sales.~~
- h) **Retail Activity** in the Business **C and D** and E Zones, other than where specified as a Non-Complying Activity, provided that:
- retail display and sales shall be limited to single retail outlets selling goods produced or processed on the site and may include only ancillary products to goods produced or processed on the site, each with a minimum gross floor area of 150m<sup>2</sup> located within buildings,
- except that this limitation shall not apply to:
- **food and beverage** restaurants and take-away food outlets;
  - **trade suppliers** vehicle sales and other outdoor display and sales.
  - **Yard based suppliers.**
  - The display and sale of livestock and the sale of refreshments to persons attending sales events at the Ashburton Saleyards (Lot 2 DP 46305 and Pt RS 20425 Blk IV Hinds (Hekeao) SD).
- i) **Retail Activity** in the Business **E and F** Zone, other than where specified as a **Restricted Discretionary or** Non-Complying Activity, limited to:
- retail display and sales of goods processed or manufactured on site;
  - **The display and sale of livestock and the sale of refreshments to persons attending sales events at the Ashburton Saleyards (Lot 2 DP 46305 and Pt RS 20425 Blk IV Hinds (Hekeao) SD).**
- j) **Commercial Activity** (excluding Retail Activity) in the Business A, B, C and D Zones;

- 
- k) **Office Activity in the Business B, C, D and E Zone where these are Ancillary Activities which occupy no more than 30% of the GFA of all buildings on the same site;**
  - l) **Commercial Services within the Business C Zone;**
  - m) **Entertainment Activities within the Business C Zone;**
  - n) **Service Activity** in the Business C, D and E Zones, and in Area 2 of the Business F zone located on Bremners/Northpark Roads (as shown on the ODP in Appendix 5-1A);
  - o) **Industrial Activity** in the Business D and E Zone;
  - p) **Food and Produce Processing, and ancillary Office activities which occupy no more than 30% of the GFA of all buildings on the same site** in the Business F Zone;
  - q) **Meat Processing, and ancillary Office activities which occupy no more than 30% of the GFA of all buildings on the same site** in the Business F Zone, except on land held in CT181321 or on the site known as 150 Fairfield Road, Fairton;
  - r) **Farming Activity** in the Business F Zone;
  - s) **Forestry Activity** in the Business F Zone.

### 5.8.3 Controlled Activities

- a) Supermarkets (grocery stores) in the Business A Zone (except the Ashburton Township) that have a gross floor area ~~exceeding 500m<sup>2</sup> but do not exceeding~~ **have a gross floor area greater than 1,200m<sup>2</sup>.**

Council has reserved matters of control to the following:

- the extent to which the activity will adversely affect the function, integrity, convenience and viability of the Business A Zone;
- the potential for fragmentation of retailing activity;
- the ability of existing infrastructure, such as car parking and the roading network, to meet the needs generated by the proposed activity;
- protecting pedestrian safety and convenience.

- b) Area 1: Ashburton Business Estate

All buildings and additions or alterations to existing buildings within Area 1 shall be controlled activities.

Council has reserved matters of control to assessment in accordance with the Ashburton Business Estate Design Guidelines, Appendix 5-2B.

### 5.8.4 Restricted Discretionary Activities

- a) Any Activity which is listed as a Permitted Activity and which complies with all of the relevant Zone Standards, but does not comply with any one or more of the relevant Site Standards shall be a Restricted Discretionary Activity. The exercise of the Council's discretion being restricted



to the matter(s) specified in the assessment matters in 5.11.

- b) Food and Beverage outlets in the Business E zone. The exercise of the Council's discretion being restricted to the matters specified in 5.11.16.**
- c) Supermarkets in the Business C and Business D zones located wholly within the Supermarket Overlay. The exercise of the Council's discretion being restricted to the matters specified in 5.11.17.**

#### 5.8.5 Discretionary Activities

- a) **Residential Activity** in the Business D Zone, other than where specified as a Permitted Activity;
- b) **Visitor Accommodation** in the Business D Zone;
- c) **Community Activity** in the Business D Zone;
- d) **Recreation Activity** (including shooting ranges) in the Business D and E Zones;
- e) Shooting ranges in the Business C Zone;
- f) ~~**Retail Activity**~~ **Service Stations** in the Business A Zone, ~~other than where specified as a Controlled Activity, where any individual retail tenancy exceeds 500m<sup>2</sup> gross floor area;~~
- g) **Retail Activity** in the Business B Zone, other than where specified as a Permitted Activity or Non-Complying Activity where:
  - ~~retail display and sales are within buildings less than 500m<sup>2</sup> gross floor area;~~
  - service stations have an indoor retail floor area exceeding 150m<sup>2</sup>;
- h) ~~**Commercial Office Activity**~~ (excluding Retail Activity) in the Business **B, C, D and E** Zone except where these are Ancillary Activities which occupy no more than 30% of the GFA of all buildings on the same site;
- i) **Retail Activity in the Business C Zone, other than where specified as a Permitted Activity or Non-Complying Activity, where the maximum gross floor area of any individual retail tenancy shall not exceed 500m<sup>2</sup>.**
- j) **Service Activity** in the Business A and B Zones;
- k) **Industrial Activity** in the Business C Zone;
- l) **Food and Produce Processing** in the Business E Zone except within Area 1 of the Ashburton Business Estate;
- m) **Mineral Extraction** in the Business F Zone;

#### 5.8.6 Non-Complying Activities

- a) Any Activity which does not comply with any one or more of the relevant Zone Standards shall be a Non-Complying Activity, provided that they are not listed as a Prohibited Activity;

- 
- b) All activities unless listed as Permitted, Controlled, Restricted Discretionary, Discretionary or Prohibited Activities are Non-Complying;
  - c) **Residential Activity** in the Business E and F Zones, except where listed as Permitted Activity;
  - d) **Visitor Accommodation** in the Business E and F Zones;
  - e) **Community Activity** in the Business E and F Zones;
  - f) **Recreation Activity** (including shooting ranges) in the Business F Zone;
  - g) Shooting ranges in the Business A and B Zones;
  - h) **Service Stations** in the Business A Zone;
  - i) **Retail Activity in the Business B Zone up to a gross floor area of 500m<sup>2</sup> per tenancy; other than where specified as a Permitted Activity or Discretionary Activity, where:**
    - ~~retail display and sales up to a gross floor area of 500m<sup>2</sup> per tenancy;~~
  - j) **Retail Activity** in the Business C and D Zone, other than where specified as a Permitted Activity or Discretionary Activity:
    - ~~the maximum gross floor area of any individual retail tenancy exceeds 750m<sup>2</sup>;~~
    - ~~service stations have an indoor retail floor area exceeding 150m<sup>2</sup>;~~
  - k) ~~**Retail Activity** in the Business D and E Zones, where it involves retail display and sales exceeding the limits listed in the permitted activity rule (5.8.2 i) above);~~
  - l) **Retail Activity** in the Business E and F Zone, other than where it involves retail display and sales of goods not processed or manufactured on site specified as a Permitted Activity;
  - m) **Commercial Activity** (excluding Retail Activity) in the Business F Zone;
  - n) **Commercial Services within the Business B, D, E and F zones.**
  - o) **Entertainment Activities within the Business B, D, E and F zones.**
  - p) **Service Activity** in the Business F Zone unless specified as a permitted activity under rule 5.8.2;
  - q) **Industrial Activity** in the Business A, B and F Zones;
  - r) **Food and Produce Processing** in the Business Zones A, B, C and D Zones and within Area 1 of the Ashburton Business Estate in the Business E Zone;
  - s) **Meat Processing** in the Business A, B, C and D Zones and Area 1 of the Ashburton Business Estate in the Business E Zone and on land held in CT181321 or on the site known as 150 Fairfield Road, Fairton;
  - t) **Farming Activity** in the Business Zones A, B, C, D and E Zones;
-

- u) **Forestry Activity** in the Business Zones A, B, C, D and E Zones;
- v) **Mineral Extraction** in the Business Zones A, B, C, D and E Zones;
- w) **Intensive Livestock Management** in the Business A, B, C, D E and F Zones.

### 5.8.7 Prohibited Activities

The following activities shall be Prohibited Activities:

- a) Any provision for vehicular access to any site or activity in the Business E Zone from Tait's Road.

### 5.8.8 Notification / Consultation / Notes

Resource consents in relation to the following matters shall not be publicly or limited notified:

Residential and Visitor accommodation	Site Standard 5.9.15
---------------------------------------	----------------------

Resource consents in relation to the following matters shall not be publicly notified:

Setback from Stopbanks and Water bodies	Site Standard 5.9.10
Flood Risk	Zone Standard 5.10.5

Consultation with the Canterbury Regional Council will be important in the assessment of resource consent applications in relation to the following standards:

Setback from Stopbanks and Water bodies	Site Standard 5.9.10
Flood Risk	Zone Standard 5.10.5

Notes:

- Please note that the Resource Management (National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health) Regulations 2011 may be applicable to your site/property.

## 5.9 Site Standards.....

### 5.11 Assessment Matters

Note: When considering any application for resource consent, the Council may also choose to consider how a proposal responds to urban design principles and relevant matters contained in the Ministry for the Environment Urban Design Protocol 2005.

#### 5.11.1 Height of Buildings

- a) The extent of any adverse effects on the environment from exceeding a maximum height and in particular the effect of any increased building height on the visual character of the area and compatibility with the scale of adjoining buildings.

.....

#### 5.11.16 Food and Beverage Outlets in the Business E zone

- a) The extent to which the scale of the activity is consistent with, and serves the needs of workers and visitors to the Business E zone;
- b) the effect of the activity on the ability of existing or future permitted industrial activities to operate or establish without undue constraint.

#### 5.11.17 Supermarkets in the Supermarket Overlay

##### Transport

- (a) the extent of effects of intensity and scale of the activity and management of accessways and the generation of vehicle movements in terms of the safety, efficiency and effectiveness of the transport network.

##### Amenity

- (b) The effects of the operation of the activity on the existing and anticipated amenity of the surrounding area, taking into account any practicable mitigation measures to manage those effects, and the functional and operational requirements of the supermarket.
- (c) The effects of the design and location of the building, servicing areas, parking arrangements and landscaping on the visual amenity of the streetscape and on pedestrian activity, taking into account the extent that landscaping (including required landscaping) and design of the buildings (including materiality, modulation and colour) contribute to the amenity values of people using or passing through public space.
- (d) The effects of location, design and management of storage, back of house, and servicing facilities on the reasonable amenity of neighbouring properties, including potential visual effects and any nighttime noise effects, taking into account adequacy of access for service vehicles.

Reverse Sensitivity

(e) any location, design and/or operational characteristics which could give rise to potential reverse sensitivity effects of such significance as to inhibit or discourage existing and anticipated industrial activities from operating in the zone.

Distributional Effects

(f) *Whether the size, composition and characteristics of the proposed supermarket **activity will** cause significant adverse effects on the function, role and amenity of the Business A zone.*

~~(g) the effects of the size, composition and characteristics of supermarket activities proposed on the existing and expected future function, role and amenity of the Business A zone.~~

.....

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**Contents**

**Section 17: Definitions**

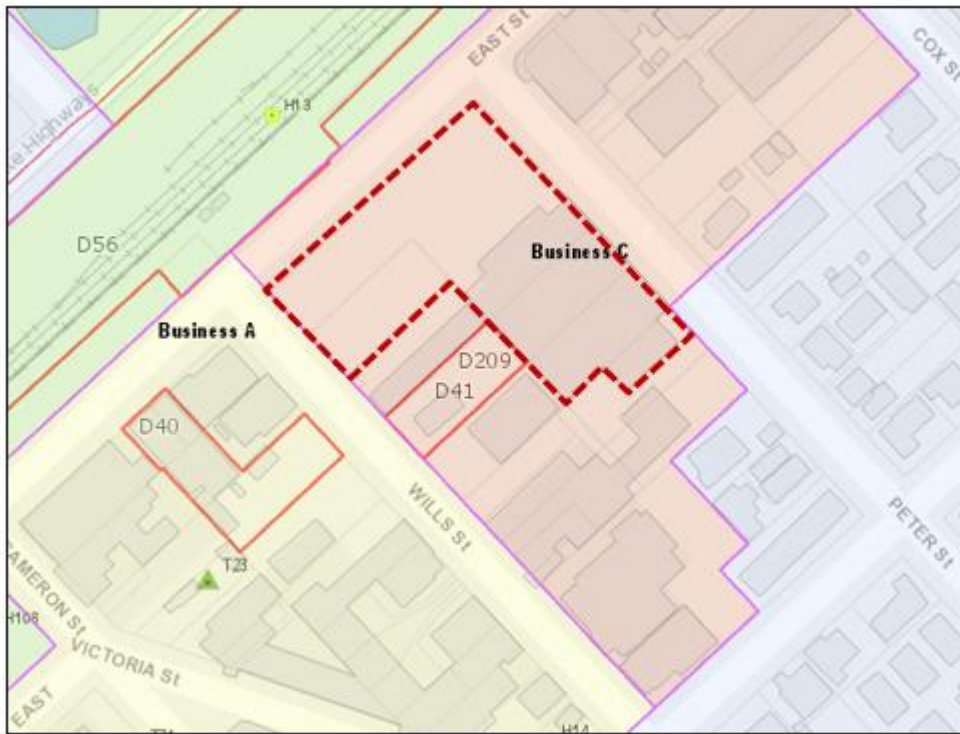
17.1	General Definitions.....	17-1
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<u><b>Supermarket</b></u>	<u>means an individual retail outlet that sells a comprehensive range of food, beverage and other disposable goods such as fresh meat and produce; chilled, frozen, packaged, canned and bottled foodstuffs and beverages; and general housekeeping and personal goods.</u>
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*Note: Remainder of Definitions as PC4 as notified*

## Planning Maps

Insert 'Supermarket Overlay' as shown.

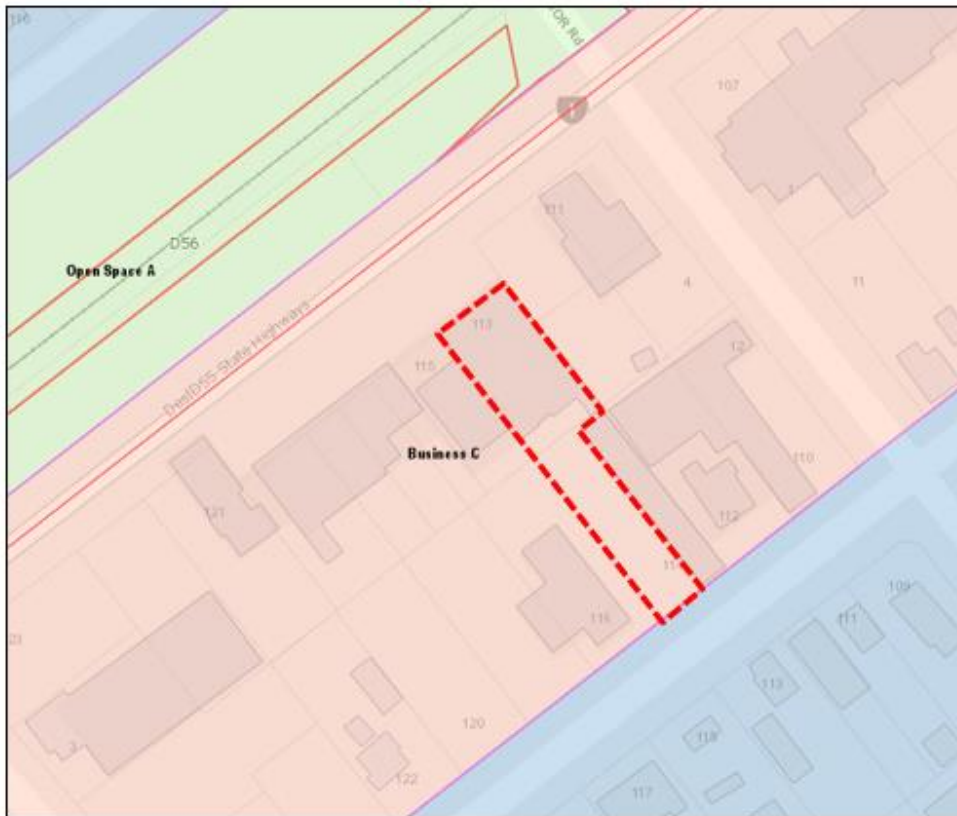


**Countdown Peter  
Street (zoned  
Business C)**



**Countdown Smiths  
Street (zoned  
Business D)**





**Tinwald Supersale  
(zoned Business C)**



**407 East Street**