

Before the Independent Hearings Panel at Gore District Council

Under Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991

In the matter of Hearing Submissions and Further submissions on the Proposed
Gore District Plan.

Hearing Stream 12 Right of Reply of Joanne Skuse on behalf of Gore District Council

Date: 8 April 2025

Introduction:

1. My full name is Joanne Skuse. My Hearing Stream 3 Section 42A report sets out my qualifications and experience as an expert in planning.
2. I confirm that I am continuing to abide by the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses set out in the Environment Court's practice Note 2023, as applicable to this independent hearing panel.
3. I have prepared this statement of evidence to provide a response to the request by the Hearing Panel during the Hearing Stream 12 Wrap Up hearing, regarding the extent of highly productive land in the Gore district.

Highly Productive Land Extent in Gore:

4. The panel has requested further information on the extent of coverage of highly productive land in the Gore district.
5. The Section 32 report for the Rural zones outlines at page 9 that the Gore district has some LUC 1 and LUC 2 soil, but predominantly contains LUC 3 soil. A map is provided within the Section 32 report and is attached at **Appendix A** of this right of reply. The mapping is sourced from the New Zealand Land Resource Inventory (NZLRI).
6. Gore has the second highest quantity of LUC 1, 2 and 3 land, second only to Matamata-Piako district. Whilst the map at Appendix A provides a visual representation of HPL coverage, statistically, 57.27% of the district is considered Highly Productive.
7. A breakdown by LUC area is provided below.

	Total District Area (Ha)	Land Use Class Area (Ha)
Gore District	125,390	71,814
LUC 1	125,390	1,097
LUC 2	125,390	9,795
LUC 3	125,390	60,923

Signed:



Joanne Skuse
Consultant Planner

8 April 2025

Appendix 1: Highly Productive Soils in Gore