

PLAN HARCOURT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS SHEET 5 - AGRICULTURAL LAND USES

How are existing agricultural uses to be protected from residential encroachment?

Planning Scheme Amendment C94malx recognises the importance of agriculture in the Harcourt Valley and its contributions to the Harcourt economy, tourism, history and character.

The Amendment seeks to protect existing agricultural activities by proposing to retract the town boundary in certain locations so that land cannot be rezoned that is located immediately adjacent to existing horticultural uses, and applying a Development Plan Overlay (DPO) to land being rezoned from Farming Zone to Neighbourhood Residential Zone. This DPO seeks to specifically require that subdivision layouts are designed to have interface/buffer treatments between future residences and agricultural land to reduce the chance of conflicting land use or potential adverse impacts on amenity.

What other efforts are being recommended to protect agriculture?

Planning Scheme Amendment C94malx recognises the agritourism opportunities in Harcourt and recommends local planning policy to better support this. This includes supporting tourism uses in and around the town of Harcourt, particularly where they support local industries or promote indigenous cultural heritage and teachings.

Any other question not answered here?

Please see the other fact sheets specifically for existing residents, businesses and horticultural producers, visit www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/PlanHarcourt or contact Strategic Planning by email info@mountalexander.vic.gov.au or phone (03) 5471 1700.