

# CSG – Grower Feedback

2 February 2016 Garth Wilcox and Chris Keenan



# CSG – Grower Feedback arable

- Arable feedback limited
- 1 grower, written feedback from FAR
- Likely to want a slightly different path in the absence of an industry scheme
- But similar issues identified with respect to the rule framework
- Define “arable cropping”??

# Growers mood and view

“Not the best news you’ve given us” - 31 growers attended

- Generally accept the situation and know change is coming
- Rotation – preserving the system that has been established over thousands of years is vital: sharing, leasing, swapping and mixing the growing ground is essential
- Need access to a bank of land to crop on – but do not use that land every year and quite often only occasionally over a ten year period
- Consolidation: smaller growers are leaving and larger growers are accessing some of that land, so size will change but overall access to land is diminishing

# Explicit comments

“Rule 2 is unsustainable / irresponsible if we are going to maintain rotation.”

How do we replace the land being lost to Auckland?

Waikato and Auckland Councils are not working together, and growers are in the middle of that

# Direction for CK, Garth

Tailored approach for vegetables based on no significant increase in total area

Access to a wider land base allowable

Needs to be governed / managed through a direct relationship with Council

Consent maybe required – controlled activity

Transfers allowable s. 137 (variations)

# Consent required

Farm plan should be bulk of the work

Compliance, fees, charges a real concern

“The consent should be 2 pages”

Seeking a fair duration