

IN THE MATTER OF the Resource Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER OF

Proposed Plan Changes 82A&B, 88A-J, 109, 115, 136, 143, 144, 145, 147 & 148 - Urban and Services, as Adopted for notification by Whangarei District Council on 18 April 2019.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991
MEMO #2 – CLOSING OF HEARING AND TIMESCALES MOVING FORWARD

1. Whangarei District Council notified Proposed Plan Changes 82A&B, 88A-J, 109, 115, 136, 143, 144, 145, 147 & 148 - Urban and Services on 8 May 2019, with Submissions closing on 3 July 2019 and Further Submissions closing on 28 August 2019.
2. Pursuant to section 34A of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), Whangarei District Council (“Council”) has delegated to Richard Knott (Chair), Rachel Dimery and Bill Smith, Independent Hearing Commissioners, the power to hear and make recommendations on Plan Changes 82A&B, 88A-J, 109, 115, 136, 143, 144, 145, 147 & 148.
3. A hearing on the matter commenced on the 25 November 2019 and was adjourned on 10 December 2019. The Council’s Right of Reply was provided on the 31st January 2020. In Memo 1 we indicated that we had identified matters where we would like clarification from the Council. We have now posed all of our questions and received responses from the Council.
4. Following the receipt of these responses, the Hearing was closed on the 20 March 2020.
5. It had been our aim to pass our recommendation reports to Council at the end of March. We have been very carefully working our way through submissions, evidence and the Council reports and reply. Due to the volume of this work we will not be able to meet this date but aim to complete these and pass them through as soon as possible.
6. The current Covid-19 Alert Level 4 provides us with challenges, as three commissioners based in different locations. However, we have already adopted new ways of sharing and discussing information and overall do not consider that Level 4 will have a significant impact on the timescale for the provision of our reports.
7. Council has cancelled meetings during April and the current expectation is that the matter will be considered during May.

8. Any questions relating to this Memo is to be sent through Eden Edwardson, Support Assistant, District Plan Department, Whangarei District Council, eden.edwardson@wdc.govt.nz.



Richard Knott
Chair, Hearings Panel
27th March 2019