

**IN THE MATTER of
the Resource Management Act 1991**

AND

**IN THE MATTER of
hearing of submissions and further
submissions on the Proposed
Waimakariri District Plan**

AND

**of hearing of submissions and further
submissions on Variations 1 and 2 to the
Proposed Waimakariri District Plan**

**MINUTE 22 – REQUESTS FOR
EXTENSIONS OF TIME FOR PROVISION
OF EVIDENCE FOR HEARING STREAM 12,
RELOCATION OF ECO CHAPTER AND
EXPERT CONFERENCING**

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this Minute is to:
 - a. Formally record and respond to a further request for an extensions to the provision of evidence for Hearing Stream 12. Evidence was due to be submitted no later than Tuesday 5th March 2024
 - b. Respond to the Memorandum of Counsel for Rolleston Industrial Developments Ltd (RIDL) and Carter Group Property Ltd (Carter) (RIDL Memo) regarding expert conferencing
 - c. Respond to the Memorandum from Council (Council Memo) seeking to further relocate the Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity hearing to Hearing Stream 7.

REQUESTS FOR EXTENSION

2. The Hearings Panel received an additional request for an extension of time to provide evidence for Hearing Stream 12 from Howard Stone [s191].
3. The Hearings Panel has considered the request under s37 of the RMA, which is available on the [Council website](#). The request sets out the length of extension sought, what the extension is for, and the reasons for the requested extension. We have not repeated these here. The Hearings Panel has granted the extension for Howard Stone with the reasons being for the personal circumstances of the planner and the short extension sought. We consider no parties are prejudiced by this extension.

EXPERT CONFERENCING

4. The RIDL Memo of 12 March 2024 is available on the [Council website](#). It seeks:
 - a. An additional question of “what is the relevant ‘urban environment’ for the purposes of the NPS-UD?” is added to the planning expert conferencing;
 - b. That the planning conferencing occurs prior to economic conferencing on the sufficiency of development capacity;
 - c. That parties are given time to review Hearing Stream 12 evidence and propose additional questions for conferencing; and
 - d. That Mr Sellars is included in the economic expert conferencing.
5. The IHP did not intend that the questions that they posed for expert conferencing in Minute 20 to be the only questions conferenced on and anticipated that those participating in the conferencing would include other questions that they considered to be relevant and helpful to the IHP through the hearing and in their deliberations. In saying that, we support the inclusion of the question sought.
6. It was also not intended that the IHP was the arbiter on who attended expert conferencing; rather that this would be discussed with the Council in setting up the

conferencing. However, the IHP has no concerns with Mr Sellars attending the economic expert conferencing.

7. In terms of the sequencing of the conferencing, if a different sequencing is preferable, experts are encouraged to liaise with the Council to agree to a different sequence that best enables conferencing questions to be approached and addressed in the best possible way.

RELOCATION OF ECOSYSTEMS AND INDIGENOUS BIODIVERSITY HEARING

8. The Council Memo of 11 March 2024 is available on the [Council website](#). It seeks the further relocation of the Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity (ECO) Chapter hearing to Hearing Stream 7, instead of Hearing Stream 11. The primary reason of seeking the relocation is resourcing constraints.
9. The Hearings Panel notes the short notice sought for the relocation of this Chapter, which was to be heard in April. We are sympathetic to the reasons expressed by the reporting officer, and have also further noted the Associate Environment Minister's press announcement of the 14th March 2024 which states that the "Government has agreed to suspend the requirement for councils to comply with the Significant Natural Areas (SNA) provisions of the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity for three years". We therefore agree to its relocation to Hearing Stream 7. We expect the impact of this statement to be addressed through the s42A report when it is provided to parties.
10. We have updated Minute 1 to reflect this change, as well as the Hearing Stream 12 sub-streams.

CORRESPONDENCE

11. Submitters and other hearing participants must not attempt to correspond with or contact the Hearings Panel members directly. All correspondence relating to the hearing must be addressed to the Hearings Administrator on 0800 965 468 or developmentplanning@wmk.govt.nz.



Gina Sweetman

Independent Commissioner – Chair - on behalf of the IHP and PDP Panel members

15 March 2024