

**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 11 – UPDATED HEARING
SCHEDULE AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST
REGISTER, NPS-IB AND STRATEGIC
DIRECTIONS**

PURPOSE

- (1) The purpose of this Minute is to:
 - (a) Provide parties with an updated hearing schedule, including details of Panel composition and hearing venue.
 - (b) Alert parties to an updated conflict of interest register
 - (c) Respond to the Council memorandum on the National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity (NPS-IB) and set out next steps
 - (d) Respond to Council's memorandum of 29 September 2023 regarding strategic directions.

UPDATED HEARING SCHEDULE

- (2) In response to a request by the Council officers to defer Hearing Stream 7, the Hearings Panel has updated the Hearing Schedule set out in Minute 1.
- (3) The particular updates to note are:
 - (a) Hearing Stream 7 will now commence on 18 March 2024, and will be heard solely by the Independent Hearings Panel (IHP)
 - (b) Hearing Stream 10 has been split into Hearing Stream 10 and 10A and will commence on 19 February 2024. HS10 will be on the Special Purpose Zones and heard by the full Hearings Panel. Hearing Stream 10A will be on the Future Development Areas and the Airport-related matters and will be heard by the IHP
 - (c) Hearing Stream 9 will still commence on 29 January 2024 and will be heard by the IHP
 - (d) Hearing Stream 11 will commence on 15 April 2024 and will be heard by the Hearings Panel. Hearing Stream 8 will also commence the same week and will be heard by the IHP, following Hearing Stream 11
 - (e) Hearing Stream 12, the rezonings, will commence on 27 May 2024
- (4) Hearing Stream 6 is being held at the Town Hall. Future venue locations will be advised in advance of each hearing stream.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

- (5) The Conflict of Interest Register has been updated over the last couple of months. The register is available on the [Council website](#).

NPS-IB – NEXT STEPS

- (6) The Hearings Panel received the Council's memorandum on the NPS-IB on 25 September 2023. The memorandum is available on the [Council website](#). Submitters with an interest in this matter will have the opportunity to comment on the memorandum in Hearing Stream 11, which deals with the ECO - Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity Chapter and related matters, commencing on 15 April 2024.

- (7) The Panel does note, however, that its understanding of Clause 25(4) of Schedule 1 of the RMA is that this only applies to private plan changes and not Council initiated plan changes. The Council may wish to reconsider this in its advice in Hearing Stream 11.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS – NEXT STEPS

- (8) The Hearings Panel has reviewed the Council’s memorandum of 29 September on Strategic Directions, available on the [Council website](#). Having done so, we direct that when preparing any future s42A reports the Council s42A report authors are to include their own professional assessment of any potential implications that may arise on the particular chapter’s objectives should the objectives in the Strategic Directions Chapter (SD and UFD) be given primacy, or not. This is to be carried out in accordance with the approach set out in paragraph 9 of Mr Buckley’s memorandum dated 29 September 2023.
- (9) To ensure that natural justice and fair process applies, we also hereby direct that the s42A report authors for Hearing Streams 2, 3, 4 and 5 are to provide memorandums which set out their own professional assessment of the same matter. This is to be provided to the Hearings Panel no later than **4pm Friday 8 December 2023**.
- (10) In fairness for the s42A report authors for Hearing Stream 6, the s42A report authors are to provide their assessments in their Reply Reports, after the hearing.
- (11) The Hearings Panel intends to revisit the submissions that seek that the Strategic Directions have primacy in its wrap-up hearing in Hearing Stream 11.

CORRESPONDENCE

- (12) 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, Audrey Benbrook, on 0800 965 468 or audrey.benbrook@wmk.govt.nz.



Gina Sweetman

Independent Commissioner – Chair - on behalf of the Hearings Panel members

2 October 2023