

**MANAWATU-WANGANUI REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**ONE PLAN**

**PLAN CHANGE 2 (PC2) - EXISTING INTENSIVE FARMING LAND USES**

**MINUTE 6 OF THE INDEPENDENT HEARING PANEL**

1. This is the sixth minute of the independent hearing panel. It sets a revised timetable to account for additional expert conferencing proposed between the experts. We understand that formal expert conferencing will now be concluded with a second planning conference on 20 August 2020. The revised timetable supersedes (to the extent relevant) the timetable leading up to the hearing, as previously set out in the fourth minute, dated 22 June 2020.
2. The Commissioners consider it important to provide the parties and their experts the opportunity to narrow the issues between them as best they can before the filing of reports/evidence. The revised timetable accommodates this, while, at the same time, ensuring the hearing proceeds as planned in mid-October. The hearing will still commence on 12 October 2020, with a second week set aside starting 19 October 2020, that will be used if necessary.
3. We also note there is no reason why expert conferencing cannot continue once the s42A report is lodged. If good progress has been made, and issues can be narrowed, our expectation that conferencing will continue past that time, including up to and during the hearing if we deem this necessary.

[The Updated Programme](#)

4. Key steps and our associated directions in that process “counting back” from 12 October are:
  - a. **The Council Officer’s Section 42A report, along with any supporting technical reports, is to be filed by 1pm on Friday 4 September 2020**, which is 25 working days before the hearing commences. That report is to include any amendments recommended by the Officers to PC2 as tracked changes. It must also specify any submissions and submission points the Officers consider to be out of scope, and their reasons for that assessment.
  - b. **Submitter expert evidence is to be filed by 1pm on Friday 25 September 2020**, which is 15 working days after the receipt of the Council Officer’s Section 42A report and 10 working days before the hearing commences. A section of this evidence should specifically address where the expert disagrees with any aspect of the Officer’s Report, and the reasons for that disagreement. The onus is on each submitter to illustrate that any proposed revision to PC2 provisions being proposed in their evidence are within the scope of their submission and within the scope of the plan change. It is also incumbent on each submitter (and indeed the Council Officer in their s42A report) to assess any proposed revisions in terms of s 32AA of the Resource Management Act 1991.
  - c. **Any additional response by the Officers to submitter expert evidence is to be filed by 4pm on Wednesday 7 October 2020**, which is two working days before the hearing commences. We reserve the right to grant leave to the reporting Council officer to file an updated planning evaluation on commencement of the hearing on 12 October 2020. Any

proposed further amendments to PC2 must be included with this response, with tracked changes in a different colour to those included in the S42A response.

All submitters are asked to focus on this tracked changes version of PC2, as it is what we will be using as our starting point for our discussions.

- d. **Any lay submitters appearing at the hearing who want to highlight any matters over and above their written submission must provide an accurate summary of what they want to say by 1pm two working days** before the lay submitter is due to present at the hearing.
- e. **Legal submissions** to assist the hearing commissioners are to be **filed by 4pm on Friday 9 October 2020.**
5. Evidence should preferably be in an electronic format, although lay submitters may provide hard copies if they wish. All reports, evidence and submissions are to be lodged with Carina Hickey at the Regional Council. Her details are set out at paragraph 9 below.
6. The key change within the above timetable is a later date for filing the Council Officer's s42A report, and accompanying technical evidence, being 4 September 2020. That is to enable the s42A to be informed by the outcomes of the additional expert conferencing. The timeframe for submitter expert evidence in response remains the same, being three weeks (15 working days), with a shorter timeframe for any additional response to that evidence by the Officers. The date for legal submissions has also been extended through to the Friday before the hearing.

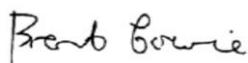
## The Hearing

7. As already noted **the hearing will commence on Monday 12 October.** Council officers are still required to circulate a final draft hearing timetable no later than Monday 5 October, with times set down for submitters and their experts to appear before us.
8. A notice of hearing will issue shortly confirming the dates, times and venue.

## Other Matters

9. The administrative contact for the plan change is now Carina Hickey at MWRC. All hearing and administrative matters should be directed to Carina in the first instance. Her e-mail is [Carina.Hickey@horizons.govt.nz](mailto:Carina.Hickey@horizons.govt.nz) and her DDI is 06 952 2827. Carina will confer with the Commissioners as necessary.

For the Hearing Panel



Brent Cowie

On Behalf of Commissioners David McMahon and Elizabeth Burge.

**7 August 2020**