

IN THE MATTER OF the Resource Management Act 1991
AND
IN THE MATTER OF Proposed Plan Change 54 to the
 Matamata-Piako District Plan:
 Papakainga

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991
DIRECTION #1
INDEPENDENT HEARING PANEL

INTRODUCTION

1. Pursuant section 34 and 34A of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), Matamata-Piako District Council has delegated to Bill Wasley (Chair), and James Whetu as hearing commissioners (Hearing Panel) the power to hear submissions and make decisions on proposed Plan Change 54- Papakainga (PC54).
2. PC54 was first publicly notified on 8 November 2022. An error was discovered, and PC54 was re-notified on 21 December 2022. The submission period was from 21 December 2022 to 13 February 2023. In total, 55 submissions were received, and the further submission period which closed on 26 April 2023 resulted in 3 further submissions.
3. The purpose of Direction #1 is to set out the directions for the hearing of PC54 and to establish a timetable for the exchange of evidence.

HEARING

4. The hearing will be held on Wednesday 17 April through to Friday 19 April 2024 commencing at 9.30am. A hearing notice advising parties about the venue and times will be issued in due course.
5. After liaising with all parties/submitters in advance of the hearing, the Hearing Administrator will prepare a hearing schedule which will show the hearing sequence and time allocated to each party/submitter that seeks to be heard by the Hearing Panel. However, it should be noted that there may be some variation to that schedule during the hearing due to any circumstances that may arise.

EXCHANGE OF EVIDENCE

6. Section 41B of the RMA sets out the minimum timeframes for the provision of evidence prior to the commencement of a hearing. Consistent with s41B and in the interest of facilitating an efficient hearing, the Hearing Panel sets the following timetable for the exchange of evidence:
 - (a) The Council's s42A Hearing Report shall be made available on the Council's website no later than 4pm on Monday 18 March 2024.
 - (b) Any submitter's expert evidence is to be lodged with the Council and made

available on its website no later than 4pm on Monday 8 April 2024.

- (c) Any party intending to present legal submissions shall provide a copy of the written legal submissions to the Council and made available on its website no later than 4pm, Friday 12 April 2024.

HEARING PROTOCOL

7. Unless otherwise advised by the Hearing Panel, all pre-circulated evidence will be taken as read by the Hearing Panel. Accordingly, witnesses will not be required to read their pre-circulated evidence in full at the hearing. Instead, witnesses should present a written summary of their evidence.
8. For the avoidance of doubt, lay submitter representations are not required to be pre-circulated, and may be presented on the day of the appearance.

PROVISION OF MATERIAL AND COMMUNICATIONS TO THE PANEL

9. All communications to the Hearing Panel and all material required by any direction of the Hearing Panel are to be provided to the Council through PKaumoana@mpdc.govt.nz

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Wasley', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bill Wasley (Chairperson)

On behalf of Hearing Panel

5 March 2024