

## SUMMARY STATEMENT

1. My full name is **Hilary Ann Riordan**. I am employed as a Resource and Landscape Planner in the Technical Services & Design team at the Christchurch City Council (**the Council**). Since providing my evidence, I have become a registered member of the New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects.
2. I prepared evidence on behalf of **Christchurch City Council** to assist in the understanding of Significant Trees and groups of Significant Trees within Appendix 9.4.7.1 of the District Plan as Qualifying Matters (**QMs**) for Plan Change 14 (**PC14**) to the Christchurch District Plan. I took part in Expert Witness Conferencing (with respect to proposed tree canopy cover and financial contributions rules) on 25 September 2023. This resulted in a Joint Statement of Landscape and Arboriculture Experts dated 6 October 2023.<sup>1</sup>
3. My evidence is based on my Landscape Architecture expertise. I co-authored the Significant Trees Qualifying Matters Technical Report (with my colleague **Mr Chapman**, the City Arborist)<sup>2</sup>. I am also the co-author of the Technical Report titled: "*Landscape Qualities of Trees and their Canopies within an Urban Landscape*" (with my colleague Senior Landscape Architect Jennifer Dray) appended to the s32 report on Tree Canopy Cover and Financial Contributions.<sup>3</sup>

## SCHEDULED TREES

4. My evidence chiefly concerns the assessment of the scheduled trees and the landscape contributions assessments that I provided. I respond to submissions relating to:
  - (i) the identified Heritage Tree (T1118) at 300 Stanmore Road (raised in the submission by Foodstuffs); and
  - (ii) two significant trees (T12 and T13) at 32 Armagh Street (raised in the submission by Carter Group).
5. I consider these trees should be protected as QMs.

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<sup>1</sup> [Joint Expert Witness Statement of Landscape and Arboriculture Experts – Proposed Tree Canopy Cover and Financial Contribution Rules dated 6 October 2023](#).

<sup>2</sup> [PC14 Section 32 report, Part 2 \(Qualifying Matters\), Appendix 24 \(Significant Trees Qualifying Matters Technical Report\)](#).

<sup>3</sup> [PC14 Section 32 report, Part 7 \(Tree Canopy Cover – Financial Contributions\), Appendix 3 \(Amenity – Tree canopy in Urban Landscapes report\)](#).

## **RICCARTON BUSH TREES**

6. My evidence regarding Riccarton Bush Trees recommends further changes to proposed rule 9.4.4.1.3 RD6 to enable a full application of a tree protection zone radius (**TPZR**) without the consideration of the predator-proof fence. Further to my evidence (paragraph 42 and 43), the use of the TPZR for this rule would make the opportunity for better individual site-specific landscape visual outcomes.
7. However, the use of the delineated singular setback approach would be very easy to implement in design and I would also support this.

## **TREE CANOPY COVER**

8. When participating in expert conferencing, I recorded my view (shared by all other experts) that having and retaining trees within residential sites is a positive outcome to Christchurch City's landscape and environment, and that the provision of tree canopy cover by developers is preferable to payment of financial contributions.
9. In the joint witness statement, I addressed various practical matters in respect of the implementation of the provisions.
10. Since the expert conferencing, I have assisted **Ms Hansbury** in considering the application of the 20% tree canopy cover requirement to existing consented developments (specific examples raised by Ms Strachan for Kainga Ora). I understand Ms Hansbury intends to address that point when appearing before the Panel.

Date: 16 April 2024

Hilary Riordan