# BEFORE INDEPENDENT HEARING COMMISSIONERS IN CHRISTCHURCH

## TE MAHERE Ā-ROHE I TŪTOHUA MŌ TE TĀONE O ŌTAUTAHI

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

**AND** 

IN THE MATTER of the hearing of submissions on Plan Change 14 (Housing

and Business Choice) to the Christchurch District Plan

## MEMORANDUM OF COUNSEL FOR CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

27 March 2024

# **BUDDLE** FINDLAY

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## MAY IT PLEASE THE INDEPENDENT HEARINGS PANEL:

- Further to the memorandum of counsel for Christchurch City Council
  (Council) dated 25 March 2024, this memorandum provides an additional
  update to the Panel and submitters on the Council's request that the Minister
  for the Environment allow further time for the Council to complete the Plan
  Change 14 (PC14) process.
- 2. Hon Chris Bishop, Minister Responsible for RMA Reform and Minister for Housing, has now responded to the Council's request by way of a letter to his Worship the Mayor of Christchurch, Phil Mauger, dated 26 March 2024 (attached in an **Appendix**). The letter alludes to an imminent Ministerial direction that will:
  - "(...) [extend] the timeframe for Christchurch City Council to notify decisions on the Independent Hearings Panel's recommendations relating to parts not subject to Policy 3 and Policy 4 of the NPS-UD to 12 December 2025. The notification of decisions on the remainder of Plan Change 14 is still required by 12 September 2024."
- 3. Counsel will update the Panel further once an associated *Gazette* notice has been published.

Date: 27 March 2024

D G Randal / C O Carranceja
Counsel for Christchurch City Council

## **APPENDIX - LETTER FROM HON CHRIS BISHOP**

## **Hon Chris Bishop**

Minister of Housing Minister for Infrastructure Minister Responsible for RMA Reform Minister for Sport and Recreation Leader of the House Associate Minister of Finance



2 6 MAR 2024

Phil Mauger Mayor Christchurch City Council mayor@ccc.govt.nz

Dear Mayor Phil Mauger

Approval of Christchurch City Council's request for an amendment to its Direction under section 80M of the Resource Management Act 1991

Thank you for our constructive conversation on 13 February 2024, where we discussed Christchurch City Council's request for additional time to complete Plan Change 14.

I have received your letter dated 1 March 2024 requesting an amendment to The Resource Management (Direction for the Intensification Streamlined Planning Process (ISPP) to the First Tranche of Specified Territorial Authorities) Notice 2022.

I am granting this extension request for elements of Plan Change 14 that relate to parts not subject to Policy 3 and Policy 4 of the NPS-UD. My direction extends the timeframe for Christchurch City Council to notify decisions on the Independent Hearings Panel's recommendations relating to parts not subject to Policy 3 and Policy 4 of the NPS-UD to 12 December 2025. The notification of decisions on the remainder of Plan Change 14 is still required by 12 September 2024.

I consider that this extension request will still maintain an expeditious planning process, as required by the Resource Management Act, particularly in light of the additional development capacity that will be introduced this year through the implementation of the NPS-UD parts of Plan Change 14.

The amended Direction will take effect on 20 April 2024.

Thank you for all your work to date. Housing supply is a critical issue for the Government and I encourage council staff to continue to work with government officials.

Yours sincerely

Hon Chris Bishop

Minister Responsible for RMA Reform