



## **PROPOSED FAR NORTH DISTRICT PLAN**

### **MINUTE 3 OF THE INDEPENDENT HEARINGS PANEL**

#### **Confirmation of Hearing schedule April 2024**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

1. In accordance with s34A(1) of the Resource Management Act 1991 (“RMA”) the Council, has appointed a Hearings Panel of Commissioners comprising five independent-members:
  - Mr Robert Scott (Hearings Panel Chairperson).
  - Mr William (Bill) Smith (Hearings Panel Deputy Chairperson).
  - Mr Alan Watson.
  - Mr Peter Kensington.
  - Mrs Siani Walker (commissioner with tikanga Māori expertise).
2. Each hearings panel may also include up to two elected representatives (comprising of elected councillors Kelly Stratford, Felicity Foy, Hilda Halkyard-Harawira, Steve McNally) subject to them having achieved commissioner certification under the Ministry for the Environment “Making Good Decisions” Programme.
3. This minute provides an update to the hearing schedule for the district plan hearing commencing in May 2024. The hearing panel and Council hearing team met on 27 February 2024 and confirmed the following changes to the hearing schedule as follows:
  - Moving of some Special Purpose Zone topics for Hearings 2 & 3 (Ngawha is now part of Hearing 3, and Quail Ridge is now part of Hearing 2).
  - Moving Kauri Cliffs to Hearing 19 (due to availability of Waiaua Bay Farm Limited, a key submitter on the Kauri Cliffs Special Purpose Zone provisions).
  - Moving Hearing 10 to later in February 2025 to avoid conflict with Waitangi Day.
  - At the request of the Environment Court (His Honour Judge Smith) concerning a conflict with an Environment Court fixture involving parties involved in the Carrington Estate Special Zone (Topic 3), we have moved the Hearing for the Carrington Estate Special Zone to Topic 11 (Māori Purpose and Treaty Settlement) scheduled for 24-26 March 2025. This will likely result in the Topic 11 hearing running for four to five days.

4. Attached to this minute is an updated hearing schedule and it is noted that this may be subject to change as the hearings progress. We will endeavour to provide as much notice as possible ahead of any further change to the schedule.
5. The chair and specific panel members for each topic will be confirmed when the hearing notice is issued, six weeks in advance of the hearing.
6. The Register of Interests for the Hearing Panel (para 16 to 23 of the hearing procedures minute) will be made available in advance of Hearing 1.
7. Any questions regarding the matters included in this minute should be directed to Alicia Kate (AK) Taihia - Submissions & Hearings Administrator District Plan: [alicia-kate.taihia@fndc.govt.nz](mailto:alicia-kate.taihia@fndc.govt.nz) or (09)4015247.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RB' followed by a stylized flourish. The signature is written over a large, hand-drawn loop that resembles a figure-eight or a stylized infinity symbol.

Robert Scott

Hearings Panel Chairperson

11April 2024