IN THE MATTER

of the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**)

AND

IN THE MATTER

of Plan Change 20 to the Auckland Unitary Plan

DIRECTIONS OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF COMMISSIONERS

- 1. Pursuant to section 34A of the RMA, Auckland Council (**Council**) has appointed Independent Hearing Commissioners Robert Scott (as Chairperson), Julianne Chetham, and Bill Smith to hear and determine submissions to Plan Change 20 to the Auckland Unitary Plan.
- 2. Plan Change 20 seeks to add a rule to the rural zone activity tables that states that any activity not provided for in the Auckland Unitary Plan requires a resource consent as a non-complying activity and amend references in the Rural Chapter to "residential buildings" to read "dwellings".
- 3. The hearing has been set down for three days on Wednesday 19 November to Thursday 21 November 2019.
- 4. In terms of procedural matters, section 41B of the RMA provides that the Council may direct that evidence from any expert be provided to the parties before the hearing and section 42A RMA provides that the Council may require a report on the matters to be considered be provided prior to the hearing.
- 5. The Chairperson has considered whether any directions are appropriate under either or both of sections 41B and 42A.
- 6. The Chairperson is aware that a section 42A report is currently under preparation by the Council.
- 7. Accordingly, the Chairperson directs as follows:
 - (a) Pursuant to section 42A RMA, that the section 42A report be made available to the Hearings' Advisor by 5pm, **Wednesday 16 October 2019**
 - (b) That the section 42A report be posted on Council's website as soon as possible after receipt, but in any event no later than 5pm, **Friday 18 October 2019**

- (c) Pursuant to sections 41B(3) and (4), that if any person who has made a submission intends to call expert evidence at the hearing (generally being evidence given by a professional with specialist qualifications and experience) then that party is to provide that evidence to the Hearings' Advisor by 5pm Monday 4 November 2019
- (d) That the submitters' expert evidence be posted on Council's website as soon as possible after receipt but in any event, no later than 5pm, Tuesday 5 November 2019
- (e) Pursuant to section 42A RMA, the Council may, in response to the expert evidence provided by submitters, provide an updated set of plan provisions (with track changes) as an addendum to the Section 42A report by 5pm Monday 11 November 2019, with any supporting commentary or rebuttal evidence as needed.
- (f) That the Council's addendum to the section 42A report be posted on Council's website as soon as possible after receipt but in any event, no later than 5pm, Tuesday 12 November 2019.
- 8. The purpose of these Directions is to provide the opportunity for the Commissioners and for the parties to consider any expert or technical evidence in advance of the hearing to assist all parties in understanding that evidence.
- 9. The Directions do not apply to non-expert evidence, or evidence to be presented by submitters who are "non-experts" (persons who do not provide expert evidence at these types of proceedings). They will have the opportunity to present written or oral evidence at the hearing in the normal manner. They do not need to pre-circulate their own statements or representations before the hearing commences.
- 10. For further information on the format of evidence required please refer to the notification letter attached.

Any enquiries regarding these Directions or related matters should be directed to Paulette Kenihan, Senior Hearings Advisor by email at Paulette.kenihan@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Robert Scott

Robert Scott Chairperson 18 September 2019