

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**)

AND

IN THE MATTER of **Private Plan Change 50** – Oyster Capital Limited - land generally bounded to the north of Waihoehoe Road and east of the North Island Main Trunk Railway (Drury East) to the Auckland Unitary Plan – Operative in Part.

DIRECTIONS FROM THE HEARING PANEL

HEARING DATES (FACE-TO-FACE OR MORE LIKELY BY REMOTE ACCESS)

1. Pursuant to section 34 and 34A of the RMA, Auckland Council (the Council) has appointed a Hearing Panel consisting of independent hearing commissioners - Greg Hill (Chairperson), Mark Farnsworth and Karyn Kurzeja. The Hearing Panel’s function is to hear the application and submissions and make a decision on the Plan Change proposal. It is also to address any procedural issues.
2. The hearing of this Plan Change was scheduled for the 25 – 27 August 2021. However, due to Auckland being in ‘Covid alert level 4 lock down’ the hearing had to be postponed. The hearing for PC 50 has been rescheduled for **Monday and Tuesday 29 and 30 November 2021.**
3. Given the current Covid alert level 3 in Auckland, and that this is likely to remain for some time, the hearing will, if not able to proceed face-to-face, proceed on the dates specified using “remote access facilities” (Teams) pursuant to s39AA(2) of the RMA.
4. The Hearing Panel has taken s39AA(4) of the RMA into account in making this Direction. Any party who does not have access to internet will be able to participate via a telephone connection.
5. The Council’s Senior Hearings Advisor, Mr Sam Otter, will be providing the necessary details for on-line access to the hearing.
6. As set out in our 2 September 2021 Direction, we stated:

At the time the hearing was postponed, the evidence exchange had been completed¹ (as set out in our Direction dated 31 March 2021). Accordingly, we are not seeking further evidence from any party. If any party seeks to file additional evidence, a waiver will need to be sought from the Hearing Panel and would need to address the matters set out in section 37 and 37A of the RMA.

¹ The evidence is on the Council’s Website.

7. The Hearing Panel encourages parties to pre-circulate any opening legal submissions in advance of the hearing, preferably no later than **23 November 2021**. The Hearing Panel and other parties will be assisted if the legal submissions can be pre-read.
8. Any enquiries regarding this Direction or related matters should be directed to the Council's Senior Hearings Advisor, Mr Sam Otter by email at sam.otter@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz.

Greg Hill Chairperson
27 October 2021

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Hill", followed by a period.