

Before the Independent Hearings Panel

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

And

In the matter of Plan Change 78: Intensification (**PC78**) to the
Auckland Unitary Plan Operative in Part (**AUP**)

**Reporting memorandum of counsel on behalf of Auckland Council to
the Independent Hearings Panel in response to directions from the
Independent Hearings Panel dated 16 September 2024**

Date: 28 February 2025



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MAY IT PLEASE THE PANEL

Introduction

- 1 This memorandum is filed on behalf of the Auckland Council (**Council**) in response to the Direction from the Independent Hearings Panel (**Panel**) dated 16 September 2024 (**Direction**) and further to the Council's reporting memoranda dated 30 September 2024, 30 October 2024, 2 and 20 December 2024, and 15 and 30 January 2025.
- 2 In paragraph 5 of the Direction, the Panel requested that the Council provides an update on its interaction with the Minister responsible for RMA reform (Hon Chris Bishop) and/or the Ministry for the Environment (**Ministry**) and the status of any proposed variations to Plan Change 78: Intensification (**PC78**) by 30 September 2024 and monthly thereafter.
- 3 Accordingly, this memorandum provides a further update to the Panel further to the Council's previous reporting memorandum dated 30 January 2025, regarding the matters the Council was asked to report on, to the extent that the Council is able to respond to these.

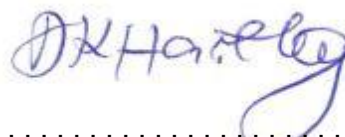
The Council's interaction with Hon Chris Bishop and/or the Ministry

- 4 We are instructed that the Council has still not received any further correspondence from Hon Chris Bishop that is directly relevant to PC78.
- 5 However, as was the case in our previous reporting memorandum, we are instructed that discussions are continuing between the Council, Hon Minister Bishop, and officials from the Ministry.

Status of proposed variations to PC78

- 6 In our previous memorandum dated 30 January 2025 we advised that we were instructed that work continues on the Auckland Light Rail Corridor planning response and the qualifying matters in the Corridor, as well as on the natural hazards planning response. This work is still continuing.
- 7 We are advised that the Policy and Planning Committee are holding a workshop to give direction to staff on draft natural hazard provisions. This workshop is scheduled for 12 March 2025 and will be recorded. A copy of the video of this workshop will be made available to the public within two days following the workshop.
- 8 In accordance with the Direction, the Council will provide the next update to the Panel by 31 March 2025 (unless the Panel directs otherwise).

Date: 28 February 2025



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D K Hartley / A F Buchanan
Counsel for Auckland Council for
PC78