

IN THE MATTER OF Resource Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER OF The hearing of submissions in relation to
the Proposed Timaru District Plan

**MINUTE 20 DIRECTIONS TO COUNCIL REGARDING HEARING SCHEDULE & REPORT
ON SMALL FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT**

DATED 8 DECEMBER 2024

1. INTRODUCTION

[1] The purpose of Minute 20 is for the Hearing Panel¹ to respond to submissions from Counsel for the Council² with regard to the discussions with submitters on provision for small fixed wing aircraft, and proposed amendments to the hearing schedule for 2025.

Small fixed-wing aircraft

[3] We acknowledge the Council's efforts to engage with submitters on the Proposed Plan's provision for small fixed wing aircraft (in response to Panel Directions in Minute 14³) and note that we have since received a Memorandum on behalf of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association of New Zealand and Sid McCauley setting out the submitter group's position on proposed controls for small fixed wing aircraft⁴. We confirm that we anticipate Council to report back to the Panel on the submitter group's position by 28 February 2025.

¹ The Timaru District Council ("the Council") appointed Cindy Robinson (Chairperson), Ros Day-Cleavin, Councillor Stacey Scott, Jane Whyte, Megen McKay, and Raewyn Solomon ("the Panel") to hear submissions and further submissions, and evidence to make decisions on the Timaru Proposed District Plan ("the Proposed Plan") pursuant to Section 34A(1) of the Resource Management Act 1991 ("RMA"). Our delegation includes all related procedural powers to conduct those hearings.

² Legal Submissions on behalf of the Council, 5 December 2024: Hearing Schedule and report on Fixed Wing Aircraft.

³ Minute 14, Hearing B Panel Request for Clarification from s42A Authors and Information Requests made to Submitters, 9 August 2024.

⁴ Memorandum on behalf of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association of New Zealand and Sid McCauley, 6 December 2024.

Hearing Schedule 2025

[4] We acknowledge that the Council has been granted an 18-month extension of time to 22 March 2026 from the Minister for the Environment to issue decisions on the Proposed Plan and we thank Council for the update in this regard.

[5] We have reviewed the proposed changes to the hearing schedule and suggested reallocation of hearing topics to Hearings E, F, and G. We have considered the request and accept the proposed changes and amendments in Paragraph 21 (a), (b), (d) and (f).

[6] In response to Paragraph 21 (c) - the Panel has a preference to allocate the 'sweep-up' of cross plan submissions to Hearing H, in addition to any other matters it wishes to hear further (if any).

[7] In response to Paragraph 21 (e) – at this stage the Panel has a preference to deal with any matters arising from operative changes to national direction in Hearing H. This will allow time for the full suite of changes to be known and understood and will provide submitters adequate opportunity to participate meaningfully on these matters at the hearing. We anticipate issuing specific directions once the national direction is operative.

2. DIRECTIONS

[8] The Panel agrees with the general approach outlined by Counsel for the Council and asks that Council incorporate the Panel's preferences set out in paragraphs 6 and 7 above into the revised Hearing Schedule.

Dated this 8 December 2024



C E ROBINSON - CHAIR ON BEHALF OF THE HEARINGS PANEL