

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

AND

IN THE MATTER **Proposed Plan Change 31 – The Junction - to the Nelson Resource Management Plan (NRMP)**

DIRECTION 1 (20 October 2023) FROM THE HEARING PANEL

HEARING DATES AND EVIDENCE EXCHANGE

1. In accordance with the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) - sections 34 and 34A, the Nelson City Council has appointed a Hearing Panel consisting of Independent Commissioner Greg Hill (as chair) and Councillors Rohan O'Neill-Stevens and Trudie Brand (as Commissioners), to hear and make recommendations to the Council on the plan change. The delegations include addressing any procedural matters.
2. The hearing has been scheduled for the **4 December 2023** commencing at **9.30am**, in **Ruma Waimarama, at Nelson City Council Civic House, Trafalgar Street, Nelson.**
3. In terms of procedural matters, section 41B of the RMA provides that the Hearing Panel may direct evidence from any expert to be provided before the hearing. Section 42A of the RMA provides that the Council may prepare a report on the matters to be considered and be provided prior to the hearing.
4. Accordingly, the Hearing Panel directs as follows:
 - a. Pursuant to section 42A of the RMA, the section 42A hearing report is to be made available to parties on-line no later than **4.00pm 27 October 2023.**
 - b. Submitters' expert evidence (evidence given by a professional with specialist qualifications and experience) is to be emailed to the Council (at the email address below), no later than **4.00pm, 14 November 2023.** It will then be made available to parties on-line no later than **4.00pm, 15 November 2023.** Submitters not using an expert witness will still be able to speak to their submission at the hearing if they indicated an intention to appear.
 - c. Pursuant to sections 41B of the RMA, any rebuttal evidence is to be emailed to the Council (at the email address below), no later than **4.00pm, 24 November 2023.** It will then be made available to parties on-line no later than **4.00pm, 27 November 2023.**
5. While these Directions do not strictly apply to lay or non-expert statements/evidence, the Hearing Panel would appreciate any written statements to be presented at the hearing to be emailed to the Council (at the email address below) no later than **4.00pm, 27 November 2023.**

6. The Hearing Panel also requests parties to pre-circulate opening legal submissions (if any) in advance of the hearing, preferably no later than **4.00 pm, 29 November 2023**.
7. The Hearing Panel requests that submitters advise the Council (at the email address below) if they wish to appear at the hearing to present to the Hearing Panel no later than **4.00pm, 24 November 2023**. This is to determine how long any hearing may be, or if no submitter wishes to be heard, if a hearing is required at all¹.
8. The opportunity for remote appearance (via AVL) for submitters/witnesses will also be made available subject to prior arrangement with the Council. Details of this will be communicated closer to the commencement of the hearing.
9. The purpose of these Directions is to provide the opportunity for the Hearing Panel and the other parties to have read and considered any legal submissions, evidence or statements in advance of the hearing to assist in understanding the case being presented. As the Hearing Panel will have read all the pre-circulated material before the hearing, there will be no need for it to be read out. An executive summary may be read out or the key points highlighted.
10. Any enquiries regarding this Direction, or related matters, should be directed to Nicole Ching at environmental.planning@ncc.govt.nz



Greg Hill Chairperson

20 October 2023

¹ Section 100 of the RMA