
From: Warren MacLennan
Sent: Thursday, 27 August 2015 1:43 p.m.
To: Phill Reid
Subject: Review of Mediation Process for Precincts

Hi Phill

In its letter to the Auckland Unitary Plan Independent Hearings Panel dated 15 June 2015, the Auckland Council (the Council) noted that it was in the process of carrying out a detailed analysis of existing and new precinct submissions and that it would confirm with Panel by 31 August, the precincts that it proposed for mediation.

At that time, the programme for RUB, rezoning and precinct hearings was not finalised. It is now programmed that those hearings will start in early January. Consequently staff are in the process of assessing all submissions and further submissions using agreed templates to ensure a consistent council position. All changes and key decisions have to be taken through the Council's internal management and political process, and evidence has to be completed and with the Panel from October onwards. This sheer volume of work means that there are no Council resources available to prepare for, attend and follow up mediation or open days on re-zoning and precincts.

However the council is conscious that some submitters will wish to engage with Council planners as they prepare their own evidence. Staff are therefore investigating the provision of a rostered Planning Helpdesk via phone as the most efficient way of responding to submitter questions. We anticipate that this can be in operation within the next month.

I am happy to answer any queries, should you wish.

Yours sincerely
Warren MacLennan

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