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**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991**  
**DIRECTION #22**  
**INDEPENDENT HEARING PANEL**

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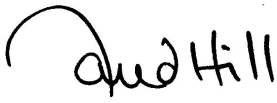
**Purpose:** The purpose of Direction #22 is to respond to Council's response to Direction #21 regarding the progress of PC14 (Flood Hazards) and setting an indicative envelope for hearing the remainder of PC12.

1. In accordance with Direction #21, by Memorandum dated 28 February 2024, Counsel for Council has provided a further update on progress with PC14 (Flood Hazards) and the likely date for its public notification (third quarter of 2024).
2. Counsel also noted recent Government policy announcements regarding intended changes to the NPS-UD and related RMA reforms (including to the MDRS requirement), and the request by Council's Strategic Growth and District Plan Committee for further advice on those and associated PC12 matters at its 11 April 2024 committee meeting. That may require updates to PC12 prior to hearing.
3. Whilst this uncertainty pertains, Counsel seeks directions to secure an envelope for hearing in September 2024 so that the Ministerial timetable for decision on PC12 (20 December 2024) remains achievable.
4. Counsel seeks the following directions:
  - a) *A one week hearing will be held in early September 2024 with the dates to be confirmed by the Panel;*
  - b) *HCC is required to prepare a set of draft timetable directions addressing all procedural matters including the circulation of any revised PC12 provisions, and the timing of evidence exchange and expert conferencing ahead of a September 2024 hearing;*
  - c) *HCC is required to provide a further reporting memorandum by 26 April 2024 setting out its:*
    - i. *Position regarding any updated MDRS zoning provisions it seeks to pursue via PC12; and*
    - ii. *Proposed pre-hearing timetable as required under direction (b) above.*

**Directions**

5. The Panel has considered that request and directs as sought – noting that PC14 should be notified early enough for its associated s.42A report to be available for consideration in evidence by parties to the reconvened PC12 hearing.
6. At this point the Panel has no clear idea whether a 1-week hearing will be sufficient and therefore proposes that an 8-day period be reserved starting on Wednesday 4 September 2024 through Friday 13 September 2024.

7. Any queries or correspondence related to this Direction should be sent through to the Hearing Coordinator at [planchange@hcc.govt.nz](mailto:planchange@hcc.govt.nz).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Hill', with a large, sweeping initial 'D'.

David Hill (Chairperson)  
Independent Hearing Panel

29 February 2024