

**IN THE MATTER OF**      the Resource Management Act 1991  
**AND**  
**IN THE MATTER OF**      Hamilton City Council's PC9 -  
   Historic Heritage and Natural  
   Environments

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**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991**

**DIRECTION #20**

**HEARING PANEL**

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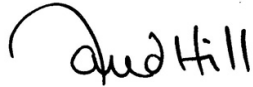
**PURPOSE**

1. The purpose of Direction #20 is to respond to two matters raised for clarification by Waikato Heritage Group (WHG) concerning the Panel's Interim Guidance.

**DIRECTION**

2. By Memorandum dated 8 December 2023 WHG seeks the following:
  - (1) Confirmation on the status of existing Built heritage items in Schedule 8A, particularly those that have been assessed as being of moderate heritage value in previous District Plan reviews.
  - (2) Clarity on:
    - a. how the District Plan will address the different assessment methodology and thresholds for the current Operative District Plan Built heritage items versus those which have been introduced through Plan Change 9; and
    - b. if evidence is sought on this matter for the hearings next year.
3. With respect to (1), the Panel confirms that PC9 only addresses *additional* built heritage items identified for inclusion in Schedule 8A, it does not extend to a consideration of existing Schedule 8A heritage items. Consequently, the Panel's jurisdiction is similarly limited.
4. With respect to (2), the Panel notes that the Built Heritage expert JWS recommends changes to both the assessment methodology / qualities and the significance threshold.
5. Should the JWS recommendations be accepted by the Panel in its final decision, it will be for the Council to determine whether to introduce a further plan change to reassess and update those existing heritage items using the new assessment methodology / re-expressed qualities.
6. In passing the Panel notes that operative Schedule 8A does not identify or distinguish those heritage items that have been assessed and recorded as Plan Ranking B *high* versus *moderate*, so is unaware of which heritage items attracted which sub-classification.

7. Whether Schedule 8A should differentiate between PC9 additions and the existing heritage items is an editorial matter that Council may wish to advise on in due course. The Panel sees no particular merit in receiving “evidence” on that matter but if parties wish to express an opinion in due course at the hearing, then they are free to do so.
8. Any queries or correspondence related to this Direction should be sent through to the Hearing Coordinator, Steve Rice at: [steve@riceres.co.nz](mailto:steve@riceres.co.nz) .

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

David Hill (Chairperson)  
Hearing Panel

12 December 2023