

**Before the Hearings Panel
At Porirua City Council**

Under Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991

In the matter of the Proposed Porirua District Plan

Between **Various Submitters**

And **Porirua City Council**

Respondent

Council reply on Strategic Objectives addressed in Hearing Stream 5 - Gina Sweetman on behalf of Porirua City Council

Date: 10 June 2022

INTRODUCTION:

- 1 My full name is Gina Marie Sweetman. I am a consultant planner engaged by Porirua City Council.
- 2 I have read the evidence and tabled statements provided by submitters relevant to the Section 42A Report - Part B Strategic Directions Rural Environment and UFD-O5.
- 3 I have prepared this Council reply on behalf of the Porirua City Council (Council) in respect of matters raised through Hearing Stream 5.
- 4 Specifically, this statement of evidence relates to the matters in the Section 42A Report - B Part B Strategic Directions Rural Environment and UFD-O5.
- 5 I am authorised to provide this evidence on behalf of the Council.

QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE AND CODE OF CONDUCT

- 6 Appendix C of the Section 42A Report sets out my qualifications and experience.
- 7 I confirm that I am continuing to abide by the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses set out in the Environment Court's Practice Note 2014.

SCOPE OF REPLY

- 8 This reply follows Hearing Stream 5 held between 16th and 25th May 2022.
- 9 This reply responds to the following question from the Panel in Minute 37 dated 30 May 2022:

that the Reporting Officer consider the references to the 'open' backdrop to the City given the readily visible areas of bush clad or treed hillsides around the City, and whether, given that, recommended Objective RE-01(4) is appropriate insofar as it seeks an environment that "provides an open backdrop to the City"

- 10 Appendix 1 of this reply contains a list of materials provided by submitters including expert evidence, legal submissions, submitter statements etc. This information is all available on the PDP (Proposed District Plan) hearings web portal at <https://pdportal.porirua.govt.nz>.

11 I have not provided an updated table of recommended responses to submissions and further submissions as my recommendations do not differ from those made in Appendix B of the s42A report.

The wording of RE-O1(4)

12 The Panel have asked that I respond to the following question:

that the Reporting Officer consider the references to the ‘open’ backdrop to the City given the readily visible areas of bush clad or treed hillsides around the City, and whether, given that, recommended Objective RE-O1(4) is appropriate insofar as it seeks an environment that “provides an open backdrop to the City

13 During the hearing, the Chair asked whether “maintain” might be a more appropriate term to use instead of “provide” in clause 4.

14 The submissions on this objective are set out below (and in 3.3.1 of my s42A report).

Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour & Catchments Community Trust, and Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet [77.6] seek that RE-O1 be amended as follows, for the reason that the apparent emphasis on retaining a rural character might be interpreted as retaining a pastoral landscape; that maintenance of such a landscape could have adverse effects on the harbour, and it is questionable how much of the rural environment can be productive.

Porirua has a ~~productive~~ rural environment that:

- 1. Contributes to the City’s social and economic wellbeing;*
- 2. Retains its ~~rural~~ non-urban character; and*
- 3. Provides an open ~~rural~~-backdrop to the City.*

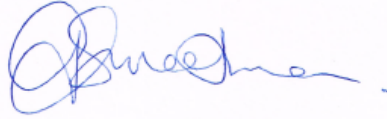
Forest and Bird [225.99] seek that the objective be amended to include specific provision for the protection of indigenous biodiversity. The submitter is concerned that there is no recognition of the Council’s function to maintain indigenous biodiversity or what an open backdrop is, and whether this is consistent with retaining indigenous vegetation.

15 There were no submissions that sought to amend the term “provides” in clause 4. Irrespective, in my view, the use of provides is consistent with the intent of the objective, the rural environment in Porirua provides an open backdrop to the City.

16 I do not recommend any further amendments.

Date: 10/06/2022

Gina Sweetman
Consultant Planner



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Appendix 1 – List of materials provided by submitters

The following table contains all material provided by submitters through Hearing Stream 5, some of which cover topics addressed in other replies:

Submitter evidence	Statement of Evidence - Adrienne Black (Corporate Evidence) for Waka Kotahi [82] Statement of Evidence - Claudia Jones (Planning Evidence) for Waka Kotahi [82] Statement of Evidence - Dean Raymond For Heritage NZ Pouhere Taonga [65] Statement of Evidence - Graeme McCarrison for Spark Trading New Zealand Ltd Statement of Evidence - Natalie Webb for Firstgas Limited [84] Statement of Evidence - Peter Coop for BRANZ [116] - Appendix - Controlled Activity Height Standards Drawing Statement of Evidence - Peter Coop for BRANZ [116] Statement of Evidence - Ray O'Callaghan for 1010 Homes Ltd [125] Supplementary Statement of Evidence - Peter Coop - BRANZ [116] - Appendix 1 Supplementary Statement of Evidence - Peter Coop - BRANZ [116]
Submitter statements	Submitter Statement - Pikarere Farm Limited [183] Submitter Statement - 1010 Homes [125] Submitter Statement - Milmac Homes [258] Submitter Statement - Robyn Smith [168] Submitter Tabled Statement - Ara Poutama Aotearoa Department of Corrections [135] Submitter Tabled Statement - Rural Contractors NZ [179] Submitter Tabled Statement - Transpower [60]
Memos from submitters to panel	Memo To Panel - Graeme McCarrison For Spark Trading NZ Ltd - Response To Commissioner Questions (30 May 2022) Memo to Panel - Hearing Stream 5 - Waka Kotahi [82] Memorandum of Counsel - Silverwood Corporation [172] (27 April 2022)
Submitter presentations	Submitter Presentation - 1010 Homes Ltd [125] - Information Provided to Panel Submitter Presentation - Graeme McCarrison For Spark Submitter Presentation - Jennifer Blake [17] Submitter Presentation - Judgeford Environmental Protection Society [246] Submitter Presentation - Pikarere Farm Ltd [183] - Copy of Document Referred to in Presentation Submitter Presentation - Robyn Smith [168] - Additional Information Requested by Panel Submitter Presentation - Survey and Spatial NZ (Wellington Branch) [72] Submitter Presentation - Tracey Davies [10]
Submitter legal submissions	Submitter Legal Submissions - BRANZ [116] - Attachment Submitter Legal Submissions - BRANZ [116] Supplementary Submission of Counsel for BRANZ [116]