

IN THE MATTER

of the Resource Management Act
1991

AND

IN THE MATTER

of the Proposed Natural Resources
Plan for the Wellington Region

**MEMORANDUM FROM NEW ZEALAND TRANSPORT AGENCY (NZTA) REGARDING FUTURE PRE-
HEARING CONFERENCING**

Hearing Stream 2

1. The Hearing Panel, on Friday 30th June 2017, received a memorandum from NZTA on behalf of the “Infrastructure Group”¹ advising of proposed pre-hearing conferencing between the “Infrastructure Group” in relation to upcoming hearing streams.
2. The Panel understands that this pre-hearing conferencing is being organised by the members of the Infrastructure Group, for the purposes of identifying and presenting areas of alignment amongst the Infrastructure Group as they relate to the PNRP.
3. The Infrastructure Group has appointed its own facilitator, and proposes to conduct its own pre-hearing conferencing between the pre-circulation of evidence and scheduled hearing presentations by members of the Infrastructure Group. Outputs of the conferencing would be attached to oral presentation statements at the hearing.
4. The Infrastructure Group also advised that any outcomes of the conferencing would be made available to any interested party upon request to the facilitator, Ms N McIndoe at Nicky.McIndoe@kensingtonswan.com.
5. Finally the memorandum sought any guidance from the Panel in relation to conferencing key matters or provisions and the presenting of any outputs.
6. The Panel records that submitters can organise themselves in terms of any joint matters as they wish. From the Panels perspective, whilst it is encouraging that submitters (and in this case a group of likeminded submitters), is taking a positive initiative towards expert conferencing, the Panel simply notes that there may be occasions where conferencing of experts representing not just a single interest will be desirable and warranted². The situation with the recent conferencing for the definition of *Regionally Significant Infrastructure* and *Policy P4* are examples of this and there may be more in other hearing streams. Where such conferencing is thought to have utility, the Panel will signal this and request such conferencing is undertaken by all submitters on point who have expert witnesses.

¹ As set out in the NZTA joint memorandum in response to the Hearing Panel Minute 5, dated 14 June 2017

² Hearing Panel Minute 2, dated 9 Dec 2016, Final Procedures for Hearing of Submissions, Paras 45 - 48

7. The Panel do not have any particular matters that they wish the Infrastructure Group to consider at this time.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark St. Clair', written in a cursive style.

Mark St.Clair

Panel Chair

Date: 3 July 2017