IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**)

AND

IN THE MATTER **Proposed Plan Change 10 - Definitions and Rule Refinements (PC 10) to the Rotorua Lakes Council's District Plan.**

DIRECTION (2) FROM THE HEARING PANEL

HEARING PROCESS AND EXCUSING WITNESSES

Hearing

1. Seven submitters have been asked to be heard at the hearing. It appears that those submitters support many of the recommendations in the section 42A report; and that the section 42A Addendum report potentially further narrows the issues in contention.

2. Given the number of submitters to be heard, the number who have indicated they would attend remotely, and the issues that remain in contention, I have decided to hold a hybrid hearing - both by remote facilities (on line) and in person; noting that Mr Hill, the Hearing Commissioner, will attend remotely.

3. The hearing will now commence at **1.30 pm** on **Monday 12 October 2026**.

4. An invite with the necessary link to the hearing will be emailed to you by the Council. However, if you prefer, you may attend the hearing in person at the Council Chamber. Please let Mr Mathfield know (at the email address below) if you will attend remotely or in-person at the Council Chamber **no later** than **5.00pm Thursday 8 October 2026.**

5. I remind those appearing at the hearing, and as set out in Direction 1 – Hearing Dates, Process and Evidence Exchange, I will have read all the pre-circulated material before the hearing. Accordingly, there will be no need for it to be read out, however, an executive summary may be read or the key points highlighted.

6. Also, as a number of parties will be appearing remotely, any additional material (e.g. summary statements) to be presented at the hearing that has not been pre-circulated must be provided electronically to Mr Mathfield no later than **10pm 12 October 2026**. This is so it can be emailed to the Commissioner and all parties ahead of the hearing.

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Excusing Witnesses

7. Having read all of the material that has been circulated, I excuse the following witnesses from appearing at the hearing:

- Mr Fraser – MCERT. His evidence is mostly 'contextual' and 'factual'. I was also one of the Commissioners hearing the first MHUD Emergency Housing consent application, and am fully aware of the context, background and history of the Emergency Housing issues in Rotorua. I have no questions for Mr Fraser.

- Mr Liggett - Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities. His corporate evidence is largely 'contextual'. He sets out that Kāinga Ora is generally supportive of the amendments to provisions sought in the section 42A report. He also considers that the relief recommended in the planning evidence of Ms Beneke would provide an enhanced solution which will better enable Kāinga Ora to adequately and appropriately operate and manage Community Group Housing in Rotorua. I will be hearing from Ms Beneke. I have no questions for Mr Liggett.

Enquiries

8. Any enquiries regarding this Direction, or related matters, should be directed to Council's Hearings Administrator, Damon Mathfield. Email damon.mathfield@rotorualc.nz



Greg Hill Chairperson

7 October 2026

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