

NOTICE OF EXPERT CONFERENCING STAGE 2 SPECIFIC PURPOSE ZONES (PART)

Dear Parties,

Expert conferencing is scheduled for Wednesday 23 September 2015 for the topics listed below in the Stage 2 Specific Purpose Zones (Part) of the proposed Christchurch Replacement District Plan.

It is expected that all experts intending to present expert evidence at the hearing for this proposal will attend the relevant conferencing session. Submitters should seek leave from the Panel if their experts are unable to attend, setting out the reasons.

Expert conferencing is a process by which expert witnesses confer and attempt to reach agreement on issues, or at least to clearly identify the issues on which they cannot agree, and the reasons for that disagreement. Such a conference is a structured discussion between peers within a field of expertise which can narrow points of difference and save hearing time (and costs).

The Christchurch City Council has identified topics and established a schedule for facilitated expert conferencing, as detailed below:

Specific Purpose (Hospital) Zone		
Urban Designers/Landscape Architects (excluding planners)		
1.	Setback distances and height standards	Wednesday 23 September 2015 [10.30am – 12.00pm]
2.	Landscaping and fencing provisions	Wednesday 23 September 2015 [12.00pm -12.30pm]
3.	Mass of buildings e.g. length of elevations and size of building footprints	Wednesday 23 September 2015 [1.00pm – 2.00pm]
Transport engineers		
4.	Access, parking and servicing, excluding matters covered in Stage 1 Chapter 7 Transport decision.	Wednesday 23 September 2015 [2.00pm –2.30pm]

Please note: All topics cover the relevant rules for Hillmorton, Burwood, Princess Margaret, St Georges and Southern Cross Hospitals, and all include relevant matters of discretion.

Specific Purpose (School) and Specific Purpose (Tertiary Education) Zones		
Transport engineers		
5.	Transport issues associated with education zoned sites (both school and tertiary), excluding matters already covered in Stage 1 Chapter 7 Transport decision	Wednesday 23 September 2015 [2.30pm - 3.00pm]
Urban Designers/Landscape Architects (excluding planners)		
6.	Proposed vs requested built form standards for schools	Wednesday 23 September 2015 [3.15pm – 3.45pm]
7.	Proposed vs requested built form standards for tertiary education facilities	Wednesday 23 September 2015 [3.45pm – 4.15pm]

No other expert conferencing topics have been identified at this stage.

We now request RSVPs for this session. Please RSVP to info@chchplan.ihp.govt.nz or 0800 242 4040 by **12pm Thursday 17 September 2015**.

In your RSVP, we require:

- your submission number and name;
- the name and qualifications of the expert/s who will be representing you, and their contact email address; and
- the session(s) your expert will attend.

Appendix 2 of the Hearings Procedures¹ sets out the obligations of experts who attend conferencing. The Panel have the same expectations of expert witnesses as set out in clause 7(2)(a) and 7(2)(b) of the Environment Court Practice Note 2014². Please note that expert conferencing is not open to members of the public, legal representatives, planners, or to submitters who are not experts.

The Hearings Panel will require the experts to sign a joint statement that will be attached to the facilitators report (where applicable) which will include the following matters:

- a) the key facts and assumptions that are agreed upon by the experts;
- b) identification of any methodology or standards used by the experts in arriving at their opinions and reasons for differences in methodology and standards (if any);
- c) the matters and issues that are agreed between the experts;
- d) the issues upon which the experts cannot agree and the reasons for their disagreement;
- e) an identification of all material regarded by the experts as primary data;
- f) identification of published standards or papers relied upon in coming to their opinions; and
- g) confirmation that in producing the statement the experts have complied with the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses.

“Will Say” Statements

Experts shall prepare “will say” statements in advance of the expert conferencing to enable all experts to know in advance the opinions and reasons for opinions of other experts. “Will say” statements should be limited to no more than two pages and shall be provided to the Secretariat by **12pm Monday 21 September 2015** at info@chchplan.ihp.govt.nz. “Will say” statements will be circulated to all attendees prior to the sessions. Attendees should become familiar with the content of all other statements prior to the conferencing.

¹ <http://www.chchplan.ihp.govt.nz/Hearings/Pages/Home.aspx>

² <http://www.justice.govt.nz/courts/environment-court/documents/environment-court-practice-notes-2014>

When preparing “will say” statement, experts are asked to familiarise themselves with, and focus on, the relevant provisions of the Proposed Christchurch Replacement District Plan. All “will say” statements are to be prepared in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses and shall contain a summary brief of relevant evidence as set out in Appendix 3 Clause 1(g)(b) of the Environment Court Practice Note 2014.

Environment Commissioner John Mills will facilitate the expert conferencing. Any correspondence with John Mills should be through the Secretariat.

All sessions will be held at the Hearings Venue 348 Manchester Street. Signage on the day will direct experts to the conferencing room.

Kind regards,

Independent Secretariat
348 Manchester Street, Christchurch
<http://www.chchplan.ihp.govt.nz> | FREEPHONE 0800 242 4040