

IN THE MATTER

of the Resource Management Act 1991 (*RMA*)

AND

IN THE MATTER

of Plan Change 10 to the Wairarapa Combined
District Plan

DIRECTIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER

1. Pursuant to section 34A of the RMA, South Wairarapa District Council (*the Council*) has appointed Independent Hearing Commissioner Richard Knott to hear and determine submissions to Plan Change 10 to the Wairarapa Combined District Plan.
2. Plan Change 10 seeks to ensure that the Register of Notable Trees in Appendix 1.4 of the District Plan is up to date and relevant for the district. The updates account for trees that no longer exist, as well as providing new expert thinking about what makes a tree notable.
3. The hearing has been set down for 2 days from Thursday 21 to Friday 22 November 2019.
4. In terms of procedural matters, section 41B of the RMA provides that the Council may direct that evidence from any expert be provided to the parties before the hearing. Section 42A of the RMA provides that the Council may require that a report on the matters to be considered be provided prior to the hearing.
5. The Commissioner has considered whether any directions are appropriate under either or both section 41B and 42A.
6. The Commissioner is aware that a section 42A report is currently under preparation by the Council.
7. Accordingly, the Commissioner directs as follows:
 - (a) Pursuant to section 42A of the RMA, that the section 42A report be made available and be posted on Council's website no later than 5pm, Wednesday 30 October 2019.
 - (b) Pursuant to sections 41B(3) and (4), that if any person who has made a submission intends to call expert evidence at the hearing (generally being evidence given by a professional with specialist qualifications and experience), that party is to provide that evidence to the Council by 5pm Wednesday 13 November 2019.
 - (c) That the submitters' expert evidence be posted on Council's website as soon as possible after receipt, and in any event, no later than 5pm, Thursday 14 November 2019.

- (d) That should the Council wish to provide an updated set of plan provisions (with tracked changes) as an addendum to the Section 42A report, this will be provided to all parties at the start of the hearing on Thursday 21 November 2019, and the Council reporting officer will run through these changes at that time.
8. Evidence should be in PDF or Word format.
9. The purpose of these Directions is to provide an opportunity for the Commissioners and for the parties to consider any expert or technical evidence in advance of the hearing and assist all parties in understanding that evidence.
10. The Directions do not apply to non-expert evidence, or evidence to be presented by submitters who are “non-experts”. They will have the opportunity to present written or oral evidence at the hearing in the normal manner. They do not need to pre-circulate their own statements or representations before the hearing commences.

Any enquiries regarding these Directions or related matters should be directed to Lou Brown, Planner, South Wairarapa District Council, lou.brown@swdc.govt.nz



Richard Knott
Commissioner
3rd October 2019