

Level 5
82 Willis StreetPO Box 9042
Wellington 6141
New Zealand

1 October 2015

Stephen McArthur
Group Manager - Strategy and Planning
Kapiti Coast District Council
Private Bag 60601
Paraparaumu 5254

Dear Stephen

Re: Proposed District Plan Hearings - Declaration of a Conflict of Interest

It has been drawn to my attention that the suggestion has been made that as the Independent Chair of the Hearings Panel for the Proposed District Plan hearings I have a conflict of interest.

In particular, the suggestion is that I have a conflict of interest in relation to the Proposed District Plan provisions relating to the Paraparaumu Airport and the Paraparaumu District Centre.

The suggestion is that the conflict derives from my involvement in 2008/09 as a planning witness for Paraparaumu Airport Ltd (PAL) in relation to Plan Change 18 (Paraparaumu Airport Zone) during the course of which the 'status' of retailing at the Airport was a matter before the Environment Court.

In my initial 'registration of interest' for appointment as an independent commissioner on the Hearings Panel I advised Council of my 2008/09 involvement on behalf of PAL. Accordingly, my earlier involvement was known to Council at the time of my appointment in October 2014 as Independent Chair of the Hearings Panel.

Notwithstanding my previous involvement, which was some six years ago, I consider that I can bring an independent view and open mind to the issue. Nevertheless, I accept that there is a perception of a conflict of interest.

Accordingly, to ensure that the hearing process is robust and free of any debate about my involvement, I consider it appropriate that I declare a conflict of interest in relation to Chapter 6 (Working Zones) provisions.

Although the Chapter 6 provisions cover matters other than the Airport Zone and the District Centre Zone, to avoid any suggestion of a conflict of interest, and, at the same time, assist in enabling an efficient decision-making across all of the Chapter 6 provisions, I consider that my standing aside from the hearings on Chapter 6 is in the best interests of an open and transparent decision-making process.

tel: 64 4 499 9725
fax: 64 4 499 9726
urban@urbanp.co.nz

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping strokes that form a stylized, somewhat abstract shape.

Alistair Aburn
Director
Environment Resource Management Consultant
URBAN PERSPECTIVES LTD
Tel: (04) 474 4111 / email: alistair@urbanp.co.nz

Independent Chair
Proposed District Plan Hearings Panel

Copy: Tim Power
Legal Counsel
Kapiti Coast District Council