



I hereby give notice that an ordinary meeting of the Hearings Committee will be held on:

Date: Wednesday, 7 May 2014
Time: 2.30pm
Meeting Room: Committee Meeting Room
Venue: Civic 15
1 Greys Avenue
Auckland

Hearings Committee

OPEN AGENDA

MEMBERSHIP

Chairperson	Cr Linda Cooper, JP
Deputy Chairperson	Cr Penny Webster
Members	Cr Anae Arthur Anae Cr Chris Darby Cr Calum Penrose Member David Taipari Cr Wayne Walker Member Glenn Wilcox
Ex-officio	Mayor Len Brown Deputy Mayor Penny Hulse

(Quorum 3 members)

Mary Binney
Democracy Advisor

30 April 2014

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TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Hearings Committee will have responsibility for:

- Decision making (including through a hearings process) under the Resource Management Act 1991 and related legislation;
- Hearing and determining objections under the Dog Control Act 1996;
- Decision making under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012
- Hearing and determining matters regarding drainage and works on private land under the Local Government Act 1974 and Local Government Act 2002. This delegation cannot be sub-delegated;
- Hearing and determining matters arising under bylaws, including applications for dispensation from compliance with the requirements of bylaws;
- Receiving recommendations from officers and appointing independent hearings commissioners to a pool of commissioners who will be available to make decisions on matters as directed by the Hearings Committee;
- Receiving recommendations from officers and deciding who should make a decision on any particular matter including who should sit as hearings commissioners in any particular hearing;
- Monitoring the performance of decision makers including responding to complaints made about decision makers;
- Where decisions are appealed or where the Hearings Committee decides that the Council itself should appeal a decision, directing the conduct of any such appeals; and
- Adopting a policy or policies and making any necessary sub-delegations relating to any of the above areas of responsibility to provide guidance and transparency to those involved.

Not all decisions under the Resource Management Act 1991 and other enactments require a hearing to be held and the term “decision making” is used to encompass a range of decision making processes including through a hearing. “Decision making” includes, but is not limited to, decisions in relation to applications for resource consent, plan changes, notices of requirement, objections, existing use right certificates and certificates of compliance and also includes all necessary related decision making.

In adopting a policy or policies and making any sub-delegations, the Hearings Committee must ensure that it retains oversight of decision making under the Resource Management Act 1991 and that it provides for Councillors to be involved in decision making in appropriate circumstances.

For the avoidance of doubt, these delegations confirm the existing delegations (contained in the Chief Executive’s Delegations Register) to hearings commissioners and staff relating to decision making under the RMA and other enactments mentioned below but limits those delegations by requiring them to be exercised as directed by the Hearings Committee.

Relevant legislation includes but is not limited to:

Resource Management Act 1991;	Fencing of Swimming Pools Act 1987;
Building Act 2004;	Gambling Act 2003;
Local Government Act 2002;	Sale of Liquor Act 1989;
Local Government Act 1974;	Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012
Local Government (Auckland Council Act) 2009;	Health Act 1956;
Local Government (Auckland Transitional Provisions) Act 2010;	Biosecurity Act 1993;
Dog Control Act 1996;	Related Regulations; and
	Council Bylaws.

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1 Apologies

At the close of the agenda apologies had been received from Councillor Arthur Anae, Deputy Mayor Penny Hulse and Deputy Chairperson Penny Webster.

2 Declaration of Interest

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

At the close of the agenda no requests for declarations of interest had been received.

3 Confirmation of Minutes

That the Hearings Committee:

- a) confirm the ordinary minutes of its meeting, held on Tuesday, 15 April 2014, including the confidential section, as a true and correct record.

4 Local Board Input

Standing Order 3.22 provides for Local Board Input. The Chairperson (or nominee of that Chairperson) is entitled to speak for up to **five (5)** minutes during this time. The Chairperson of the Local Board (or nominee of that Chairperson) shall wherever practical, give **two (2)** days notice of their wish to speak. The meeting Chairperson has the discretion to decline any application that does not meet the requirements of Standing Orders.

This right is in addition to the right under Standing Order 3.9.14 to speak to matters on the agenda.

At the close of the agenda no requests for local board input had been received.

5 Extraordinary Business

Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (as amended) states:

“An item that is not on the agenda for a meeting may be dealt with at that meeting if-

- (a) The local authority by resolution so decides; and
- (b) The presiding member explains at the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public,-
 - (i) The reason why the item is not on the agenda; and
 - (ii) The reason why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.”

Section 46A(7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (as amended) states:

“Where an item is not on the agenda for a meeting,-

- (a) That item may be discussed at that meeting if-
 - (i) That item is a minor matter relating to the general business of the local authority; and
 - (ii) the presiding member explains at the beginning of the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public, that the item will be discussed at the meeting; but
- (b) no resolution, decision or recommendation may be made in respect of that item except to refer that item to a subsequent meeting of the local authority for further discussion.”

6 Notices of Motion

At the close of the agenda no requests for notices of motion had been received.

Exclusion of the Public: Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

That the Hearings Committee:

- a) exclude the public from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution follows.

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

C1 Appointment of independent hearing commissioners

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Particular interest(s) protected (where applicable)	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased person. In particular, the report contains the names of people recommended for the independent commissioner pool. This information should not be made public until the Hearings Committee has adopted the recommendations and the successful applicants confirmed their acceptance of the appointments.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.

C2 Resource Consents Appeals: Status Report 7 May 2014

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Particular interest(s) protected (where applicable)	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.	s7(2)(i) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations). In particular, the report contains information that could compromise the council in undertaking without prejudice negotiations of appeals that are before the Environment Court.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.