

30 October 2018

Stephen Town
CEO Auckland Council
135 Albert Street
Auckland.

Dear Stephen

Special Character Overlay – consent processes

At the Heritage Advisory Panel meeting of the 24th October the Panel received a presentation from Devonport Heritage. Devonport Heritage is deeply concerned about the manner in which Auckland Council has handled the resource consent situation in Special Character Overlay areas in the wake of the Environment Court declaration of December 2017.

In particular while Council has notified affected consent holders, there has been no notification of adjoining landowners and other likely affected parties who may wish to become a party to any new consent application.

The Panel is concerned that the Council in practice is treating the Resource Management Act planning processes as purely a contract between the applicant and the council, whereas the Act as its Part II 'Principles and Purposes' emphasis on the central role of 'people and communities' demonstrates, is very much a social contract. Moreover 'Special Character', in most cases, is inextricably linked with 'heritage' and very much a societal quality and a public amenity.

After hearing Devonport Heritage's concerns and after discussion from Panel members the Panel in its role as advisor to the Council passed the following resolutions:

Resolution number HER/2018/1

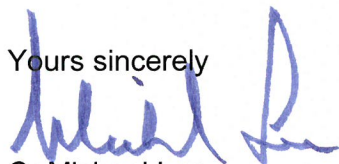
MOVED by Member C Page, seconded by Member H Geary:

That the Heritage Advisory Panel:

- a) **thank Trish Deans and Alistair Helms, of Devonport Heritage for their presentation and attendance.**
- b) **receive the Resource Consents in Special Character report**
- c) **request the council to make public the addresses of the 423 consents in special character overlay areas which the Environment Court on 20 December 2017 declared were consented by an invalid process, to enable more transparency for affected parties, particularly adjoining neighbours.**

We would be very grateful if the Council could agree to this request.

Yours sincerely



Cr Michael Lee

Chair

Heritage Advisory Panel