

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**)

AND

IN THE MATTER of Plan Change 48 – Designations
&
Plan Change 49 - Minor Corrections.

SECTION 41 RMA - DIRECTION #1

INDEPENDENT HEARING COMMISSIONER

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of Direction #1 is to set out a timetable for report, evidence and submissions exchange, and to provide the opportunity for the Hearing Commissioner and other parties to have read and considered such in advance of the hearing.

BACKGROUND

2. Pursuant to sections 34 and 34A of the RMA, Taupo District Council (**Council**) has appointed independent hearing commissioner David Hill to hear and make a recommendation to Council on the submissions and further submissions made to Plan Change 48 – Designations (**PC48**) and Plan Change 49 – Minor Corrections (**PC49**).
3. If required, a hearing on PC48 and/or PC49 has been scheduled to commence on **Tuesday, 23 June 2026**.

DIRECTIONS

4. Pursuant to s.41B & s.41C RMA, the following directions are made with respect to the s.42A report, expert evidence, legal submissions and lay representations:
 - (a) The Council must make its s.42A Hearing Report available to all parties in an electronic form (and by hard copy if requested) no later than 4pm on **Friday, 29 May 2026**.
 - (b) Any submitter who is intending to call expert evidence (i.e. evidence given by a professional with specialist qualifications and experience) must provide those briefs of evidence to the Council in an electronic form no later than 4pm on **Friday, 12 June 2026**.

- (c) Council's s.42A addendum, legal submissions and any rebuttal/reply evidence from any party shall be provided to Council in an electronic form no later than midday on **Friday, 19 June 2026**.
- (d) The material required by the above shall be placed on Council's website as soon as practicable following receipt.
- (e) Unless otherwise advised expert evidence will be taken as read. Therefore, experts should prepare an executive summary of their evidence for presentation at the hearing on the day. Ideally, the executive summary should be no more than 5 pages.
- (f) For the avoidance of doubt, general submitter representations may be made on the day and is not required to be lodged with Council or circulated in advance - (although this is preferred and is strongly recommended). You must provide written or electronic copies on the day you are scheduled to appear.

Hearing Matters

- 5. The hearing format will be in-person unless any party requests in advance to present virtually (by remote facilities).
- 6. Parties may provide their written and / or oral evidence and / or legal submissions in Te Reo Māori. If you wish to do so, please:
 - (a) provide an English version of any written document; and
 - (b) indicate whether you are happy to translate any oral kōrero into English or wish for a translator to be appointed. If the latter, advise Council of that requirement no later than **Wednesday, 17 June 2026**.
- 7. Any enquiries regarding this Direction or related matters should be directed to the Council at districtplan@taupo.govt.nz.



David Hill (Chair)
Independent Hearing Panel

Date: 7 May 2026