

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER of Hearing Submissions and Further Submissions on the
Proposed Waikato District Plan (Stage 1)

**MEMORANDUM BY COUNCIL TO HEARING COMMISSIONERS RELATING TO A
WORKSHOP FOR TANGATA WHENUA PROVISIONS
Date 10 February 2020**

May it please the Hearing Commissioners:

1. Arising from Hearing 4 which addressed Tangata Whenua provisions in the Proposed Waikato District Plan, the Hearings Panel issued directions (dated 20 November 2019) for all submitters and further submitters on Chapter 2 and District Council staff to participate in a workshop session to discuss the possible scope of a revised Chapter 2 of the Proposed District Plan. The parties that were present at the hearing endorsed the proposal that the workshop should occur as soon as was realistically achievable, preferably before Christmas but no later than the end of February 2020.
2. A date was initially set for the workshop as 20 February 2020. Council requires assistance from a planner and legal counsel who are experienced in Maaori land ownership tenure and challenges, as well as the processes of the Maori Land Court. Unfortunately the people experienced in these areas will not be available until April 2020.
3. The workshop is important to Council, and Council wishes to participate meaningfully having been informed by the best possible information available. For this reason, Council respectfully requests that the Hearings Panel consider delaying the workshop. As the Hearings Panel have indicated that it will not be issuing interim decisions (apart from the Ohinewai rezoning requests), I consider delaying the workshop will not hinder overall delivery of an integrated decision from the Panel.
4. Council therefore seeks the following direction from the Hearing Panel:
 - (a) That the workshop to discuss the possible scope of a revised Chapter 2 be held before 15 May 2020.

Dated at Ngaruawahia this 10th day of February 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'W' followed by a series of loops and a horizontal line extending to the right.

Will Gauntlett

Resource Management Policy Team Leader