

Hon Chris Bishop

Minister of Housing
Minister for Infrastructure
Minister Responsible for RMA Reform
Minister for Sport and Recreation
Leader of the House
Associate Minister of Finance



25 JUL 2024

Gavin Ion
Chief Executive
Waikato District Council
gavin.ion@waidc.govt.nz

Dear Gavin

Approval of Waikato District Council's request for an amendment to its Direction under section 80M of the Resource Management Act 1991

On 17 May 2024 I received a letter from Waikato District Council (the Council) requesting an amendment to The Resource Management (Direction for the Intensification Streamlined Planning Process to Hamilton City Council, Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council and Rotorua District Council) Notice 2022.

I am granting a shorter extension than requested. My Direction extends the timeframe for Waikato District Council to notify decisions on the Independent Hearings Panel's recommendations for its intensification planning instrument to 22 October 2024.

My officials are confident that you have the legal ability to make decisions (to accept or reject recommendations) while the appeals are still active. My officials are willing to continue supporting and engaging with your officials on the process going forward.

I consider that this extension will enable the Council to expeditiously complete its intensification streamlined planning process and notify decisions on Variation 3.

The amended Direction will take effect on 16 August 2024.

Thank you for all your work to date. Housing supply is a critical issue for the Government and I encourage council staff to continue to work with government officials on this issue.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris Bishop'.

Hon Chris Bishop
Minister Responsible for RMA Reform