

Minute from the Hearing Panel – regarding:

Closing Statements¹ following the completion of the Block 1, 2 and 3 Hearings.

Closing Statements from submitters

A number of parties have suggested it would be helpful if the Hearing Panel (Panel) provide an opportunity to the parties to make closing statements. While the Panel is anxious to complete the hearings as promptly as possible, it agrees that a limited opportunity for the parties to make final statements within a tightly controlled timescale prior to the Council's reply would be desirable.

Accordingly, the Panel directs that closing statements from submitters may be lodged at the conclusion of the hearing of submissions² as set out below. The purpose of closing statements is only to respond to any legal submissions and/or evidence heard over the course of the hearings that a party has not had the opportunity to respond to. It is not an opportunity to repeat submissions that have already been made or to seek to introduce any new or additional evidence.

The Panel wishes to make clear that closing statements are not mandatory, but may be lodged on the following basis:

- Only written statements will be accepted, and there will be no hearings held in relation to those statements;
- Written statements must be no longer than 10 pages, excluding any 'marked up' (track change) version of the Plan Change provisions;
- No evidence will be permitted;
- Any statements and 'marked up' version of the Plan Change provisions shall be provided as unsecured and searchable pdf or unsecured docx electronic files;
- Any questions the Panel may have arising from closing statements will be communicated in writing.

Any closing statements shall be lodged with the Council's Independent Hearings Coordinator not later than:

- Five working days following the final day of the Block 3 hearing for all submitters.

Closing Statement from the Council - as proponent of Plan Change 1.

The Council, as proponent of Plan Change 1, may lodge a closing statement on the following basis:

¹ A "statement" includes legal submissions.

²At the time of drafting this Minute the final day of hearings is the 19 September 2019

- The statement must be in writing, and there will be no hearing in relation to that statement;
- No evidence will be permitted;
- Any statement and 'marked up' (track change) version of the Plan Change provisions shall be provided as unsecured and searchable pdf or unsecured docx electronic files;
- Any questions the Panel may have arising from the closing statement will be communicated in writing.

Any closing statement made by the Council shall be lodged with the Council's Independent Hearings Coordinator not later than:

Fifteen working days following the final day of the Block 3 hearings for all submitters.



Greg Hill

Chairman of the Hearing Panel.

4 July 2019