

Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

MINUTE 5 OF THE EXPERT PANEL
Draft conditions and draft decision
Waitākere District Court – New courthouse project
[FTAA-2508-1096]

5 March 2026

Invitation to comment on the draft conditions

[1] The purpose of this Minute is to inform parties of the Panel’s draft decision and draft conditions and to direct the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to invite:

- a) Comments on the draft conditions of consent from specified parties under section 70 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act); and
- b) Comments on the draft decision and draft conditions from specified Ministers under section 72 of the Act.

[2] The Panel’s draft decision and draft conditions can be viewed on the fast-track website here: <https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/projects/waitakere-district-court-new-courthouse-project/draft-decision-and-conditions>

Section 70 of the Act

[3] In accordance with section 70 of the Act, the Panel directs the EPA to invite comments on the draft conditions from the Applicant, everyone who provided comments under section 53, and all relevant local authorities or statutory bodies.

[4] Section 70(2)(a) requires the Panel to set the date by which comments on the draft conditions must be received. The Panel therefore directs that comments on the draft conditions must be received by **12 March 2026**.

[5] As detailed in s 70(4) of the Act, if the Applicant wishes to respond to the comments on the draft conditions, it must do so no later than 5 working days after the date on which comments close. Any response from the Applicant is therefore due by **19 March 2026**.

Section 72 of the Act

[6] In accordance with section 72 of the Act, the Panel directs the EPA to invite comments from the Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti and the Minister for Māori Development on the draft decision, including any draft conditions.

[7] Section 72(2) requires that the Ministers be allowed 10 working days to comment on the draft decision, including any assessments made by the panel in relation to relevant Treaty settlements and any draft conditions related to that assessment. Comments from the Ministers are therefore due on **19 March 2026**.

[8] Comments under both section 70 and section 72 can be filed via email to: Substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz



Heather Ash

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