

**BEFORE THE PANEL CONVENER**

Application: FTAA-2511-1146

**IN THE MATTER** of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (FTAA)

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER** of an Application by New Zealand Transport Agency  
Waka Kotahi under section 42 of the FTAA for the North  
West Rapid Transit Project

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**MEMORANDUM OF HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND POUHERE TAONGA  
IN RESPONSE TO MINUTE OF THE PANEL CONVENER**

**25 March 2026**

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**HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND  
POUHERE TAONGA**

## **Introduction**

- 1 This memorandum is filed on behalf of Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT) in response to the Minute of the Panel Convener dated 16 March 2026 (Minute).
- 2 The Minute seeks input from participants to assist the Convener in making decisions regarding:
  - (a) The appointment of panel members; and
  - (b) The timing of the panel decision.
- 3 The Minute specifically directed a written response to the matters set out and any other matter they would like to raise for discussion at the conference.
- 4 This memorandum responds to this direction and focuses on the archaeological authorities (section 42(4)(i)) being sought.

## **Complexity**

- 5 The Applicant has applied for two archaeological authorities in relation to the Project. HNZPT has reviewed the Archaeological Assessments (Assessments) and the Draft Archaeological Management Plans (AMPs) provided in support of the authority applications, dated 15 December 2025.
- 6 Based on the Assessments and the AMPs, HNZPT considers this application is of low complexity and there is sufficient information to make a recommendation in the s51 Report.

## **Issues**

- 7 The Assessment also included proposed condition sets, in the event the authorities are granted. Although HNZPT has not completed its full assessment and s51 Report, we anticipate that we will be recommending amendments to the proposed conditions.

- 8 HNZPT will discuss the conditions directly with the Applicant prior to submitting its s51 Report, with the aim of presenting an agreed set of conditions to the Panel.

### **Panel Membership**

- 9 In respect of heritage matters, HNZPT does not consider that specialist input is required or that there are any factors that warrant the appointment of more than four Panel members.

### **Procedural Requirements**

- 10 HNZPT confirms its willingness to work directly with the Applicant with regard to appropriate conditions.
- 11 HNZPT does not have any comment in relation to the estimated timetable in Schedule 1.
- 12 HNZPT has begun preparing its s51 Report and anticipates this will be ready to submit in April.

### **Other Matters**

- 13 HNZPT does not have any other matters that it wishes to raise regarding the archaeological authority applications.
- 14 HNZPT will be attending the conference on 31 March 2026 and can answer any questions that may arise from this memorandum.



**Mel Russell**

Counsel for Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga