

# Memo

10 September 2025

To: Mary Hill, Chair, Drury Metropolitan Centre Expert Panel  
From: Russell Butchers, Principal Project Lead, Auckland Council

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Subject: **Auckland Council Response to Minute 4 – Drury Metropolitan Centre [FTAA-2502-1019]**

Thank you for Minute 4 dated 8 September 2025, and for the opportunity to provide input on the proposed expert conferencing process.

Auckland Council acknowledges that Panel has sought further information under section 67 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 and supports the proposed approach to expert conferencing on stormwater and transportation matters.

## **Council's Position on Expert Conferencing**

Council agrees that expert conferencing is an appropriate mechanism to address the complex technical issues raised in submissions and comments, particularly in relation to:

- Stormwater management and receiving environment impacts
- Transportation capacity and integration with the wider network

We support the Panel's proposal for facilitated, expert-only conferencing and agree that a combination of online and in-person participation may be suitable to ensure the involvement of relevant experts.

## **Council's Nominated Experts**

Council confirms the following attendees for the expert conferencing sessions:

### Transportation

Matt Ford, Senior Development Planner, Auckland Transport

Chris Freke, Principal Planner, Auckland Transport

Paul Schischka, Principal Transport Engineer, PTM Transport Consultants (consultant for Auckland Transport)

Mat Collins, Associate Transportation Planner, Abley Limited (consultant for Auckland Council)

Note: Mat Collins may have limited availability on 2 October 2025 due to a hearing commitment.

### Stormwater

Mark Iszard, Manager – Growth and Developments, Healthy Waters & Flood Resilience

Hillary Johnston, Consultant Specialist, Healthy Waters & Flood Resilience

Dali Suljic, Consultant Specialist, Healthy Waters & Flood Resilience

Martin Meyer, Senior Stormwater Specialist, Auckland Council

Griffin Benton-Lynne, Consultant Specialist, AWA (consultant for Auckland Transport)

### Other experts (as required)

Masato Nakamura, Consultant Planner, CoLab Planning (consultant for Auckland Council)

Jason Smith, Ecologist, Morphem Limited (consultant for Auckland Council)

Maria Baring, Development Engineer, Auckland Council

Other experts may be available if required.

All nominated experts are familiar with the Environment Court's Practice Note 2023 and will engage constructively in the conferencing process.

#### **Comments on the Proposed Timetable**

Council considers the proposed timetable to be reasonable and achievable, and we will work to meet the deadlines for summary statements and participation in caucusing. We appreciate the Panel's efforts to structure the process clearly and transparently.

#### **Legal Matters**

Council notes the Panel's engagement of external legal advice regarding "capacity banking" and related jurisdictional matters. We look forward to reviewing that advice once published and will consider its implications for Council's position on the application.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R Butchers". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Russell Butchers  
**Principal Project Lead**  
**Auckland Council**