

FTAA-2509-1102

Penny Nelson  
Director-General of Conservation  
Department of Conservation

s 9(2)(a)

Dear Penny

**Invitation to provide written comments on an application for referral under section 17, and request for report in relation to the use of Public Conservation Land under Section 19, of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 for the Brookvale Green project**

An application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from Vermont Street Partners No.4 Limited (the applicant) for referral of the Brookvale Green project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) to the fast-track approvals process. Project summary details are in Appendix A.

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits. [Section 22](#) of the Act sets out the criteria that inform the Minister's decision-making process on referral applications.

I write under delegation from the Minister and in accordance with section 17(1)(c) of the Act (which requires the Minister to seek comments on a referral application from the relevant administering agencies). I invite the Department of Conservation to provide written comments on the referral application as the administering agency for the Wildlife Act 1953.

The information you are receiving is being provided to you consistent with the statutory requirements for consultation under section 17 of the Act. The information is being provided in confidence. It should not be forwarded to, and comments should not be sought from, anyone outside of your organisation.

If you wish to provide written comments, these must be received within **20 working days** of receipt of this letter and copy of the application. The Minister is not required to consider information received outside of this time frame. Comments received will inform the Minister's

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considerations in making decisions on whether to accept the referral application. If a decision is made to refer the project, any comments received may assist in determining the information that must be submitted with the substantive application.

The project includes public conservation land within its project area and will require resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991 in addition to permits under the Wildlife Act 1953. I further write under delegation from the Minister and in accordance with section 19(1) of the Act to request and obtain a report in relation to the use of public conservation land that is prepared by the Director-General of Conservation.

As specified under section 19 of the Act, the report must include the following:

1. the existing arrangements (whether formal or informal) for the administration, access to, or use of public conservation land within the project area
2. advice on the risks to, and potential liabilities of, the Crown that relate to any proposed approvals of the kind described in [section 42\(4\)\(e\), \(f\), \(l\), or \(m\)](#) (concession, land exchange, or access arrangement).
3. if the referral application was required to include information under [paragraph \(q\) or \(r\) of section 13\(4\)](#), advice on the matters set out in the applicable paragraph.

Please note, as required under section 19(3), the report content related to the existing arrangements and advice on risks and liabilities must be prepared in consultation with every owner, administrator, or manager of the land who is not the Crown.

Please upload your comments, and provide the section 19 report, no later than 20 working days from receipt of this letter via upload to the portal, or alternatively a template for written comments is provided in Attachment 1 and a template for the section 19 report is provided in Attachment 2. If you do not consider the section 19 report can be prepared within 20 working days, please contact [ftareferrals@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:ftareferrals@mfe.govt.nz).

If the Minister decides to accept the application and to refer the project, the applicant will need to complete any preliminary steps required under the Act and then lodge their substantive application for the approvals needed for the project. An expert panel will be appointed to decide the substantive application.

Before the due date, please email any queries about this letter to [referral@fasttrack.govt.nz](mailto:referral@fasttrack.govt.nz) and include the name of the Application Lead – Helen Willis. For assistance with the application portal, please email [contact@fasttrack.govt.nz](mailto:contact@fasttrack.govt.nz) or phone 0800 FASTRK (0800 327 875).

Yours sincerely



Ilana Miller

**General Manager – Investment Strategy and Operations**

Appendix A: Project summary details

cc FT Team at DoC – fast-track@doc.govt.nz  
Jenni Fitzgerald (FT Manager) – s 9(2)(a)

## Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2509-1102
Project name	Brookvale Green
Applicant name	Vermont Street Partners No.4 Limited
Project summary details	<p>The project is to construct and operate an integrated residential community comprising 189 – 215 new homes across 23.99 hectares on the eastern edge of Havelock North’s urban residential boundary. The project will also include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. supporting infrastructure, including on-site stormwater management, onsite transportation networks and any necessary transport upgrades to the wider transport network</li><li>b. connection to public reticulated water and wastewater services</li><li>c. landscape and ecological enhancement, including approximately 4.3 hectares of native planting and pest control, and integration with existing and proposed walking and cycling trails.</li></ul> <p>The project will require the proposed approvals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991</li><li>b. permits under the Wildlife Act 1953.</li></ul>