
MINUTE 15 OF THE EXPERT PANEL

Response to memorandum of counsel for the Applicant dated 23 June 2026

North West Rapid Transit [FTAA-2511-1146]

26 June 2026

[1] This minute responds to the memorandum of counsel for the Applicant dated 23 June 2026 (**Memorandum**).

[2] In Minute 12 the Panel set out its position in relation to the conflict issue raised by the Applicant regarding Panel Member Langwell. The minute identified the steps taken, and those to be taken, to address the Applicant's concerns regarding the perceived conflict.

[3] In response to Minute 12, the Memorandum states that the Applicant considers the Panel's approach does not address the issue satisfactorily, and does not resolve it. Two reasons are identified at paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2 of the Memorandum. Each are addressed below:

Paragraph 3.1: Panel Member Langwell does not 'continue to have a role' as suggested. He advises that he has had no contact with NZRPG regarding this site (13-15 Westgate Drive) since 9 April 2026, and considers no further input from him is required. The Applicant's concern that the disclosure does not confirm that his firm (of which he is a director) will not have any further role in relation to another development impacted by NOR2 is speculating on a future scenario

which does not currently exist. The Panel considers conflict management to be an ongoing exercise and under constant review. If circumstances change, the implications will be addressed.

Paragraph 3.2: The Panel is clear on the role and function of each of its members, and recognises that each member brings their own expertise to the collective decision making task. The independent transport expert will assist the Panel in its evaluation of the transportation evidence.

[4] Paragraph 4 of the memorandum states:

NZTA wishes to note the above matters for the record, and to reserve its rights with respect to the Panel's decision. It does not request reconsideration of the issues, but Counsel are available to attend a conference with the Panel to discuss them (as suggested in paragraph 7 of Minute 12) if the Panel sees advantage in doing so.

[5] The Panel notes that the Applicant does not request reconsideration of the issues, but reserves its rights with respect to the Panel's decision.

[6] That position is available to the Applicant. While it leaves this issue somewhat unresolved, the Panel is nevertheless satisfied that its management of the conflict issue is appropriate, and will move on. It does not require a conference to be convened.

[7] If there are any matters arising from this minute which cause the Applicant to seek a conference with the Panel, one will be convened.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Lachlan Muldowney', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Lachlan Muldowney

North West Rapid Transit Expert Panel Chair