

COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020

Molesworth Street Office Development Consent Application by Prime Property Group Limited.

M-4 Minute of the Molesworth Street Office Development Expert Consenting Panel – 27 August 2021

1. Clause 10(3) of Schedule 5 of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (the Act), specifies that a panel may appoint a special adviser to assist the panel with an application in relation to any matters the panel may determine.
2. The Molesworth Street Office Development Expert Consenting Panel (the Panel) has appointed special advisors to undertake peer reviews of different aspects of the application in a variety of specialist areas, the specialist are as follows;
 - a. Heritage Specialist - Moira Smith from The Heritage Practice
 - b. Transport Specialist - Stephen Hewett from Beca
 - c. Wind Specialist - Michael Donn from Victoria University
 - d. Urban Design Specialist - Andrew Burns from McIndoe
3. On 26 August 2021, Moira Smith has provided advice to the Panel.
4. On 23 August 2021, Stephen Hewett has provided advice to the Panel.
5. On 26 August 2021, Andrew Burns has provided advice to the Panel.
6. Michael Donn is still to provide his advice to the Panel, but this will be released on the EPA website once it is received.
7. The expert reports referred to in paragraphs 3-5 above, can be viewed at the Environmental protection Authority website, at the following link:

<https://www.epa.govt.nz/fast-track-consenting/referred-projects/molesworth-street-office-development/reports-and-advice/>
8. If any of the persons or organisations that originally provided comments on the application to the Panel, wish to comment on the expert reports, you may do so by **5pm on Monday 6 September 2021** by sending those comments to the EPA by email at **molesworthfasttrack@epa.govt.nz**.
9. The Panel appreciates that the Urban Design Report raises some significant issues for the Panel's consideration as part of its ultimate decision that must now be made before 30 September 2021. Within that timeframe, it wishes to provide the applicant the fullest opportunity as possible to comment on the Urban Design report, and if it thought fit, to place any design modifications that it may wish to make before the Panel.
10. However, the Panel also notes that it must allow time for draft submissions to be provided to the applicant and those persons and organisations that provided comments on the application. (As previously noted in Minute 3, the provision of draft conditions for comment should not be taken as

any indication as to whether the Panel will grant or refuse consent). This does however limit the time available for a final response from the applicant.

11. Accordingly, the Panel invites the applicant to provide any comments on the expert reports by Monday 6 September 2021 by sending them to the email address referred to at paragraph 8 above. However, in the case of any response to the urban design report that the applicant wishes to make, the Panel would be prepared, on application in writing made to it through the EPA, to look favourably on a short extension in time to provide a more detailed response.
12. For the applicant's information, the Panel notes that Clause 23(1) of Schedule 6 of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 enables the applicant to suspend the processing of the application. Any suspension may not extend longer than 50 working days.
13. Also for the applicant's information, the applicant may elect to withdraw the current application and relodge it with the EPA in due course.



Duncan Laing

Chairperson

Molesworth Street office Development Expert Consenting Panel