

## Edgar Tulepu

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**From:** Sara Clarke  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 26 March 2024 11:05 am  
**To:** Ilana Miller; Stephanie Frame  
**Subject:** FW: OK from Willis re fee exemption  
**Attachments:** Letter to Hon Bishop re fee exception.pdf  
  
**Importance:** High

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**From:** Lisa Johnston <Lisa.Johnston@parliament.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 26, 2024 10:33 AM  
**To:** Jo Gascoigne <Jo.Gascoigne@mfe.govt.nz>; Sara Clarke <Sara.Clarke@mfe.govt.nz>; Stephanie Frame <Stephanie.Frame@mfe.govt.nz>; RMReform <RM.Reform@mfe.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** OK from Willis re fee exemption  
**Importance:** High

Apologies – this was sent to our advisor who missed it last week.

Ngā mihi,



**Lisa Johnston** (she/her)

**Private Secretary – RMA Reform** | Office of Hon Chris Bishop  
Minister for Housing, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister Responsible for RMA Reform,  
Minister for Sport & Recreation, Leader of the House, Associate Minister of Finance

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21 March 2024

Hon Chris Bishop  
Minister Responsible for RMA Reform  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington 6160

Dear Minister

**Project Panel members assessing applications for projects to be included in Schedule 2 of the Fast Track Approvals Bill: Proposed Fees for the Panel**

Thank you for your letter of 18 March 2023 seeking my support on your proposal to pay exceptional daily fees of \$1,600 for the Expert Panel on Fast-track Approvals.

I recognise that the members of the Expert Panel will need to have specialist skills, particularly in infrastructure delivery, environmental issues, and cultural matters, and these will be important in supporting the review of projects to be referred for consideration under the Fast-track Approval process. Panel members will also need to closely engage with hapū/iwi, local government, and relevant stakeholders as applications are considered through the process.

The proposed fees are broadly in line with exceptional fees for comparable bodies in recent years, although they are at the upper end. With the above in mind, I am willing to support your proposal for fee exceptions for the Expert Panel when it is considered at the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nicola Willis'.

Hon Nicola Willis  
**Minister for the Public Service**