



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects (No 11) Amendment Order 2021

Portfolio Environment

On 6 September 2021, Cabinet:

- 1 **noted** that the Minister for the Environment has decided under section 24 of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 to accept the applications for referral of the following projects to a panel:
 - 1.1 Aedifice Development Limited's Brickfields – Scott Rd Development project;
 - 1.2 Melia Development Limited's Melia Place project;
 - 1.3 The Minister of Justice and the Ministry of Justice's Tauranga Innovative Courthouse project;
- 2 **noted** that Aedifice Development Limited's Brickfields – Scott Rd Development project meets the eligibility criteria in section 18 of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020, and is considered to help achieve the Act's purpose by having the potential to:
 - 2.1 have positive effects on social wellbeing by:
 - 2.1.1 providing additional housing supply of a range of typologies in an area that has been rapidly growing and has a projected housing capacity shortfall in the medium term;
 - 2.1.2 delivering open space and infrastructure which will facilitate community connection and provide opportunity for physical activities;
 - 2.2 generate employment by providing approximately 380 direct full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs per year over a three-year planning and construction period;
 - 2.3 increase housing supply via the construction of 425 new residential units;
 - 2.4 progress faster using the Act's processes than if consents were sought through standard Resource Management Act 1991 processes, provided that the applicants lodge their applications for resource consent with the Environmental Protection Authority in a timely manner following referral;

- 3 **noted** that the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Amendment Order (No 11) 2021 requires Aedifice Development Limited to provide to an expert consenting panel: heritage assessments including consideration of effects on scheduled sites, three waters services assessments, a contaminated land assessment and an integrated transport assessment, as detailed in Appendix three to the submission under CAB-21-SUB-0357;
- 4 **noted** that the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Amendment Order (No 11) 2021 requires an expert consenting panel appointed to consider Aedifice Development Limited's Brickfields – Scott Rd Development project to seek comments from Auckland Transport, Watercare Services Limited and Ngāti Koheriki Claims Committee, as listed in Appendix three;
- 5 **noted** that Melia Development Limited's Melia Place project meets the eligibility criteria in section 18 of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020, and is considered to help achieve the Act's purpose by having the potential to:
- 5.1 have positive effects on social wellbeing by:
 - 5.1.1 providing additional housing supply, including terraced housing which can provide a more affordable option at a time when housing prices are rapidly escalating in the Auckland region;
 - 5.1.2 providing employment opportunities during construction;
 - 5.1.3 providing recreation space;
 - 5.2 generate employment by providing approximately 96 direct FTE jobs per year over a two-year construction period;
 - 5.3 increase housing supply through the construction of approximately 59 new residential units;
 - 5.4 progress faster using the Act's processes than if consents were sought through standard Resource Management Act 1991 processes, provided that the applicant lodges their applications for resource consent with the Environmental Protection Authority in a timely manner following referral;
- 6 **noted** that the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Amendment Order (No 11) 2021 requires Melia Development Limited to provide to an expert consenting panel: an archaeological assessment, greenhouse gas emissions and climate change assessments, three waters services assessments, a construction erosion and sediment control plan, a social impact assessment and an integrated transport assessment as detailed in Appendix four;
- 7 **noted** that the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Amendment Order (No 11) 2021 requires an expert consenting panel appointed to consider Melia Development Limited's Melia Place project to seek comments from Auckland Transport and Watercare Services Limited, as listed in Appendix four;

- 8 **noted** that the Minister of Justice and the Ministry of Justice's Tauranga Innovative Courthouse project meets the eligibility criteria in section 18 of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020, and is considered to help achieve the Act's purpose by having the potential to:
- 8.1 have positive effects on social wellbeing by providing more user-friendly and fit-for-purpose justice facilities;
 - 8.2 enable approximately 177 FTE jobs over the 4-5 year design and construction period and enable 40 FTE ongoing jobs over an average 12-month period;
 - 8.3 progress faster by using the Act's processes than would otherwise be the case under standard Resource Management Act 1991 processes, provided that the applicants lodge their notice of requirement with the Environmental Protection Authority in a timely manner following project referral;
- 9 **noted** that the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Amendment Order (No 11) 2021 requires The Minister of Justice and the Ministry of Justice to provide to an expert consenting panel: a notice of requirement for a designation, an archaeological assessment, a transport assessment, an infrastructure assessment, and an urban design and landscape assessment, as detailed in Appendix five;
- 10 **authorised** the submission to the Executive Council of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Amendment Order (No 11) 2021 [PCO 24075/8.0];
- 11 **noted** that on 27 July 2020, Cabinet agreed to waivers of the 28-day rule so that Orders in Council made under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 can come into force as soon as they are notified in the New Zealand Gazette [CAB-20-MIN-0353];
- 12 **noted** that the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Amendment Order (No 11) 2021 will come into force on 10 September 2021.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet