

Hon David Parker BCom, LLB

Attorney-General

Minister for the Environment

Minister for Oceans and Fisheries

Minister of Revenue

Associate Minister of Finance



2020-B-07309

2 December 2020

Ministers of/for:

Infrastructure; Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti; Housing; Education; Arts, Culture, and Heritage; Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations; Local Government; Land Information; Defence; Transport; Conservation; and Climate Change

Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

Dear Ministers

COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 – comments sought on application for referral

This letter is sent to you pursuant to section 21(2) of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (the Act).

The aim of the Act is to urgently promote employment to support Aotearoa's recovery from the economic and social impacts of COVID-19 and to support certainty of investment while continuing to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources, and meet Treaty of Waitangi obligations.

The proposed project is described in the enclosed schedule, and a copy of the application is electronically attached.

I invite you to provide written comments on the proposed project under section 21(2) of the Act. I note that if this project is referred to an expert consenting panel for determination, the applicant will then be required to lodge a more detailed application including an environmental assessment and cultural impact assessment with the Environmental Protection Authority. You will have a further opportunity at that stage to provide comments on the application to the expert consenting panel.

Please provide your comments via return email within 10 working days if you wish me to take them into consideration when making a decision on whether to refer the application to an expert consenting panel.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Parker', is positioned above the typed name.

Hon David Parker
Minister for the Environment

Enclosures:

- A. Schedule of proposed project
- B. Application to refer Adaptation of the Executive Wing of Parliament to an expert consenting panel including supporting information

Released under the provision of
the Official Information Act 1982

Appendix A - Schedule of proposed project

Project	Applicant	Details
Adaptation of the Executive Wing of Parliament	Her Majesty the Queen by an employee of the parliamentary service that was duly established under the provision of Section 6 of the Parliamentary Service Act 2000 (acting pursuant to authority given to the General Manager by the attorney-general of New Zealand under section 4B of the Public Works Act 1981)	Adapt the Executive Wing of Parliament by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• demolishing/ deconstructing the existing Press Gallery (an existing heritage building and earthquake prone building)• constructing a building to accommodate new Ministerial suites.

Released under the provision of
the Official Information Act 1982