

BRF-1465

4th May 2022

Andrew Coleman
Chief Executive Officer
Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga
Email: s 9(2)(a)

Dear Andrew Coleman

COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-Track Consenting) Act 2020 – comments sought on referral application – Jervois Quay Project

The Minister for the Environment (Minister) has received an application from MFC Development Limited Partnership to refer the Jervois Quay Project (project) to an expert consenting panel (a panel) for consideration under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (FTCA).

The purpose of the FTCA is to promote employment to support New Zealand'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.

The project is described in Appendix A and a link to the application documents is in the covering email.

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga may have an interest in the project because the project is in an identified heritage area, with a number of significant heritage structures in the surrounding area such as the Town Hall, City Gallery, and structures within the Cuba corridor. Under delegated authority from the Minister and pursuant to section 21(3) of the FTCA, I invite you to provide written comments on the referral application. A template is attached for this purpose.

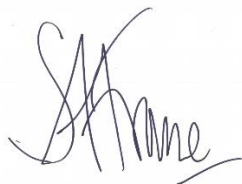
The above information is provided to you in confidence and as part of the statutory process set out in the FTCA. Please do not forward the application or request for comments to anyone outside your organisation.

If the Minister accepts the application and the project are referred to a panel the applicant will be able to lodge applications with the Environmental Protection Authority for the approvals needed under the Resource Management Act 1991. The applicant must provide a detailed assessment of environmental effects and cultural impact assessment(s) as part of this process.

Please provide your comments via return email within 10 working days to ensure that the Minister takes your comments into consideration when deciding whether or not to accept the referral application. Note that the Minister is not required to consider any comments provided after this time.

If you would like more information about the fast-track consenting process, or to discuss the application, please contact the Ministry for the Environment's Fast-track Consenting Team at fasttrackconsenting@mfe.govt.nz to arrange an appointment.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S Frame', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stephanie Frame
Manager, Fast-track Consenting Team

Appendix:

A. Details of proposed project

Attachments:

1. Application to refer the Jervois Quay Project to an expert consenting panel, including supporting information (Databox link)
2. Response template for written comments

cc: Tatum Hoskin, Personal Assistant,
Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga - s 9(2)(a)

Barbara Rouse, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga - s 9(2)(a)

Appendix A - Proposed project

Name	Applicant	Details
Jervois Quay Project	MFC Development Limited Partnership	<p>The project is to construct an eight-storey mixed-use building up to 39 metres high, which will provide for educational and cultural activities, and retail and commercial (offices) tenancies. The building will include a plant room on the roof of the eighth storey, and a laneway providing for through-site pedestrian access. The project also involves demolition of an overbridge across Wakefield Street.</p> <p>The project involves activities such as the removal or demolition of an existing building and structures, construction of a new building and associated infrastructure, earthworks (including disturbing contaminated soils), take, diversion and discharge of groundwater, discharge of stormwater and contaminants to land, and landscaping.</p>