

2020-B-07099

Stefanie Rixecker
Chief Executive Officer
Environment Canterbury Regional Council
s 9(2)(a)

Dear Stefanie Rixecker

**COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-Track Consenting) Act 2020 – Park Terrace, Christchurch
Comprehensive Care Retirement Village – Comments sought**

In the week commencing 10 August 2020, the Minister for the Environment received an application to refer the above project to an expert consenting panel for consideration under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (the Act). The proposed project is located within the Canterbury region.

The project is described as follows, and a copy of the application is attached:

Park Terrace, Christchurch Comprehensive Care Retirement Village

Construct and operate a retirement village, providing for:

- 165 independent apartments
- 124 care beds (including hospital care and specialist dementia care).

Under delegated authority from the Minister for the Environment, I invite you to provide written comments on the proposed project pursuant to section 21(2) of the Act (a template is attached for this purpose). Comments are sought on the specific matters outlined in the table below, and any further information you consider relevant to the Minister for the Environment's decision on whether to refer the project to an expert consenting panel. If it is more efficient to discuss this application, officials from the Fast-track Consenting Team will be available for a discussion with you. Please contact us at fasttrackconsenting@mfe.govt.nz.

Information requirements
1. Are there any reasons that you consider it more appropriate for the project, or part of the project, to continue to proceed through existing Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) consenting processes rather than the processes in the Act?
2. The status of the applicant's RMA consent applications (e.g. whether a notification decision has been made), and any significant issues that you are aware of.
3. Does the applicant, or a company owned by the applicant, have any environmental regulatory compliance history in your region?

Also note that if the Minister for the Environment decides to refer the project to a panel, you will have the opportunity, in conjunction with Christchurch City Council, to nominate a local authority representative (who could be a councillor or independent hearings commissioner) to sit on the panel and determine the application. Applicants will provide a detailed assessment of environmental effects at this next stage and you will have the opportunity to provide further comments to the panel. The Ministry for the Environment has prepared guidance on local authority involvement with fast-track consenting projects which you can access on the Ministry for the Environment website.

Please provide your comments via return email within 10 working days so that the Minister for the Environment can take your comments into consideration when deciding on the application.

Yours sincerely



Liz Moncrieff
Acting Director, Natural and Built Systems

Enclosures:

- A. Application to refer the Park Terrace, Christchurch Comprehensive Care Retirement Village to an expert consenting panel including supporting information
- B. Response template to provide written comments

cc Virginia Loughnan, Consents Manager
Environment Canterbury Regional Council,

s 9(2)(a)