



BRF-226

28 June 2021

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 – Ministry of Justice Innovative Courthouse - Tauranga

I have received an application to refer a project to an expert consenting panel (a panel) for consideration under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (FTCA). This letter is sent to you pursuant to section 21(2) of the FTCA.

The aim 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, and meet Treaty of Waitangi obligations.

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

I invite you under section 21(2) of the FTCA to provide written comments on the referral application. I note that if this project is 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. A more detailed environmental assessment and cultural impact assessments will be required as part of these applications. You will have an opportunity at that stage to provide comments to the 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 or not to accept the application and refer the project to a panel.

Yours sincerely



Hon David Parker
Minister for the Environment

Enclosure:

- A. Schedule of proposed project
- B. Application to refer Ministry of Justice Innovative Courthouse - Tauranga 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
Ministry of Justice Innovative Courthouse - Tauranga	Minister of Justice (c/- The Property Group Limited)	The Project is for a designation to construct and operate a new Innovative Courthouse in Tauranga.

Released under the provision of
the Official Information Act 1982