# BEFORE INDEPENDENT HEARING COMMISSIONERS AT WELLINGTON

### I MUA NGĀ KAIKŌMIHANA WHAKAWĀ MOTUHAKE TE WHANGANUI-A-TARA

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER of the hearing of submissions on the Greater

Wellington Regional Council's Proposed Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement

## LEGAL SUBMISSIONS ON BEHALF OF KĀINGA ORA – HOMES AND COMMUNITIES

#### **HEARING STREAM 2**

3 JULY 2023

Instructing solicitor:

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### 1. KĀINGA ORA – HOMES AND COMMUNITIES

- 1.1 This brief submission is lodged on behalf of Kāinga Ora Homes and Communities ("Kāinga Ora") in relation to one submission point, S158.003.
- 1.2 The Kāinga Ora submission sought that para (f) of Objective A, the overarching objective, be amended to read "(f) "is resilient to the likely current and future effects of climate change."
- 1.3 The section 42A report writer has recommended instead that it be amended to read "(h) responds effectively to the current and future effects of climate change, and population growth and development pressures and opportunities."
- 1.4 Kāinga Ora acknowledges that its submission has been accepted in part by the reporting officer and the term "effects" has been used, which Kāinga Ora considers to be more consistent with RMA terminology.
- 1.5 Nonetheless, Kāinga Ora does not consider this to be an appropriate or effective outcome. The objective's structure and syntax is not assisted by the numerous "ands" which make it unclear which adjectives modify which nouns. I assume that the paragraph is intended to mean that the integrated management of the region's natural and built environments is to respond to:
  - (a) The current and future effects of climate change; and
  - (b) Population growth; and
  - (c) Development pressures and opportunities.
- 1.6 If so, it needs a comma after "growth". Otherwise it reads as if the opportunities are not related to development. It may be preferable to set the component parts out as a list in the form above.
- 1.7 Kāinga Ora acknowledges that population growth and development pressures are appropriate to respond to in an integrated manner, but

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seeks a clearer structure to the objective to differentiate between

climate change, and growth and development.

1.8 As such, Kāinga Ora considers and seeks that the most appropriate

wording based on the understood intent of the objective is: "(h)

responds effectively to the current and future effects of climate change,

population growth, and development pressures.

1.9 Notwithstanding the relief sought above, Kāinga Ora wishes to note for

the panels' consideration, that "responds to" does not provide an

effective objective. It does not provide any direction as to the nature of

the response. The response could be positive or adverse. Arguably,

not responding to something is a response. With respect, specifying

"resilience" provides a more appropriate and effective objective.

1.10 Kāinga Ora does not seek to be heard orally.

Date: 3 July 2023

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Nick Whittington