

BEFORE THE HEARING COMMISSIONER

**IN THE
MATTER OF**

**The Resource Management Act
1991 (the Act)**

AND

**IN THE
MATTER OF**

**Waikato District Council Proposed
District Plan:
Hearing 3-Strategic Objectives.**

**HIGHLIGHTS STATEMENT OF CAROLYN ANNE MCALLEY FOR AND ON BEHALF OF
HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND POUHERE TAONGA**

Highlights Summary

- 1.1 The following is a summary of my concerns in relation to the s42 planners report and rebuttal report in relation to the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT) submission point to include a new matter for consideration as part of Policy 4.7.2 - Subdivision location and design, being “(viii) Avoid adverse effects on historic heritage and cultural values.”
- 1.2 The reporting planner has accepted the submission point in principle, however has recommended an alternative wording “(viii) Protect significant historic heritage and cultural values and incorporate those values into subdivision design,” citing that the word “avoid” does not align with the notion of protect in the RMA or as espoused in the Proposed Waikato District Plan (PWDP).
- 1.3 I consider that the word “protect” encompasses a wide range of measures such as the notion of avoidance as well as other ideas such as additions being suitable in scale and form and so on. The rule framework of the PWDP reflects this varied approach including non-complying activities for the destruction of some historic heritage. Several subdivision rules in the PWDP seek that historic and cultural sites are retained within one lot, which aligns with the policy addition of avoiding these sites that HNZPT are seeking.
- 1.4 The consideration of the avoidance of historic heritage and cultural sites/values at the time of subdivision represents the most efficient way of providing for the sustainable management and protection of these important matters. HNZPT archaeologists strongly support that these sites are considered and avoided as early in the subdivision processes as possible, preferably at plan change and if not structure plan stage as the best method of ensuring their retention.
- 1.5 I continue to seek that the proposed policy wording of the HNZPT submission and the clear guidance that the suggested wording provides are retained at the time of decision making.

Carolyn McAlley

For Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga