

9 December 2021

**Attention: Mount Hobson Group c/- Mark Benjamin**

Dear Mark,

### **Resource consent application – Further information request**

Application number:	LUC60389929
Applicant:	Alexander Williams
Address:	38 Rawene Avenue, Westmere
Proposed activity:	Helicopter take off and landing

Further to my email of 7 December 2021 where I confirmed that your application was accepted for processing, I have now reviewed your application and inspected the site.

This letter is a request for further information that will help me better understand your proposal, including its effect on the environment and the ways any adverse effects might be mitigated.

#### **Requested information**

##### **Ecology:**

1. Please provide an ecological assessment prepared by a suitably qualified professional that identifies potential and actual effects on the ecological values of the area resulting from helicopter movements to and from the site.

Of note is the rock shelf on the point north of the proposed helipad location, which is a known significant local roost for both variable and pied oyster catchers; however, all relevant ecological impacts should be identified and assessed.

##### **Acoustic:**

*From planner:*

2. Please confirm why the building approved under BUN60373967 has not been included in the noise modelling as screening, as this is considered to form part of the receiving environment.
3. Please confirm how long it would generally take for the helicopter to travel between the ground and the 500ft mark, and vice versa.
4. Please provide noise modelling (both  $L_{Amax}$  and  $L_{dn}$ ) for scenarios where flights are required to be made outside the proposed flight sector for safety reasons.

*From acoustic specialist:*

5. Please provide the  $L_{Aeq}$  and time duration for the measurement at 40m, as shown in Figure 4.
6. Please confirm the assumed duration of a helicopter arrival and departure sequence, as forms the basis of the calculation and assessment in Section 4 of the Hegley report.
7. Please can noise contours be provided to show the potential impact on other neighbours (e.g., north east)?

**General:**

8. Please provide additional assessment of effects on recreational users of Cox's Bay and the coast surrounding the site, including those engaging in activities such as kite surfing and sailing.
9. Please provide further detail of the proposed helipad location, including:
  - a. A plan identifying the helipad location (pictures with the helipad location outlined would also be helpful);
  - b. The RL of the helipad;
  - c. The distance from an identifiable point of the dwelling approved under BUN60373967 and from the nearest coastal planting proposed under coastal consent CST60383790 (BUN60383789).

This information is required in order to ensure that the noise modelling provided is accurate and that any future flights are in accordance with the predicted noise levels.

It is recommended that the proposed helicopter coordinates are checked to confirm these are accurate and in accordance with the above.

*NB: I note that building consent BCO10329873 grants the construction of a retaining wall near the coastal boundary and the apparent helipad location. If earthworks (cut or fill) are undertaken as part of this construction, this could result in non-compliance to Standard E12.6.2(1)(b).*

10. The application makes provision for flights to and from the helipad to deviate from the flight sector shown in Figure 1 of the acoustic assessment prepared by HAC, in order to comply with CAA NZ requirements. I note this could result in noise levels that differ / increase from those modelled by HAC.

Please provide comment on the likelihood of flights being restricted to within the proposed flight sector, taking into account the requirements of CAA NZ, and subsequently the ability to comply with the noise modelling provided.

I draw your attention to section 1.2.1 of the CAA NZ Advisory Circular (attached), which establishes that downwind operations should be avoided.

*NB: I have requested CAA NZ review the application, with regard to the adequacy of the flight sector in meeting their requirements. I will forward their comments once received.*

11. Please confirm if the proposed helipad is reliant on coastal consent CST60383790 being approved and given effect to.
12. Please confirm if the planting proposed under CST60383790 will interfere with helicopter movements, both at time of planting and when mature, that would necessitate vegetation alteration and/or removal.

### **Providing the information**

Please provide this information in writing within 15 working days<sup>1</sup> (before 19 January 2022). If you will not be able to provide the information by that date, please contact me before then to arrange an alternative time. We will not work on your application any further until either you provide this information, or you state that you refuse to provide it.

**Note:** If you will require more than 15 working days to provide this further information, I will seek that you agree to an extension of time under [section 37](#) of the Resource Management Act 1991 (the RMA). This will enable appropriate time for me to undertake the necessary review of the information once provided.

### **Refusing to provide the information**

If you refuse to provide the information, or if you do not submit the information to us within 15 days (or by another other agreed time), the RMA requires that we publicly notify your application.<sup>2</sup>

If this happens, you will be required to pay the notification fee of \$20,000 in full before we proceed with the notification of your application.<sup>3</sup>

### **Next steps**

Once you have provided the requested information, I will review what you have provided to make sure it adequately addresses all of the points of this request.

In the application acceptance letter, I described the statutory timeframe for our decision on your application. The time for you to respond to this further information request will be excluded from this timeframe<sup>4</sup>. I will be able to give you an updated forecast on a decision date on request once you have provided the information requested above.

If you have any queries, please contact me on 027 203 3239 and quote the application number above.

Yours sincerely,

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<sup>1</sup> Section 92A(1) of the RMA

<sup>2</sup> Section 95C of the RMA

<sup>3</sup> Section 36AAB(2) of the RMA

<sup>4</sup> Section 88C(2) of the RMA

**Jackson Morgan**  
Senior Planner