

Update on Plan Change 23

The Club presented its case on Thursday before the Hearing Panel. We received great support from many members which was appreciated by those members and staff speaking on behalf of the Club. I do not think the Council Chamber has been that full for a long time.

The Club presentation was well received by the Hearing Panel.

The Hearing Panel said it understood the problems with the plan change in its current form and it will recommend that the Council go back to the drawing board and work with the Club and developer to amend the plan provisions to address concerns of the Club and other submitters on a range of matters.

We have said we will work co-operatively to achieve the best result for the Club and the City despite our disappointment we were not involved in the development of the plan change at an earlier stage.

If an appropriate form of development occurs on the course boundary that respects the Club's needs while achieving land use change to high quality residential at the Hokowhitu Campus then this is positive for everybody and that is what we are trying to achieve.

The Club's planner will confer with the Council team in the next few weeks to work on a set of provisions for the district plan that will set the basis for the environmental outcomes that will be expected as the land use changes at the old Hokowhitu Campus. As they say "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure".

These provisions will go back to the Hearing Panel for a final decision. At the end of that process we can hopefully move forward confident everyone knows where they stand and we can be certain the Council's planning documents do not jeopardise the Club's reasonable interests.

Peter McRedmond
President