

**From:** [Alan McArdle](#)  
**To:** [Sam Otter](#)  
**Cc:** [npsudhearings](#)  
**Subject:** Re: PC78 - Panel Minute - Memo from Council requesting pause  
**Date:** Wednesday, 26 April 2023 1:58:11 pm

---

Hi Sam, in reply I would like to submit comments to the panel.

To the Chairman, IHP.  
From Alan McArdle.

1. I have an interest in the MDRS review, and one submission (PC78-184) in the process.
2. Auckland Council has statutory powers and responsibilities for the management of Auckland in the interests of the residents, and is obliged to consult with the public on notified plans. It is expected that this consultation will be done in a fair and prompt manner.
3. The government may order councils to develop and operate particular policies by means of National Policy Statements. The NPS-UD gazetted in July 2020 with the RMA revision directed urban development reforms to be operative from August 2022, with consultation and final decisions in 2024. This appears to be a quite adequate timescale for the democratic process.
4. The cyclone and floods of February 2023 highlighted problems in the city's drainage design and maintenance as well as inappropriate urban planning. This must be addressed, and could be expected to lead to building restrictions on flood plains as well as changes to impermeable coverage for sponge-city concepts.
5. Auckland Council has requested, and been granted by the Minister, a 1-year extension to the timeline for MDRS processing. This should be seen as a maximum for cases where there is conflict, it should not be an excuse for unnecessary general delay.
6. No specific reasons were given and most if not all of the MDRS items before the IHP have no direct connection to the flooding issue, which could be resolved with zoning or overlays under existing planning rules.
7. The delay in final planning decisions is already causing uncertainty and adding costs to many development projects and another year will add stress and be intolerable to some.

I urge the Panel to continue the hearings process on the original timeline for items which are not flood-related, and to instill a sense of urgency in those sections of the council who tend to drag their feet.

Regards, Alan McArdle.  
027 3040105

On 24/04/2023 10:27 am, Sam Otter wrote:

Tēnā koe

I am emailing you because you have put in a submission on Plan Change 78 (PC78).