



Fishermans Bend Review Panel - Further adjournment request

Planning Panels to:

29/01/2018 01:29 PM

Sent by: **Andrea Harwood**

Bcc:

Dear Parties,

Please see the below correspondence from the Chair, Fishermans Bend Planning Review Panel:

Dear Parties,

The Fishermans Bend Planning Review Panel (the Review Panel) received a request on 19 January 2018 on behalf of the Minister for Planning to defer the commencement of Stage 1 hearings from 19 February 2018 to 13 March 2018 due to unavailability of some witnesses.

That letter from Harwood Andrew (previously tabled on 23 January 2018) requested an urgent Directions Hearing on 25 January 2018 to discuss this matter.

On 23 January 2018, the Review Panel responded by proposing a hearing program that would allow the Minister for Planning to present his case and evidence in two parts. The Review Panel advised that it did not see the need for a Directions Hearing in this regard.

The Review Panel received a further letter on behalf of the Minister for Planning on 25 January 2018 noting that concerns remained about the proposed scheduling and requested a Directions Hearing on 1 or 2 February 2018 to further discuss. This letter is attached.

To progress this issue and to discuss the matters raised on behalf of the Minister for Planning, the Review Panel will convene a second Directions Hearing as follows:

8.30am, Friday 2 February 2018
Hearing Room 1, Planning Panels Victoria
1 Spring Street, Melbourne

The Review Panel notes that requests to be heard were required by 19 January 2018, in accordance with the letter and Directions issued by the Review Panel on 28 December 2017.

Indicatively, this has resulted in some 48 days of hearings, with 13 days in Stage 1 (18 parties) and 35 days in Stage 2 (69 parties).

Should the request on behalf of the Minister for Planning be granted, it is likely there will be no Stage 1 or Stage 2 process (and a break between the two) as the commencement date of 13 March 2018 (with Easter) may merge into the week of 16 April 2018 (at least until the week of 9 April 2018).

As a consequence, the Hearing may go over a 12 week period, which may take it to early June 2018. As the Review Panel indicated at the Directions Hearing that it would consider hearing the geographic Fishermans Bend precincts concurrently if practicable, this may reduce the number of weeks required, depending on the availability of members.

The matters to be discussed at the second Directions Hearing will predominantly be confined to the issues raised in the letters on behalf of the Minister for Planning.

Kathy Mitchell, Chair
Fishermans Bend Planning Review Panel

Regards, Andrea

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