

19 November 2015

Elizabeth Kerr  
Email: [ejkerr@ihug.co.nz](mailto:ejkerr@ihug.co.nz)

Dear Elizabeth

Thank you for email dated 11 November 2015 to Sue Bidrose asking for an extension to the timeframe for making submissions.

By way of background, the timeframe for making submissions on a full plan review is set at 40 working days in the Resource Management Act (RMA). The limitations on extending timeframes in the RMA are set out in Sections 37 and 37A (these also apply as limitation on accepting late submissions). The decision to accept late submissions sits with the 2GP hearings panel.

We recognise that there are a small number of organisations and individuals that have said they are having difficulty with meeting the statutory timeframe, and we understand and appreciate there may be special circumstances where the 40 working days may not be enough time. Therefore, the hearings panel have agreed to outline where late submissions will be accepted and allow people to apply for a short extension to the timeframe for making a submission in special circumstances. The extension will be generally for no more than 5 working days and only up to 10 working days in exceptional cases. This process and criteria are outlined in the attached public notice that will run on Saturday in the Otago Daily Times and be placed on our website as of today.

This process is designed to address the needs for more time of some submitters with Council's obligation to avoid unreasonable delays and ensure an efficient and timely process. I hope this addresses your concerns. Please contact Kristy Rusher, Manager Civic and Legal on 474 3880 or [Kristy.Rusher@dcc.govt.nz](mailto:Kristy.Rusher@dcc.govt.nz) to clarify the extension you are seeking under these guidelines in terms of the submitter name and to confirm the time frame of the extension.

Yours faithfully



Simon Pickford  
**General Manager Services and Development**

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