

**BEFORE THE INDEPENDENT HEARINGS PANEL APPOINTED BY THE
TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**

UNDER the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA)
IN THE MATTER the Proposed Timaru District Plan
SUBMITTER Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association of New Zealand
and Sid McAuley

**MEMORANDUM ON BEHALF OF THE AIRCRAFT OWNERS AND PILOTS
ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND AND SID MCAULEY**

Usage and controls for small, fixed wing aircraft

31 March 2025

PO Box 4341 CHRISTCHURCH 8140
DX WX11179
Tel +64 3 379 7622
Fax +64 3 379 2467

Solicitor: P A C Maw
(philip.maw@wynnwilliams.co.nz)

WYNN WILLIAMS

Introduction

- 1 The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association of New Zealand (**AOPA**) and Sid McAuley (the **Submitters**) made submissions (and further submissions) on the Timaru District Council's (**Council**) Proposed District Plan (**PDP**) in opposition to the PDP's rules regulating airstrips.
- 2 The Submitters represent people who fly small non-commercial fixed-wing aircraft recreationally (the **Activity**). They have an interest in ensuring they can continue this Activity which benefits the Timaru District through amenity value and supporting a strong flying community. The Submitters are concerned that any regulation is reasonable, considered, and proportionate to the Activity.
- 3 On 6 December 2024, the Submitters filed a memorandum with the Independent Hearings Panel (**IHP**) setting out a proposed amendment which they would support and would satisfy their concerns.
- 4 On 28 February 2025, through counsel, the s 42A officer, Mr McLennan, filed further evidence addressing the amendments by the Submitters to GRUZ-R14A in the PDP. Mr McLennan generally supports the Submitters' proposed amendments, however, Mr McLennan proposes placing the amendment under rule GRUZ-R14 rather than rule GRUZ-R14A. As part of this alteration Mr McLennan has proposed renaming the headings of both GRUZ-R14 and GRUZ-R14A to better clarify the relationship between the two rules.
- 5 This proposal of Mr McLennan is supported by the Submitters. It is noted that the change in placement of the Submitters' proposed amendment (to GRUZ-R14 rather than GRUZ-R14A) is only supported on the basis Mr McLennan's proposed amendment to the titles of both rules is also adopted. This is because the change in the title of the rules is important to ensure it is clear which activities are captured by GRUZ-R14 and GRUZ-R14A respectively.
- 6 In supporting Mr McLennan's proposal, the Submitters would like to make particular note that they strongly agree with and support paragraph 14 of Mr McLennan's affidavit dated 28 February 2025. In particular they support the following statement:

"I do not consider there is anything unique about the proposed

fly-in rule that would require this additional requirement. As such, it has not been included within the suggested amendments.”

- 7 The Submitters would like to recognise and thank the council team for their constructive engagement, as well as the IHP for tasking the council to engage with the submissions to resolve the concern raised.

Dated this 31st day of March 2025

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. A. C. Maw', is positioned above a horizontal dotted line.

P A C Maw and E R Pairman

Counsel for the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association of New Zealand
and Sid McAuley