

**BEFORE HEARING COMMISSIONERS
FOR THE PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL**

**I MUA NGĀ KAIKŌMIHANA WHAKAWĀ
MO TE KAUNIHERA O PAPAIOEA**

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER of proposed Plan Change I: Increasing Housing
Supply and Choice to the Palmerston North District
Plan

JOINT WITNESS STATEMENT

Planning

Dated 19 August 2025

A. INTRODUCTION

1. This joint expert witness statement relates to proposed Plan Change I: Increasing Housing Supply and Choice (**PCI**) to the Palmerston North District Plan.
2. The experts attending the conference were:

(A) Sarah Jenkin (**SJ**) for Palmerston North City Council (**PNCC**); and

(B) Kaaren Rosser (**KR**) for Enviro NZ Limited (**EnviroNZ**).
3. The conference took place on 19 August 2025, via Teams.

B. AGREED AGENDA

4. The agenda for discussion is set out below in Annexure A.

C. CODE OF CONDUCT

5. This joint witness statement is prepared in accordance with section 9 of the Environment Court Practice Note 2023.
6. We confirm that we have read the Environment Court Practice Note 2023 and agree to abide by it.

D. PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF CONFERENCING

7. The purpose of this expert conferencing was to identify, discuss, and highlight points of agreement and disagreement on relevant provisions related to rubbish and recycling storage and collection.

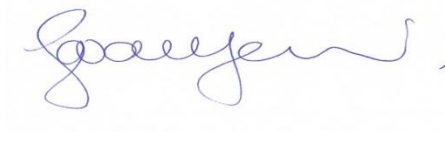
E. AGREED ISSUES

8. Refer to Annexure A.

F. DISAGREEMENT AND REASONS

9. Refer to Annexure A.

Date: 19 August 2025

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Jenkin', written on a light blue background.

Sarah Jenkin

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kaaren Rosser', written on a light blue background.

Kaaren Rosser

ANNEXURE A

Expert conferencing – Planning – SJ and KR

Issue	Agreed position, with reasons	Disagreements, with reasons
<i>Drafting of Policy MRZ-P3(3) – Planned built form</i>		
1. KR considers that 'adequate' in the policy wording doesn't provide sufficient direction for decision-makers as there is no definition of adequate. There should be a reference to 'screened' rubbish recycling storage facilities and a reference to accessible and safe collection.	KR and SJ agree that 'adequate' is retained.	<p>KR continues to consider that the policy drafting as proposed in the 'redline' version of Chapter 10A is amended to include a reference to 'screened' rubbish recycling storage facilities and a reference to accessible and safe collection.</p> <p>SJ continues to consider that the policy drafting as proposed in the 'redline' version of Chapter 10A is the appropriate drafting.</p>
<i>Drafting of Policy MRZ-R9 - Addition or alteration of buildings and structures (excluding accessory buildings)</i>		
2. KR considers that there should be a requirement for a minimum waste storage and rubbish collection, i.e. application of MRZ-S19 to this rule, if an existing area is altered through a building or structure addition or alteration.	KR and SJ agree that MRZ-R9 should be amended to include a requirement to comply with MRZ-S19(1) and MRZ-S19(3) (as proposed for amendment by SJ in response to KR evidence on MRZ-S19 – see Issue 6 of this JWS) but that MRZ-S19(2) and MRZ-S19(4) and (5) should not apply. This is because a reduction in the area available for rubbish and recycling storage and the potential for this to be in the outdoor living space are the most likely impacts from an addition or alteration.	
<i>Drafting of Policy MRZ-R11 – Construction, alteration and addition to accessory buildings</i>		
3. KR considers that there should be a requirement for a minimum waste storage and rubbish	KR and SJ agree that MRZ-S19 should not apply to this rule, primarily because a building consent is not required for buildings up to 30m ² . In absence of the	

Issue	Agreed position, with reasons	Disagreements, with reasons
collection, i.e. application of MRZ-S19 to this rule, if an existing area is altered through construction or, alteration or additions to an accessory building.	link between the Building Act and the RMA, the monitoring and compliance burden associated with checking to see whether an accessory building impacts on the ability to provide waste and recycling storage within a site is disproportionate to the effects that may, or may not, arise.	
Drafting of Policy MRZ-R14 – Visitor Accommodation		
4. KR considers that visitor accommodation should have on-site collection which is accessible for a collection vehicle and which is screened.	KR and SJ agree that the most important requirement is that any on-site storage is accessible for rubbish collection trucks, as private collections are usually undertaken on site for visitor accommodation, and the type of collection bin will be driven by the type of accommodation and volume of rubbish, rather than being specifically correlated to the number of units. Accordingly, KR and SJ agree that MRZ-S19(4) should apply to MRZ-R14.	
Drafting of Policy MRZ-S19 – On-site rubbish and recycling storage and collection		
5. KR considers that MRZ-S19(2) should be amended to require that rubbish and recycling storage areas must be also screened from adjacent sites.	KR and SJ agree that amendments are required to MRZ-S19(2), to remove the unintentional requirement in the notified drafting that rubbish and recycling and storage areas are <u>not visible</u> from a public road. This requirement set an extremely high bar which is unlikely to be achievable without constructing an opaque structure, which could have more detrimental effects on amenity and the front yard. Screening could include landscaping or a slatted fence, both of which would also comply with other relevant standards, such as MRZ-S20.	SJ disagrees that a requirement to be screened from adjacent sites should also be included as this would potentially negatively impact on internal site layout flexibility.

Issue	Agreed position, with reasons	Disagreements, with reasons
	<p>2. Communal <u>Rubbish and recycling</u> storage areas must be screened <u>where they are located between a public road boundary and the front façade of the residential unit or located so as not to be visible from a public road, or adjacent to a shared accessway or communal area.</u></p>	
<p>6. KR considers that MRZ-S19(2) should be amended to require that rubbish and recycling storage areas are not located in outdoor living space.</p>	<p>SJ agrees with KR. The proposed resolution is to include an additional sub-part to the standard – proposed new sub-part (3).</p> <p>3. <u>Rubbish and recycling storage areas must not be located in the outdoor living space required by MRZ-S7.</u></p>	
<p>7. KR considers that, where kerbside collection is employed, a kerbside space of 1m per residential unit is available without impeding the public footpath</p>	<p>KR and SJ agree that a change is not currently required due to the level of intensification anticipated in Palmerston North and the types of sites being developed. There is not currently the evidence base currently to support this being a serious enough issue to require control.</p> <p>KR would like to see a similar trigger in a future version of the chapter if intensification in Palmerston North is denser than anticipated.</p>	
<p>8. KR considers that MRZ-S19(5) can be deleted, as this is a duplicate of MRZ-S19(4)</p>	<p>SJ agrees that sub-part of MRZ-S19 is a duplication and can be deleted.</p>	