

PRESENTERS



Trevor Shiels, Barrister, Dunedin

Trevor has a mixed civil and commercial practice and over 20 years experience in planning and resource management litigation. He has acted for applicants, submitters and councils at all levels from council hearings to Court of Appeal hearings. He is an experienced hearings commissioner and has undertaken the Ministry for Environment training programme for commissioners. He has sat as a sole commissioner or chair of a panel of commissioners for a number of local authorities on resource consents, plan changes and designations. Much of his work is as a commissioner for Queenstown Lakes District Council, including many high profile hearings.



Martin Williams, Barrister, Napier and Auckland

Martin has twelve years' experience practising in resource management, hazardous substances and related legislations, and Local Government law. Martin's experience and private clients, as both applicants and submitters in the processes associated with resource consent applications and notices of requirement for designation, including preparation for and attendance at local body, Environment Court and High Court hearings. Additional experience includes providing strategic advice on complex projects including consultation with stake-holders, tangata whenua, mediation and negotiation and in the compulsory acquisition process associated with the Public Works Act 1981. Martin chaired the Auckland Branch Committee of the Resource Management Law Association from 2004 to 2006, resigning that post having been elected to the National Committee.



Christian Whata, Partner, Russell McVeagh, Auckland

Christian specialises in resource management and environmental litigation. He has extensive experience in litigation at all levels including the Privy Council and the Supreme Court of New Zealand. Christian has in-depth experience in project development, obtaining consents for a range of projects including major shopping centres, large property developments, wind farms, hydro generation projects, transmission, mineral extraction and dairy farming. His experience also includes major litigation on Maori rights (including land and fisheries litigation). An integral part of his work is dispute resolution and he is skilled at assisting negotiations.

Christian Whata's paper will be delivered in Christchurch and Queenstown by Paul Majurey, partner at Russell McVeagh Auckland.

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