

## **Attachment 1: Statement of Qualifications and Experience of Laura Swan**

My full name is Christine Laura Swan. I hold a Bachelor of Resource Studies and a Bachelor of Science (Conservation and Ecology) from Lincoln University which I obtained in 2000. I am full member of the New Zealand Planning Institute and an accredited planning commissioner under the Ministry for the Environment Making Good Decisions Programme.

I have 19 years of experience working as a planning professional in local government and the private sector in New Zealand.

I commenced my planning career with the Whakatane District Council in 2003 and was ultimately Team Leader of the resource consent team for 3 years.

I then worked for a specialist planning firm in Auckland for 4 years undertaking a range of planning tasks including due diligence reporting and preparation of resource consent applications for a wide range and scale of residential, retail, commercial and industrial activities. I have worked on projects across New Zealand.

I have been self-employed since 2014, primarily working with both the Whakatane and Opotiki District Councils. I was engaged in a Senior Planner role at both councils. I also prepared reports on submissions to the Proposed Whakatane District Plan in 2015.

My specific work with Opotiki District Council commenced in 2017. I work in a Senior Planner role processing consents and peer reviewing most of the resource consent reports prepared by staff and external consultants. I also provide pre-application advice and deal with public enquiries when required. I assist with the training and mentoring of other planning staff.

I am very familiar with the Opotiki District Plan and the type and scale of development that has occurred, or is proposed, with the Eastern Bay of Plenty sub-region.

I have previously prepared and given evidence at council hearings and before the Land Valuation Tribunal. I have prepared written evidence for the High Court.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

I have read the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses set out in the Environment Court's Practice Note 2014. I have complied with the Code of Conduct in preparing my s42A report and will continue to comply with it while giving oral evidence at the Hearing.

My qualifications as an expert are set out above. Except where I state I rely on the evidence of another person, I confirm that the issues addressed in this statement of evidence are within my area of expertise, and I have not omitted to consider material facts known to me that might alter or detract from my expressed opinions.