

Upcoming Forum

The Resource Management Act: The Potential Future of Our Environment

Date: Thursday 11 December 2014

Time: 9am - noon

Where: Rm 1.439, Engineering School, University of Auckland, 20 Symonds St, Auckland Central

What: Free public forum exploring the past, present and potential future of the RMA. .

RSVP to sarah@thesustainabilitysociety.org.nz by Tuesday 9 December

Will the proposed changes to the RMA continue to protect our environment?

This forum will explore the potential impacts of the proposed RMA reforms in relation to the original intentions of the RMA and the experience of its implementation over the last 20 years.

Also under discussion will be other opportunities and challenges that exist around the RMA regulation, particularly how it can best be adapted, interpreted and applied in the future.

Forum Presenters

Quentin Duthie

Executive Manager, Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment

Quentin joined the Commissioner's leadership team over 3 years ago, and considers it a privilege to support Dr Jan Wright to advise Parliament on a wide range of environmental topics. The Commissioner is an independent Officer of Parliament who investigates matters of her own choosing, carefully judging evidence gathered from many sources.

He grew up in Hawkes Bay and now lives with his family in Lower Hutt. He has a Master of New Zealand Studies and 10 years' experience working on environmental law and policy, including in Parliament and for non-governmental organisations.

Ken Palmer

Associate Professor of Law, University of Auckland

Kenneth Palmer is an Associate Professor of Law at the University of Auckland. He has degrees in law from the University of Auckland, Harvard Law School, and the University of Virginia.

His special interests are environmental, resource management, and local government law. He is the author of *Local Authorities Law in New Zealand* (Brookers 2012). He is editor of the *New Zealand Journal of Environmental Law*, and is a contributing author to D Nolan *Environmental and Resource Management Law in New Zealand* (2011).

Karyn Sinclair

Principal Planner, Jacobs BSocSc, BTP, MNZPI

Karyn has over 25 years' experience in the resource consents and environmental planning sector across a broad spectrum of areas. She is a very experienced Independent Planning Commissioner with a thorough understanding of the decision-making process and a comprehensive knowledge of the various planning documents within New Zealand.

Karyn is experienced in drawing together competing tensions within a planning framework to deliver a cohesive and defensible planning proposition. Sitting as an independent commissioner has given Karyn a strategic insight into how decisions are made, and therefore how to provide an effective application and/or NOR. Most recently Karyn was the lead planner and expert witness on the very successful planning alliance that helped the Transport Agency deliver the consents and designation for the Ara Tuhono Puhoi to Wellsford Road of National Significance Puhoi to Warkworth Section.