PlanTechNZ

PlanTechNZ launch event
Friday 1 May 2020

Presentations and additional resources can be found in this [Onedrive folder](#). Password to access 'Digital2020'. Access expires end of August 2020 so please request extension if necessary.

Speaker Bios and links to additional resources

Ollie Sangster, Senior Analyst, Ministry for the Environment

Ollie Sangster is a Senior Analyst in the Resource Management System Performance team at MfE, where he has been involved in RMA policy development and implementation support for eight years. During lockdown, Ollie has been seconded to the Ministry's temporary 'COVID-19 Immediate Response team'.

During Alert Levels 4 (and now 3), the Ministry has been busy operating as a 'work from home organization' using laptops, MS Teams and Zoom for internal and external communication. The Ministry has been delivering with its BAU work as far as possible (including planned information releases, such as the 2018/2019 National Monitoring System data and Our Freshwater 2020 report), while supporting councils with guidance on RMA functions during Alert Levels, and supporting the Government with developing a fast track consenting process to assist with recovery.

MfE Covid-19 updates (including links to FAQs relating to RMA functions, and the 2019/2020 NMS page): https://www.mfe.govt.nz/about-us/latest-updates-ministry-response-covid-19

Beehive press release: https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/work-starts-ways-fast-track-consents-boost-recovery-covid-19-downturn

Christine Coste, RMA Digital and Chair of PlanTechNZ

Christine has over 20 years experience in planning mainly in the private sector. Christine founded RMA Digital to provide training to RMA practitioners to better meet the challenges of the digital age.

Christine is Chair of PlanTechNZ and took part in the calls between planners in the UK, Australia, Hong Kong and New Zealand. The summary of the issues raised in those calls can be found here. The International PlanTech Slack Workspace is at plan-tech.slack.com. including a newly opened channel for PlanTechNZ.

Legal profession's remote courts worldwide website is here.

Graeme McCarrison, Engagement and Planning Manager, Spark New Zealand

Graeme McCarrison is a planning professional at Spark, NZ's largest digital service provider, is on the Board New Zealand Planning Institute and a member of the PlanTechNZ steering group. Graeme is actively involved in critical infrastructure with focus on our fast-changing future. Disruptive technologies, environmental and international change require professionals to be agile, responsive and have the ability to build collaborative partnerships between government (central and local) and the infrastructure sector to deliver win-win outcomes for our communities. Graeme has worked in planning in both the public and private sectors.

why-do-we-need-another-g-anyway-some-accessible-information-on-5g/

Sean Audain, City Innovation Lead, Wellington City Council

Sean Audain is a City Innovation Lead at Wellington City Council. Sean's background is in urban Planning and he leads Wellington's Smart City Programmes and the Intelligence and Planning function for the Civil Defence Response to CoVID19. Sean serves with a number of groups leading the development of open government, data and smart city collaborations across New Zealand.

Wellington City Council's response to CoVID: Wellington City has had a community welfare lead response to expand the capacity of our third sector organisations to meet a sustained period of stress for our people. This response has been backed with a city data capability aiming to help the city survive, revive and thrive. Key amongst these data capabilities have been the use, development and proposal to scale the city digital twins into a national infrastructure, the further exploration of rules as code, and the use of our service design and data capabilities to virtualise processes.

See the end of Sean's presntation for useful links on a range of COVID19 related issues.

Ian Smallburn, General Manager, Resource Consents, Auckland Council

Ian is a qualified Planner having worked in the regulatory discipline for approximately 20 years. The Auckland Council Resource Consents team process approximately 17,000 consents and approvals annually, and is the largest regulatory planning team in Australasia. The processing of resource consents has an important part to play in easing the pressure on the economy during and after the COVID-19 crisis, noting quality outcomes still need to be maintained.

The Onedrive folder also contains guidance from Auckland Council on working from home and site visit arrangements.

Chris Watt, Environmental Consents Manager, Wester Bay of Plenty District Council

Chris Watt is the Environmental Consents Manager at Western Bay of Plenty District Council. Chris has been with them for nearly 15 years having worked for the same length of time prior to that at Auckland City Council.

Western Bay of Plenty District Council is one of the nation's high growth areas and is centred around high production and export of Kiwifruit and Avocados. We are the productive belt and rural alternative to the urbanised city of Tauranga.

Like most Council's we have had to adapt under COVID-19 but we have hit the ground running with our ability to continue under an on-line consenting platform.

Link to Council website – COVID-19 Page: https://www.westernbay.govt.nz/community/covid-19

The Onedrive folder contains a news update from the Council to the consultant/ agent community.

Nick Williamson, Principal Planner, Align Ltd

For the last 25 years, Nick Williamson has forged his career working at the intersection of Planning, Surveying, Law, and Spatial Science. Much of that time has been spent in and around local government, although he spends a lot of time talking to 'ordinary people' as well. His specialist area has been acting as interpreter where lay people and technocrats collide.

Nick's current passion is applying lean and agile methodologies to speed up the policy making process using data and human centred design, which is transforming the way governments engage with communities around the world.

Nick has been organiser and mentor at Startup Weekend and Global GovJam service design events, and was a speake

Nick has been organiser and mentor at Startup Weekend and Global GovJam service design events, and was a speaker at TEDxChristchurch in 2014. He is on the organising committee of GovHackNZ, and is a regular contributor to the hackathon and open data communities in New Zealand and beyond.