
Film Studios - Section 71 Proposal

On 16 September 2020 the Associate Minister for Greater Christchurch Regeneration approved Regenerate Christchurch's proposal to amend the Christchurch District Plan and the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement to provide for the development and operation of commercial film and video production facilities in Christchurch.

The Minister approved the proposal developed by Regenerate Christchurch, with assistance from Greenwood Roche, and exercised powers under section 71 of the Christchurch Regeneration Act 2016 for the final time before the section was repealed.

The amendments will come into force on 13 October 2020, and result in a planning framework enabling commercial film or video production activities to locate in specific areas in Christchurch.

Demand from local and international film companies for production facilities in New Zealand is high, but there are no major production facilities in the South Island. The establishment of such facilities in Christchurch, made easier through the amendments, presents an exciting prospect for the city's creative identity and industry and for the economic and employment opportunities that these facilities would provide.

This proposal is also significant as the last regeneration initiative performed by Regenerate Christchurch. It has been a privilege for Greenwood Roche to provide legal support to this now-disestablished organisation since 2016, and this outcome is a fitting end considering the hard work and dedication of the Regenerate team over the last four years.

The Minister's decision can be viewed at the following link:

<https://dpmc.govt.nz/publications/public-notice-film-studios-proposal-approved>;

Specialist Expertise

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Key lawyers involved

Lauren Semple
Rachel Murdoch

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