

Before the Independent Hearing Commissioners
at Christchurch

under: the Resource Management Act 1991

in the matter of: Applications by Fulton Hogan Limited to establish a
quarrying operation at Templeton

by: **Brackenridge Services Limited**
Submitter

Statement of evidence of Brian Reddington

Dated: 14 October 2019

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STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE OF BRIAN REDDINGTON

INTRODUCTION

- 1 My full name is Brian John Reddington.
- 2 I am the father of a 34 year old daughter who has lived in a residence in Christchurch in which she has support provided by Brackenridge Services Limited (*Brackenridge*), since 2010. The house is owned by a Trust of which I am the settlor. I visit my daughter on a weekly basis and attend two monthly meetings with a team of people who support my daughter's wellbeing.
- 3 My daughter has a diagnosis of autism, a degree of intellectual disability and associated behavioural and mental health presentations.
- 4 I have been chairperson of the Brackenridge Advisory Group since its inception in 2014. The Group meets on a two monthly basis. Part of the role is to provide information evenings for parents. Topics for these evenings have included presentations by a world authority on residential living and by a firm of solicitors on wills, asset management, welfare guardian appointment and the use of trusts. Our Group also provides feedback and general advice to Brackenridge and provides representatives for the team which selects managers from applicants for management positions.
- 5 I have also been a Trustee of the Southern Centre Trust which operates the Multi-Sensory room at Pioneer Stadium in a partnership with the Christchurch City Council. The operation was a recipient of a World Leisure award.
- 6 I have also been a Trustee of the Jolt Charitable Trust which provides Dance opportunities for people with a range of disabilities.
- 7 I have taken a case to the Family and High Courts in relation to the right of my daughter to make decisions with support as promulgated by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to which New Zealand is a signatory.

SUMMARY

- 8 I wish to advocate on behalf of Brackenridge clients and their families in order that the Commissioners take cognisance of the unique effect that the approval of the application to quarry at Templeton by Fulton Hogan Limited (the *Application*) would have on the physical, mental and sensory wellbeing of these people.
- 9 In particular I wish to communicate that clients have lived on the site of Brackenridge Estate, formerly Templeton Hospital since 1929.

Brackenridge was incorporated in 1999 when Templeton Hospital was closed through the deinstitutionalisation process. The clients and their families were given a clear undertaking by the Government of the time that the clients had a home for life on the site.

- 10 It is my opinion that the potential adverse environmental effects of a quarrying operation within 1.15 kilometres, place the quality of this lifelong undertaking, at risk.

MY INVOLVEMENT WITH BRACKENRIDGE TO DATE

- 11 As both a parent and chairperson of the Brackenridge Advisory Group I am in regular contact with support workers, management and the Board of Brackenridge. Over the last few years there has been a conscious effort by all connected with Brackenridge to develop an excellent standard of service delivery for the clients and their families. Some clients have health vulnerabilities and others, extreme behavioural presentations. The delivery of a great life for the clients is not an easy goal to achieve for family and Brackenridge.

CONCERNS WITH THE APPLICATION BY FULTON HOGAN LIMITED

- 12 Right through the life of the clients, for whom their families and Brackenridge support, there are speed bumps and the Application, if granted, in proximity of the houses in which the clients live in Templeton, is another one. Should the Application be granted, it will cause clients and families an unwanted increase in anxiety levels.
- 13 The parents have real concerns regarding the effects of dust and noise on those clients who have health vulnerabilities, both physical, especially respiratory, and mental. A high percentage of the clients are on the Autistic Spectrum and are impacted to a greater degree than the general population by anxiety due to heightened experiences of the sense of hearing, taste, sight, touch and to changes in their external and residential environments. For people on the Autistic Spectrum, receptive and emotional understanding and awareness exceed expressive language but communication applications and the use of Word Cards enable interaction at an expressive level.
- 14 A number of parents are in their advanced years and after a life time of service to their family members, they seek and deserve some peace as they try to prepare for the support of their loved ones when they are no longer able to provide the support due to ill health or the approaching end of their lives.

CONCLUSION

- 15 As chairperson of the Brackenridge Advisory Group and a parent of a daughter with limited language on the Autism Spectrum, I wish to advocate to ensure that all aspects of wellbeing of the clients, who live in their long-term residences in Templeton, are given a voice when the Commissioners consider whether to grant the Application.
- 16 The clients are individuals who are more sensitive to adverse environmental effects from the operation of a quarry in close proximity to their residences than most other members of the community.
- 17 On behalf of the clients and their families, I ask that the decision of the Commissioners ensure that the wellbeing of the clients is given due consideration.
- 18 Thank you for considering this submission.

Dated: 14 October 2019

Brian John Reddington