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Dear Stakeholder

Re: Transforming Planning – Independent Inspectors Project

The Department is pleased to announce the launch of its awareness initiative to highlight its intention to appoint independent inspectors to undertake “Hear and Report” work on its behalf. The formal application process is expected to commence in April 2026, following completion of the awareness phase. Further information is available on our [webpage](#).

Independent inspectors will conduct independent examinations of local development plan documents, as well as public local inquiries and hearings in relation to the consideration of regionally significant and called-in planning applications.

This marks a significant step in the project's implementation as we move towards progressing the appointment process, enabling the Department to compile a list of independent inspectors who can provide an alternative option to the Planning Appeals Commission.

It remains our intention to appoint inspectors in Quarter 1 of 2026/27 financial year with work anticipated to be allocated in Quarter 2.

Your faithfully

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NOLA JAMIESON
Deputy Director