**Address 1**

**Address 2**

**Address 3**

**Date**

Mayor Len Brown,

Auckland Council,

Private Bag 92516,

Wellesley Street,

Auckland 1141

Dear Mayor Brown,

My property at the above address is included within a Historic Heritage overlay in the Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan (PAUP), representing the presence of a ‘Site and Place of Value to Mana Whenua’.

I understand that should I wish to undertake physical modification within 50m of a site or place of significance or value, or a change of use, I am now obliged to seek a cultural impact assessment from an unknown number of the 19 iwi with interests in the Auckland area.

I am concerned by certain implications relating to the inclusion of my property this designation, including:

* the unspecified cost related to obtaining cultural impact assessments, should I wish to undertake future improvements
* the erosion of private property rights
* the potential for loss in the value of my property.

It is important to acknowledge our history, and to preserve sites of historical significance. I fully endorse reasonable actions to achieve this end. However, the Council by its own admission admits it is possible that some of the sites no longer exist, but is not in a position at present to undertake site visits in respect of the 3,600 sites. In its submission on the PAUP, the NZ Archaeological Association also indicated that many of these sites either no longer exist or are of limited archaeological or cultural interest.

I support an evidence-based approach to protecting our heritage sites. Accordingly, under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, I request the following information relating to my property, which I understand is included in the Historic Heritage Overlay – ‘Sites and Places of Value to Mana Whenua’:

A description of actions taken by your staff to validate the claim of cultural value in this instance, before its inclusion in the Auckland Unitary Plan, including any:

* visits to the site or place to verify its existence, location, size and description
* attempt to consult with me and/or any other affected property owners

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request.

Yours sincerely,