
TO: Plan Change 1 Hearing Panel

FROM: PC1 - Non-Heritage Topics S42A authors

DATE: 13 August 2025

SUBJECT: **PC1 - NON-HERITAGE TOPICS – ANSWERS TO HEARING PANEL QUESTIONS**

1. Introduction

This memorandum answers questions raised by the Plan Change 1 (PC1) Hearing Panel after reading the PC1 S42A Report (Non-Heritage topics), before the commencement of the hearing.

2. Hearing Panel Question 1

In recommended amendments to Rule 4.5.4.1.a.i should the wording be “... at any building that is occupied during the construction and site investigation works ...”

This question relates to Change PHS6. See p132 of the S42A Report¹.

2.1. Response:

Yes, the addition of “and site investigation” to Rule 4.5.4.1.a.i is appropriate. Site investigation noise, in addition to construction noise, is being managed by the proposed amendments to Rule 4.5.4.1.a.i.

3. Hearing Panel Question 2

In recommended Rule 4.5.4.X.a.iv.2, is the 3mm/PPV exceedance an absolute limit or is it to be added to the permissible PPV's in 4.5.4.X.a?

This question relates to Change TA3. See p218-221 of S42A Report.

3.1. Response:

The 5mm/s PPV and 3 mm/s PPV referred to in Rule 4.5.4.X.a.iv.2 are absolute limits.

The maximum vibration limit for an occupied building in **4.5.4.X.a** is 2mm/s PPV. The exception rule in **4.5.4.X.a.iv.2** provides for daytime exceedances above the 2mm/s PPV limit on no more than 3 days as a permitted activity subject to notification of neighbours. The vibration limit for exceedances is to be no more than 5mm/s PPV, or in the case of scheduled heritage buildings 3mm/s PPV. The lower limit for scheduled heritage buildings and structures is because cosmetic building damage to scheduled heritage buildings and structures is possible above 3mm/s PPV.

Some minor restructuring of the rules is proposed to clarify this.

¹ [PC1-Non-Heritage-Topics-s42A-Report.pdf](#)

It is also noted that the proposed numbering of Rule 4.5.4.X.a.iv.2 is incorrect, as this clause is not related to the exception in Rule 4.5.4.X.a.iv. Instead, it is a separate exception to the vibration limits in the table in Rule 4.5.4.X.a. To correct this, the numbering has been amended as shown below. These changes also include labelling the table in Rule 4.5.4.X.a as Table 4.5.4.X.A, for clarity.

These changes require the rest of the rule to be renumbered. A full version of the rule with corrected numbering will be provided in the right of reply.

3.2. Recommended amendments to the s42A drafting

The recommended amendments to Rule 4.5.4.X Construction and site investigation vibration are shown below (refer text highlighted in **yellow**):

4.5.4.X Construction and site investigation vibration

- a. Construction and site investigation vibration received at occupied (S248.007) buildings or scheduled heritage structures in any zone must not exceed the vibration limits in Table 4.5.4.X.A, except as provided for in clauses b and c. following vibration limits:

Table 4.5.4.X.A Vibration limits

Location	Time period	Vibration limit (mm/s PPV)
A building housing a noise sensitive activity	i. 7.00am – 10.00pm	2.0
	ii. 10.00pm – 7.00am	0.3
All other buildings and scheduled heritage structures (S248.007)	iii. At all times	2.0

- ~~iv. b. The limits in Table 4.5.4.X.A do not apply where except that this standard does not apply to~~ vibration is received at a building located on the same site as the construction and site investigation activity, provided that ~~all of the following apply:~~
- ~~1. the building is not a scheduled heritage building. (S248.007)~~
 - ~~2. 1. the building and the land on which the construction and site investigation activity is undertaken are in the same ownership; and~~
 - ~~3. the building does not house any noise sensitive activities. (S251.012)~~
2. ~~c. e~~ Exceedances of the limits in Table 4.5.4.X.A that comply with a limit of 5mm/s PPV are permitted on no more than 3 days per construction project between 7.00am and 10.00pm, provided that:
1. the vibration does not exceed 5mm/s PPV, or 3mm/s PPV if the vibration is received at a vibration sensitive structure specified in Rule 4.5.4.X.d; and
 2. occupants of all affected buildings are advised in writing no less than 3 days before the vibration-generating construction or site investigation works commence. The exceedances must be no more than 3mm/s PPV if the vibration is received at a vibration sensitive structure specified in Rule 4.5.4.X.b) (S271.001)
- ~~b. d.~~ Construction and site investigation vibration received at any buildings in any zone must not exceed the following vibration limits: ...

All remaining clauses need renumbering, and references to 4.5.4.X.b should be amended to 4.5.4.X.d.