



133 Molesworth  
Street  
PO Box 5013  
Wellington 6140  
New Zealand  
T+64 4 496 2000

2 November 2022

s 9(2)(a)

By email: s 9(2)(a)  
Ref: H2022013609

Tēnā koe s 9(2)(a)

### Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your requests under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to Manatū Hauora (the Ministry of Health) on 29 September 2022 and 4 October 2022 for information regarding water fluoridation in Whanganui. Each part of your request is responded to below.

1. *How does this direction take place?*
2. *What is needed to start the process?*

To commence the process of considering water supplies for a potential direction to fluoridate, the Director-General of Health (the Director-General) notifies a local authority that water supplies under its control are being actively considered for a potential direction to fluoridate.

The Director-General is required, under section 116 of the Health Act 1956, to invite written comment from the local authority on:

- the estimated financial costs of adding fluoride to the drinking water, including any additional costs of ongoing management and monitoring
- the date by which the local authority would be able to comply with a direction.

The Director-General must give the local authority at least 40 working days to provide comments. When deciding whether to make a direction to fluoridate, the Director-General is required to consider:

- the comments of the local authority
- scientific evidence on the effectiveness of adding fluoride to drinking water in reducing the prevalence and severity of dental decay
- whether the benefits of adding fluoride to drinking water outweigh the costs
- advice from the Director of Public Health.

After issuing a direction, the Director-General must publish the direction and reasons for the decision.

*3. Please provide a copy of the process*

The process is described in section 116 of the Health Act, which can be found at: [Health Act 1956 No 65 \(as at 01 July 2022\), Public Act Part 5A Fluoridation of drinking water – New Zealand Legislation](#).

*4. What can I do as an individual?*

Decision-making to direct community water fluoridation sits with the Director-General and follows the process outlined in my reply to questions 1 and 2.

*5. What are the responsibilities of my local Council to be putting fluoride in the drinking water?*

Local authorities do not need to wait for a direction from the Director-General to start fluoridating water supplies in their area. However, if they receive a direction, they must implement fluoridation by the date set in the direction.

From July 2024, responsibility for implementing directions will sit with the new water service entities, being established under the Three Waters Reform.

*6. Please provide a copy of any and all communications from MoH to the Whanganui Council relating to adding fluoride to the water (since 2018).*

I have identified five documents within scope of this part of your request. All documents are itemised in Appendix 1 and copies of the documents are enclosed. Where information is withheld under section 9 of the Act, I have considered the countervailing public interest in release in making this decision and consider that it does not outweigh the need to withhold at this time.

*7. Can the Director-General please direct Whanganui District Council to add fluoride to the drinking water?*

I note your support of community water fluoridation and your interest in the Whanganui water supply being fluoridated.

You've asked about the possibility of a future direction from the Director-General of Health to Whanganui District Council to fluoridate the Whanganui water supply. It is likely that further directions will be considered by the Director-General within the next year. Manatū Hauora is currently working through a process to prioritise the remaining local authorities and water supplies to be actively considered by the Director-General for potential directions to fluoridate.

I trust this information fulfils your request. Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Manatū Hauora website at: [www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests](http://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests).

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jane Chambers', is enclosed in a light blue rectangular box. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Jane Chambers  
**Lead Public Health Policy and Regulation**  
**Public Health Agency**

## Appendix 1: List of documents for release

#	Date	Document details	Decision on release
1a	11 November 2021	Email correspondence from Manatū Hauora to Chief Executives	Released in full.
1b	11 November 2021	Email attachment: Letter to Chief Executives	
1c	N/A	Email attachment: Community water fluoridation	
2a	16 December 2021	Email correspondence from Director-General of Health to Mayor of Whanganui	
2b	15 December 2021	Email attachment: Letter from Director-General of Health to Mayor of Whanganui	
2c	15 December 2021	Email attachment: Letter to local authority Chief Executives	
2d	N/A	Email attachment: Appendix One: Non-fluoridated community water supplies servicing populations of 500 or more	
3a	16 December 2021	Email correspondence from Manatū Hauora to local authority Chief Executives	
3b	N/A	Email attachment: Completed community water fluoridation questionnaire	
4	31 January – 8 March 2022	Email correspondence between Manatū Hauora and Whanganui District Council	
5a	23 June 2022	Email correspondence from Manatū Hauora to Whanganui District Council	Released in full.
5b	22 June 2022	Email attachment: Letter from Director-General of Health to Whanganui District Council Chief Executive	



## Document Profile

### Oral Health Filing

<b>Status:</b>	Final	<b>Drawer:</b>	Community Water Fluoridation
<b>Date:</b>	11/11/2021	<b>Folder:</b>	Stakeholder Correspondence
<b>Title:</b>	Fluoridation Bill update letter to council CEs	<b>File Location:</b>	
<b>Author:</b>	Fluoride	<b>Unit:</b>	
<b>Document Type:</b>	Email	<b>Maintainer(s):</b>	Vi Vu
<b>Summary:</b>			
<b>Knowledge Content:</b>	Med		

Tēnā koutou,

Please see attached a letter regarding the Health (Fluoridation of Drinking Water) Amendment Bill and factsheet.

Ngā mihi nui,

Oral health team  
Population Health and Prevention  
Ministry of Health

<http://www.health.govt.nz>



Letter - Fluoridation Bill.pdf Community water fluoridation factsheet.pdf

Please see Documents 1b and 1c below

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982

11 November 2021

Tēnā koe

This letter is to update you on the Health (Fluoridation of Drinking Water) Amendment Bill (the Bill) and what it means for you.

As you may be aware, on Tuesday 9 November 2021, the Bill passed its final reading and will come into force 28 days after Royal assent. The new legislation amends the Health Act 1956 to give the Director-General of Health the power to issue a direction to local authority water suppliers (including bulk water suppliers) to fluoridate a public drinking water supply. The changes do not apply to private drinking water supplies.

### **Key content of the new legislation**

Under the new legislation, when deciding whether to issue a direction to fluoridate, the Director-General of Health will be required to consider for each individual drinking water supply:

- the scientific evidence on the effectiveness of adding fluoride to drinking water in reducing the prevalence and severity of dental decay
- whether the benefits of adding fluoride to the drinking water outweigh the financial costs, taking into account:
  - the state or likely state of the oral health of the local community or population group associated with the water supply
  - the number of people who are reasonably likely to receive drinking water from the local authority supply
  - the likely financial costs and savings of adding fluoride to the drinking water, including any additional costs of ongoing management and monitoring.

Before issuing any direction to fluoridate, the Director-General of Health must seek written comment from the local authorities on the estimated cost of introducing community water fluoridation, and the date by which the local authority could comply.

The new legislation exempts you from any requirement to consult with your communities on the decision to fluoridate.

Further information on these changes and the obligations for local authorities is in the attached fact sheet.

## Implementation

The Ministry of Health (the Ministry) intends to facilitate swift transition to the new fluoridation decision-making process, and anticipates that the Director-General of Health could commence issuing directions from mid-2022 onwards. Implementation will be phased over time and there will be some funding available to support local authorities with the costs of fluoridation-related capital works.

The Ministry is working through implementation details and expects to be able to provide further information to you in the next month.

The Ministry acknowledges the significance of the Government's Three Waters Reform programme on local authorities, including the recent announcement of the creation of the new water service entities. The Ministry of Health is working closely with the Department of Internal Affairs to ensure that implementation planning aligns with the reform programme and factors in current service delivery pressures across the water services sector.

## Resources for your communities

You may receive queries from your communities about community water fluoridation now that the new legislation has been passed. We encourage you to refer members of the public or interested groups to the resources below. They reflect the position of the Ministry of Health, World Health Organization, and Centres for Disease Control and Prevention that community water fluoridation is a safe, effective and affordable public health measure to improve the oral health of communities.

<https://www.fluoridefacts.govt.nz/>

<https://www.pmcsa.ac.nz/topics/fluoridation-an-update-on-evidence/>

We look forward to working with you to implement these new changes that will have an important health impact on the communities you serve. We will be in touch again shortly.

Ngā mihi



Deborah Woodley  
**Deputy Director-General  
Population Health and Prevention**



Riana Clarke  
**National Clinical Director, Oral Health  
Ministry of Health**

cc: Regional Council Chief Executives

Jon Lamonte, Chief Executive, Watercare

Colin Crampton, Chief Executive, Wellington Water

Bill Bayfield, Chief Executive, Taumata Arowai

District Health Board Chief Executives

Public Health Unit Managers

# Community water fluoridation

*Only around half of all New Zealanders receive fluoridated drinking water. Until now, it's been up to local authorities (councils) to make decisions around fluoridating their water supplies. The Director-General of Health now has the authority to decide if community drinking water supplies should be fluoridated.*

## What is water fluoridation?

Fluoride already exists in water. Water fluoridation is when the natural level of fluoride in the water supply is topped up to between 0.7 ppm and 1.0 ppm. This is the ideal amount for giving protection against tooth decay. This is recommended by many national and international health bodies, including the World Health Organization.

The Ministry of Health recommends water fluoridation as a safe and effective way to prevent and reduce tooth decay for everyone. The levels of fluoride in water are carefully monitored.

## Is it safe?

The role of fluoride in water has been examined around the world – including in New Zealand – over the last 60 years. There is strong evidence that there are no adverse effects of any significance from fluoridation at the levels used in New Zealand, and that it is beneficial to New Zealanders of all ages. This is especially true for our most vulnerable communities

## Is it effective?

Fluoride in water like a constant repair kit. It neutralises the effect of acids that cause decay and helps to repair damage before it becomes permanent.

The most recent New Zealand Oral Health Survey (2009) shows that children and adolescents have 40 percent less tooth decay over their lifetime if they live in areas with fluoridated water.

The government estimates that introducing community water fluoridation to all public drinking water supplies would result in net savings of more than \$600 million over 20 years - mostly to consumers, and some to government?

## How will decisions about community water fluoridation be made?

The new legislation allows the Director-General to make decisions about fluoridating public water supplies only. They cannot direct the fluoridation of privately-owned water supplies.

Before issuing a direction to fluoridate a water supply, the Director-General must invite the affected local authority to give information in writing on the estimated cost and timing for introducing fluoridation.

The new legislation requires the Director-General of Health to consider the scientific evidence of the effectiveness of fluoridation in reducing dental decay, and whether the benefits outweigh the financial costs. They must consider the oral health status (or likely oral health status) of the local community, the size of the water supply and how much it's likely to cost to introduce fluoridation.

The Director-General of Health is required under the new legislation to seek advice from the Director of Public Health before issuing a direction. They may also consider other factors or

views. The new legislation does not require local authorities to consult with their communities on decisions around fluoridating their water supplies.

Local authorities that are currently fluoridating drinking water supplies must continue to do so.

### **When will the Director-General of Health start issuing directions?**

We expect the Director-General of Health could start issuing directions regarding some community water supplies from mid-2022. It is expected that implementation will be phased over time. The Ministry will be engaging further with local authorities about implementation in late 2021 and early 2022.

The Director-General of Health will ensure when providing a date by which the local authority must comply with a direction, that it is reasonably practical. In instances of non-compliance, the Director-General of Health may take action to hold local authorities to account. See sections 116I and 116J of the new legislation for more information.

### **Do local authorities need to wait for a direction to start fluoridating?**

No. Local authorities may wish to consider whether to fluoridate water supplies in the absence of the Director-General of Health issuing directions.

### **Who will pay for fluoridation?**

Some funding will be available to support local authorities with the capital costs of fluoridation. The operational costs of fluoridation will remain with local authorities.

### **Who will ensure my water is safe to drink?**

Local authorities and water suppliers will still be responsible for providing safe drinking water to their communities and need to meet water safety regulations. Water suppliers are required to meet the Drinking water standards for New Zealand, which set maximum acceptable values for a range of substances and organisms, including for fluoride.

### **How does the new legislation support equity?**

Some communities and population groups in Aotearoa have worse oral health outcomes than others. New Zealand still has high rates of preventable tooth decay, particularly among Māori and Pacific children and adults, and those in vulnerable communities.

The benefits of community water fluoridation are broadly spread, but are greater for Māori, Pacific and those living in deprived communities.

Extending community water fluoridation aligns with the Treaty of Waitangi principles of equity and active protection. Te Ao Mārama (the Māori Dental Association) and the Pasifika Dental Association support community water fluoridation.

### **Find out more**

[www.fluoridefacts.govt.nz](http://www.fluoridefacts.govt.nz) | [www.health.govt.nz/water-fluoridation](http://www.health.govt.nz/water-fluoridation)



## Document Profile

### Oral Health Filing

<b>Status:</b>	Final	<b>Drawer:</b>	Community Water Fluoridation
<b>Date:</b>	16/12/2021	<b>Folder:</b>	Stakeholder Engagement\Correspondence
<b>Title:</b>	Whanganui - Action Required – Planning for community water fluoridation	<b>File Location:</b>	
<b>Author:</b>	Ashley Bloomfield	<b>Unit:</b>	
<b>Document Type:</b>	Email	<b>Maintainer(s):</b>	Vi Vu
<b>Summary:</b>			
<b>Knowledge Content:</b>	Med		

Kia ora Hamish,

Following your recent phone call with Deborah Woodley, Deputy Director-General Population Health and Prevention, I have attached a letter to formally update you on community water fluoridation and the benefits it will have on your community. Please note, the Ministry of Health has asked for information from your local authority to assist with planning for fluoridation, which is due on **11 March 2022**.

Ngā mihi nui,

Ashley

**Dr Ashley Bloomfield**

Te Tumu Whakarae mō te Hauora

Director-General of Health

Pronoun: He/Him

email: [ashley.bloomfield@health.govt.nz](mailto:ashley.bloomfield@health.govt.nz)

[www.health.govt.nz](http://www.health.govt.nz)



- Letter Hamish (002) - signed.pdf



- Letter to local authority CEs.pdf

Please see Documents 2b and 2c below

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982

133 Molesworth Street  
PO Box 5013  
Wellington 6140  
New Zealand  
T+64 4 496 2000

15 December 2021

Hamish McDouall  
Mayor of Whanganui  
Whanganui District Council  
PO Box 637  
Whanganui 4541

Tēnā koe Hamish

I am writing to let you know that the Health (Fluoridation of Drinking Water) Amendment Act 2021 (the Act) came into force on 13 December 2021, and to encourage you and your colleagues to take positive action in light of this development. The new legislation amends the Health Act 1956 to give the Director-General of Health the power to issue a direction to local authority water suppliers (including bulk water suppliers) to fluoridate a public drinking water supply.

The Ministry of Health's records indicate that the water supply in your local authority is un-fluoridated and serves a large community. Community water fluoridation has been endorsed by the World Health Organization and other international health authorities as the most effective health measure for the prevention of dental decay. Good oral health is essential to achieving and maintaining the overall health and wellbeing of the community you serve.

Community water fluoridation is an effective, safe and affordable public health measure to improve the oral health of all New Zealanders. It is also estimated that introducing community water fluoridation to all public drinking water supplies across the country would result in net savings of more than \$600 million over 20 years for consumers.

I encourage you and your colleagues to act proactively and start the process now to enable fluoridation of your water supply. Please note the local authority can commence this at any time, and this does not require a direction from the Director-General of Health. I have attached a letter addressed to your Chief Executive that also encourages this and seeks information to assist with planning for fluoridation.

The Ministry of Health can provide general advice and support on the evidence for fluoridation, and the steps needed to commence this process. I hope you will support your communities with this important initiative.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Bloomfield', written in a cursive style.

Dr Ashley Bloomfield  
**Te Tumu Whakarae mō te Hauora**  
**Director-General of Health**

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15 December 2021

Tēnā koe

Further to the Ministry of Health's letter of 11 November 2021, I am writing to update you on implementation planning for the Health (Fluoridation of Drinking Water) Amendment Act 2021 (the Act) and seek information from you to assist with this.

### Next steps

I expect to consider issuing directions to fluoridate from mid-2022 onwards and implementing these directions will take a staged approach. This will align with the significant reforms to the Three Waters infrastructure announced last month.

I encourage all local authorities with un-fluoridated community water supplies that service over 500 people to start fluoridation-related preparatory work now (a list of these supplies is attached as **Appendix one**), especially in areas with larger populations or that have poor oral health outcomes.

Please note local authorities do not need to wait for a potential direction from me to start fluoridating water supplies in their area. Community water fluoridation will substantially reduce rates of preventable tooth decay and it is widely recognised as one of the most important and proven public health measures to improve oral health.

To support early adoption, the Ministry has a limited amount of capital works funding available for local authorities that are willing and able to begin the capital works to fluoridate by the end of 2022. The Ministry will provide more information about funding applications when it has received the information requested below. The Ministry will likely prioritise financial support for communities with poor oral health, or where there are disparities in oral health outcomes.

I recognise that there are some complex council-owned supplies across the country where it may not be feasible to fluoridate in a short timeframe. As part of the Three Waters reforms, new water services entities are due to be established in July 2024. These entities could be responsible for fluoridating these supplies (subject to any directions being issued). The Ministry and the Department of Internal Affairs will work together on how this will be managed as part of the asset management planning processes to establish the new entities. These processes will start next year.

## The Ministry requests some information from you now

The Ministry is now seeking information on the fluoridation 'readiness' of local authorities, and any cost and planning pressures they face. This will allow the Ministry to better understand how implementation of fluoridation will be phased<sup>1</sup>.

We ask that you provide the following information for each of your council-owned un-fluoridated drinking water supplies that service a population of 500 people or more:

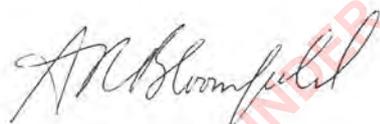
- the status of your fluoridation infrastructure
- whether fluoridation capital works is underway or planned
- the expected date for completion of capital works (if relevant)
- the estimated capital works cost to fluoridate your supplies
- the budgeted capital works costs to fluoridate supplies included in long term plans or budgets
- the number of months required to fluoridate water supplies if a direction is issued
- other information useful for implementation planning.

Please also confirm the list of un-fluoridated supplies controlled by your local authority (see **Appendix one**) and provide the information above for any additional supplies that are not listed.

I request that you provide this information by completing and returning the attached spreadsheet by 11 March 2022 to [fluoride@health.govt.nz](mailto:fluoride@health.govt.nz). You can also use this contact email if you have any questions or would like to discuss matters further.

I look forward to working with you on this initiative to help improve the oral health of the communities you serve.

Nāku noa, nā



Dr Ashley Bloomfield  
**Te Tumu Whakarae mō te Hauora**  
**Director-General of Health**

Cc: Jon Lamonte, Chief Executive, Watercare  
Colin Crampton, Chief Executive, Wellington Water  
Bill Bayfield, Chief Executive, Taumata Arowai  
District Health Board Chief Executives  
Public Health Unit Managers

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<sup>1</sup> This information is not being sought as part of my requirements under section 116G the Act. I will ask local authorities to formally provide comment on these provisions in advance of issuing directions regarding specific water supplies.

## Appendix One: Non-fluoridated community water supplies servicing populations of 500 or more

Water supplier	Water supply	Estimated population size
Ashburton District Council	Ashburton	19,000
Ashburton District Council	Rakaia	1100
Buller District Council	Westport	4974
Buller District Council	Reefton	951
Carterton District Council	Carterton	5230
Central Hawke's Bay District Council	Waipawa	2355
Central Hawke's Bay District Council	Waipukurau	3666
Central Hawke's Bay District Council	Takapau	570
Central Otago District Council	Alexandra	6000
Central Otago District Council	Clyde	2200
Central Otago District Council	Cromwell	8000
Central Otago District Council	Ranfurly	950
Central Otago District Council	Roxburgh	790
Christchurch city Council	Akaroa	820
Christchurch city Council	Brooklands / Kainga	1629
Christchurch city Council	Christchurch	381,816
Christchurch city Council	Lyttelton	5854
Clutha District Council	Richardson Rural	1003
Clutha District Council	Clydevale-Pomahaka Rural	778
Clutha District Council	Glenkenich Rural	705
Clutha District Council	Moa Flat	534
Clutha District Council	North Bruce Rural	928
Clutha District Council	Stirling	737
Clutha District Council	Waitahuna Rural	922
Dunedin City Council	Waikouaiti	1642
Dunedin City Council	Outram	750
Far North District Council	Kaikohe	4200
Far North District Council	Kaitaia	5400
Far North District Council	Kawakawa / Moerewa	3500
Far North District Council	Kerikeri	6700
Far North District Council	Paihia	4000
Far North District Council	Okaihau	800
Far North District Council	Omapere	900
Far North District Council	Rawene	600
Gore District Council	Gore	7480

Gore District Council	Mataura	1790
Grey District Council	Greymouth	8320
Grey District Council	Runanga	1090
Hastings District Council	Haumoana / Te Awanga	1900
Hastings District Council	Clive	560
Hastings District Council	Whirinaki- Hawkes Bay	800
Hastings District Council	Hastings Urban	64,764
Hauraki District Council	Kerepehi	2552
Hauraki District Council	Paeroa	4887
Hauraki District Council	Waihi	4927
Hauraki District Council	Waitakaruru	2076
Horowhenua District Council	Foxton	2700
Horowhenua District Council	Foxton Beach	1900
Horowhenua District Council	Levin	20,000
Horowhenua District Council	Shannon	1436
Horowhenua District Council	Tokomaru	550
Hurunui District Council	Amberley	1921
Hurunui District Council	Ashley Rural	5832
Hurunui District Council	Amuri Plains Rural Water	699
Hurunui District Council	Broomfield	565
Hurunui District Council	Cheviot	888
Hurunui District Council	Hanmer	948
Hurunui District Council	Hawarden	753
Hurunui District Council	Motunau, Greta, Scargill	681
Hurunui District Council	Waitohi Upper	513
Hutt City Council	Petone	7491
Hutt City Council	Korokoro	1482
Kaikoura District Council	Kaikoura	2500
Kaipara District Council	Dargaville	4683
Kaipara District Council	Maungaturoto	980
Kapiti Coast District Council	Otaki	5700
Kapiti Coast District Council	Paekakariki	1665
Kapiti Coast District Council	Hautere	700
Kawerau District Council	Kawerau	7721
Mackenzie District Council	Fairlie	1000
Mackenzie District Council	Twizel	1300
Mackenzie District Council	Tekapo	500
Manawatu District Council	Himatangi Beach	513
Manawatu District Council	Rongotea	639
Manawatu District Council	Sanson	582
Marlborough District Council	Blenheim	24,028
Marlborough District Council	Picton/Waikawa	4185
Marlborough District Council	Renwick	1884
Marlborough District Council	Seddon	535
Marlborough District Council	Havelock	618
Marlborough District Council	Riverlands Industrial	740

Matamata Piako District Council	Matamata	6943
Matamata Piako District Council	Morrinsville	6603
Matamata Piako District Council	Te Aroha	3838
Napier City Council	Napier	59,055
Napier City Council	Bayview	894
Nelson City Council	Nelson	52,400
New Plymouth District Council	Inglewood	3983
New Plymouth District Council	New Plymouth	59,072
New Plymouth District Council	Oakura	1625
New Plymouth District Council	Okato	530
Opotiki District Council	Opotiki	4530
Otorohanga District Council	Otorohanga	3050
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Arrowtown	4366
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Arthurs Point	1631
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Glenorchy	1232
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Hawea	3767
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Lake Hayes	3743
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Queenstown	25,271
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Wanaka	13,633
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Luggate	855
Rangitikei District Council	Bulls	1419
Rangitikei District Council	Marton	4764
Rangitikei District Council	Taihape	1584
Rotorua Lakes Council	Hamurana/Kaharoa	1700
Rotorua Lakes Council	Ngongotaha	4826
Rotorua Lakes Council	Reporoa	1060
Rotorua Lakes Council	Rotorua Central	42,500
Rotorua Lakes Council	Rotorua East	10,330
Rotorua Lakes Council	Mamaku	868
Rotorua Lakes Council	Rotoiti	880
Ruapehu District Council	Ohakune	1500
Ruapehu District Council	Taumarunui	4870
Ruapehu District Council	Raetihi	749
Selwyn District Council	Darfield	3720
Selwyn District Council	Kirwee	1300
Selwyn District Council	Leeston	3000
Selwyn District Council	Lincoln	7200
Selwyn District Council	Malvern Hills RWS	1684
Selwyn District Council	Prebbleton	4500
Selwyn District Council	Rolleston	18,550
Selwyn District Council	Selwyn RWS	1160
Selwyn District Council	West Melton	2270
Selwyn District Council	Sheffield/Waddington	585
Selwyn District Council	Southbridge	990
Selwyn District Council	Springfield	580
Selwyn District Council	Springston	510

Selwyn District Council	Tai Tapu	760
South Taranaki District Council	Eltham	1980
South Taranaki District Council	Opunake	1370
South Taranaki District Council	Patea	1150
South Taranaki District Council	Waimate West	2880
South Taranaki District Council	Waverley	950
South Waikato District Council	Putaruru	4116
South Waikato District Council	Tirau	700
South Wairarapa District Council	Featherston	2599
South Wairarapa District Council	Greytown	2623
South Wairarapa District Council	Martinborough	1776
Southland District Council	Edendale/Wyndham	1152
Southland District Council	Lumsden/Balfour	1061
Southland District Council	Riverton	1506
Southland District Council	Te Anau	2628
Southland District Council	Winton	2436
Southland District Council	Ohai/Nightcaps	667
Southland District Council	Otautau	798
Southland District Council	Tuatapere	561
Tararua District Council	Dannevirke	6000
Tararua District Council	Pahiatua	2700
Tararua District Council	Woodville	1500
Tasman District Council	Hope/Brightwater	2100
Tasman District Council	Motueka	1200
Tasman District Council	Richmond/Waimea Industrial	14,000
Tasman District Council	Waimea Mapua Ruby Bay	2500
Tasman District Council	Wakefield	2100
Taupo District Council	Acacia Bay	2381
Taupo District Council	Kinloch	1696
Taupo District Council	Mangakino	1312
Taupo District Council	Omori/Kuratau/Pukawa	1883
Taupo District Council	Motuoapa	739
Tauranga City Council	Tauranga	146,097
Thames Coromandel District Council	Coromandel	1718
Thames Coromandel District Council	Tairua	1314
Thames Coromandel District Council	Whangamata	3674
Thames Coromandel District Council	Whitianga	4550
Thames Coromandel District Council	Pauanui	750
Timaru District Council	Downlands	4550
Timaru District Council	Geraldine	2121

Timaru District Council	Pleasant Point	1200
Timaru District Council	Te Moana Scheme	1650
Timaru District Council	Temuka	4620
Timaru District Council	Timaru City	26,832
Timaru District Council	Seadown	895
Upper Hutt City Council	Kaitoke	650
Waikato District Council	Raglan	4000
Waimakariri District Council	Kaiapoi	12,630
Waimakariri District Council	Mandeville	2353
Waimakariri District Council	Oxford Urban - Rural No. 2	2993
Waimakariri District Council	Rangiora	17,880
Waimakariri District Council	Waikuku	1150
Waimakariri District Council	Pegasus - Woodend	7325
Waimakariri District Council	Oxford Rural No1	828
Waimakariri District Council	West Eyreton	613
Waimate District Council	Hook/Waituna Rural	1350
Waimate District Council	Waimate	3000
Waimate District Council	Lower Waihao Rural	600
Waipa District Council	Cambridge	20,833
Waipa District Council	Kihikihi	2000
Waipa District Council	Pukerimu Rural	3387
Waipa District Council	Te Awamutu & Pirongia	10,665
Wairoa District Council	Wairoa	4650
Waitaki District Council	Oamaru	15,561
Waitaki District Council	Waihemo	1357
Waitaki District Council	Lower Waitaki, Rural	778
Waitaki District Council	Tokarahi/Livingstone	573
Waitomo District Council	Te Kuiti	4612
Waitomo District Council	Piopio	500
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Shakespear Regional Park	1425
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Greenlane Hospital	1500
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Helensville/Parakai	4579
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Snells/Algies	4664
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Waiuku	8697
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Warkworth	4111
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Wellsford/Te Hana	2114
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Bombay	609
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Broadway Park, Newmarket	1000

Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Huia Village	597
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Muriwai	563
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Auckland	25,507
Western Bay of Plenty District Council	Athenree	5125
Western Bay of Plenty District Council	Katikati	5700
Western Bay of Plenty District Council	Omokoroa Minden	6450
Western Bay of Plenty District Council	Pongakawa	4600
Western Bay of Plenty District Council	Te Puke	8460
Westland District Council	Hokitika	3447
Westland District Council	Franz Josef	2611
Whakatane District Council	Murupara	1674
Whakatane District Council	Rangitaiki Plains	2897
Whakatane District Council	Matata	690
Whakatane District Council	Ruatoki	560
Whakatane District Council	Taneatua	790
Whakatane District Council	Otumahi	2841
Whanganui District Council	Whanganui	39,475
Whangarei District Council	Bream Bay	14,800
Whangarei District Council	Whangarei	56,530

**Note:** In a small number of cases zones are listed rather than supplies, or a supply may be captured where only one or more zones or parts of zones are non-fluoridated.



## Document Profile

### Oral Health Filing

<b>Status:</b>	Final	<b>Drawer:</b>	Community Water Fluoridation
<b>Date:</b>	16/12/2021	<b>Folder:</b>	Stakeholder Engagement\Correspondence
<b>Title:</b>	Follow up letter to CEs - Action Required – Planning for community water fluoridation	<b>File Location:</b>	
<b>Author:</b>	Fluoride	<b>Unit:</b>	
<b>Document Type:</b>	Email	<b>Maintainer(s):</b>	Fluoride PHP-PHP-Oral Health
<b>Summary:</b>			
<b>Knowledge Content:</b>	Med		

Kia ora koutou,

Please see a further letter updating you on community water fluoridation and the next steps. A limited amount of capital works funding will be available to support local authorities with implementing fluoridation.

The letter seeks information from each local authority to assist with planning for fluoridation, which is due on **11 March 2022**.

Ngā mihi nui,

Oral Health team

Ministry of Health



- Letter to local authority CEs.pdf



- Appendix One- Community Water Fluoridation.docx



Community Water Fluoridation questionnaire.xlsx



- put-in-cabinet-data.json

Please see Documents 2c, 2d and 3b

**NOTE:**

- If a supply is already fully fluoridated, please enter "installed- in use" in Column C and no further information is required for that supply.
- If there are additional non-fluoridated supplies servicing a population of 500 or over that are not listed please add these supplies in a new row and enter the required information.
- In some cases the water supply referred to may already be partly fluoridated, and therefore the information requested relates only to the zones of that supply that are non-fluoridated.
- In other cases zones rather than the parent water supply may be listed.

Local Authority- Water Supplier	Water supply (servicing population of 500 people or more)	What is the status of fluoridation infrastructure? (select an option)	Are fluoridation capital works underway or planned? (Yes/No)	Expected date for completion of capital works, if relevant (enter date)- ie: respond if answer to Column D was yes	Estimated capital works cost to fluoridate supply if a direction is issued (dollars)	Budgeted capital works costs to fluoridate supply included in long term plans or budgets (dollars and allocation year/s)	Estimated number of months that would be required to fluoridate water supply if a direction is issued	Name and contact details of key contact for Community Water Fluoridation	Any other comments
Ashburton District Council	Ashburton								
Ashburton District Council	Rakaia								
Buller District Council	Westport								
Buller District Council	Reefton								
Carterton District Council	Carterton								
Central Hawke's Bay District Council	Waipawa								
Central Hawke's Bay District Council	Waipukurau								
Central Hawke's Bay District Council	Takapau								
Central Otago District Council	Alexandra								
Central Otago District Council	Clyde								
Central Otago District Council	Cromwell								
Central Otago District Council	Ranfurly								
Central Otago District Council	Roxburgh								
Christchurch city Council	Akaroa								
Christchurch city Council	Brooklands / Kainga								
Christchurch city Council	Christchurch								
Christchurch city Council	Lyttelton								
Clutha District Council	Richardson Rural								
Clutha District Council	Clydevale-Pomahaka Rural								
Clutha District Council	Glenkenich Rural								
Clutha District Council	Moa Flat								
Clutha District Council	North Bruce Rural								
Clutha District Council	Stirling								
Clutha District Council	Waitahuna Rural								
Dunedin City Council	Waikouaiti								
Dunedin City Council	Outram								
Far North District Council	Kaikohe								
Far North District Council	Kaitia								
Far North District Council	Kawakawa / Moerewa								
Far North District Council	Kerikeri								
Far North District Council	Paihia								
Far North District Council	Okaihau								
Far North District Council	Omapere								
Far North District Council	Rawene								
Gore District Council	Gore								
Gore District Council	Mataura								
Grey District Council	Greymouth								
Grey District Council	Runanga								
Hastings District Council	Haumoana / Te Awanga								
Hastings District Council	Clive								
Hastings District Council	Whirinaki- Hawkes Bay								
Hastings District Council	Hastings Urban								
Hauraki District Council	Kerepehi								
Hauraki District Council	Paeroa								
Hauraki District Council	Waihi								
Hauraki District Council	Waitakaruru								
Horowhenua District Council	Foxton								
Horowhenua District Council	Foxton Beach								
Horowhenua District Council	Levin								
Horowhenua District Council	Shannon								

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Horowhenua District Council	Tokomaru
Hurunui District Council	Amberley
Hurunui District Council	Ashley Rural
Hurunui District Council	Amuri Plains Rural Water
Hurunui District Council	Broomfield
Hurunui District Council	Cheviot
Hurunui District Council	Hanmer
Hurunui District Council	Hawarden
Hurunui District Council	Motunau, Greta, Scargill
Hurunui District Council	Waitohi Upper
Hutt City Council	Petone
Hutt City Council	Korokoro
Kaikoura District Council	Kaikoura
Kaipara District Council	Dargaville
Kaipara District Council	Maungaturoto
Kapiti Coast District Council	Otaki
Kapiti Coast District Council	Paekakariki
Kapiti Coast District Council	Hautere
Kawerau District Council	Kawerau
Mackenzie District Council	Fairlie
Mackenzie District Council	Twizel
Mackenzie District Council	Tekapo
Manawatu District Council	Himatangi Beach
Manawatu District Council	Rongotea
Manawatu District Council	Sanson
Marlborough District Council	Blenheim
Marlborough District Council	Picton/Waikawa
Marlborough District Council	Renwick
Marlborough District Council	Seddon
Marlborough District Council	Havelock
Marlborough District Council	Riverlands Industrial
Matamata Piako District Council	Matamata
Matamata Piako District Council	Morrinsville
Matamata Piako District Council	Te Aroha
Napier City Council	Napier
Napier City Council	Bayview
Nelson City Council	Nelson
New Plymouth District Council	Inglewood
New Plymouth District Council	New Plymouth
New Plymouth District Council	Oakura
New Plymouth District Council	Okato
Opotiki District Council	Opotiki
Otorohanga District Council	Otorohanga
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Arrowtown
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Arthurs Point
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Glenorchy
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Hawea
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Lake Hayes
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Queenstown
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Wanaka
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Luggate
Rangitikei District Council	Bulls
Rangitikei District Council	Marton
Rangitikei District Council	Taihape
Rotorua Lakes Council	Hamurana/Kaharoa
Rotorua Lakes Council	Ngongotaha
Rotorua Lakes Council	Reporoa
Rotorua Lakes Council	Rotorua Central
Rotorua Lakes Council	Rotorua East
Rotorua Lakes Council	Mamaku
Rotorua Lakes Council	Rotoiti
Ruapehu District Council	Ohakune
Ruapehu District Council	Taumarunui

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Ruapehu District Council	Raetihi
Selwyn District Council	Darfield
Selwyn District Council	Kirwee
Selwyn District Council	Leeston
Selwyn District Council	Lincoln
Selwyn District Council	Malvern Hills RWS
Selwyn District Council	Prebbleton
Selwyn District Council	Rolleston
Selwyn District Council	Selwyn RWS
Selwyn District Council	West Melton
Selwyn District Council	Sheffield/Waddington
Selwyn District Council	Southbridge
Selwyn District Council	Springfield
Selwyn District Council	Springston
Selwyn District Council	Tai Tapu
South Taranaki District Council	Eltham
South Taranaki District Council	Opunake
South Taranaki District Council	Patea
South Taranaki District Council	Waimate West
South Taranaki District Council	Waverley
South Waikato Distict Council	Putaruru
South Waikato Distict Council	Tirau
South Wairarapa District Council	Featherston
South Wairarapa District Council	Greytown
South Wairarapa District Council	Martinborough
Southland District Council	Edendale/Wyndham
Southland District Council	Lumsden/Balfour
Southland District Council	Riverton
Southland District Council	Te Anau
Southland District Council	Winton
Southland District Council	Ohai/Nightcaps
Southland District Council	Otautau
Southland District Council	Tuatapere
Tararua District Council	Dannevirke
Tararua District Council	Pahiatua
Tararua District Council	Woodville
Tasman District Council	Hope/Brightwater
Tasman District Council	Motueka
Tasman District Council	Richmond/Waimea Industrial
Tasman District Council	Waimea Mapua Ruby Bay
Tasman District Council	Wakefield
Taupo District Council	Acacia Bay
Taupo District Council	Kinloch
Taupo District Council	Mangakino
Taupo District Council	Omori/Kuratau/Pukawa
Taupo District Council	Motuoapa
Tauranga City Council	Tauranga
Thames Coromandel District Council	Coromandel
Thames Coromandel District Council	Tairua
Thames Coromandel District Council	Whangamata
Thames Coromandel District Council	Whitianga
Thames Coromandel District Council	Pauanui
Timaru District Council	Downlands
Timaru District Council	Geraldine
Timaru District Council	Pleasant Point
Timaru District Council	Te Moana Scheme
Timaru District Council	Temuka
Timaru District Council	Timaru City
Timaru District Council	Seadown
Upper Hutt City Council	Kaitoke
Waikato District Council	Raglan
Waimakariri District Council	Kaipoi
Waimakariri District Council	Mandeville

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Waimakariri District Council	Oxford Urban - Rural No. 2
Waimakariri District Council	Rangiora
Waimakariri District Council	Waikuku
Waimakariri District Council	Pegasus - Woodend
Waimakariri District Council	Oxford Rural No1
Waimakariri District Council	West Eyreton
Waimate District Council	Hook/Waituna Rural
Waimate District Council	Waimate
Waimate District Council	Lower Waihao Rural
Waipa District Council	Cambridge
Waipa District Council	Kihikihi
Waipa District Council	Pukerimu Rural
Waipa District Council	Te Awamutu & Pirongia
Wairoa District Council	Wairoa
Waitaki District Council	Oamaru
Waitaki District Council	Waihemo
Waitaki District Council	Lower Waitaki, Rural
Waitaki District Council	Tokarahi/Livingstone
Waitomo District Council	Te Kuiti
Waitomo District Council	Piopio
Watercare Services Ltd	Shakespear Regional Park
Watercare Services Ltd	Greenlane Hospital
Watercare Services Ltd	Helensville/Parakai
Watercare Services Ltd	Snells/Algies
Watercare Services Ltd	Waiuku
Watercare Services Ltd	Warkworth
Watercare Services Ltd	Wellsford/Te Hana
Watercare Services Ltd	Bombay
Watercare Services Ltd	Broadway Park, Newmarket
Watercare Services Ltd	Huia Village
Watercare Services Ltd	Muriwai
Watercare Services Ltd	Auckland
Western Bay of Plenty District Council	Athenree
Western Bay of Plenty District Council	Katikati
Western Bay of Plenty District Council	Omokoroa Minden
Western Bay of Plenty District Council	Pongakawa
Western Bay of Plenty District Council	Te Puke
Westland District Council	Hokitika
Westland District Council	Franz Josef
Whakatane District Council	Murupara
Whakatane District Council	Rangitaiki Plains
Whakatane District Council	Matata
Whakatane District Council	Ruatoki
Whakatane District Council	Taneatua
Whakatane District Council	Otumahi

Whanganui District Council	Whanganui Aramoho	Not Installed	No	1,621,000	48 Dave Rudolph
Whanganui District Council	Whanganui Reservoir	Not Installed	No	544,000	12 Dave Rudolph

Hi Costs due to Land Acquisition.  
Possible 3 yrs to aquire land to extend  
foot print of treatment plant.  
Construction of new facility to  
accomadate treatment process.

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Whanganui District Council  
Whangarei District Council  
Whangarei District Council

Whanganui Mowhanau  
Bream Bay  
Whangarei

Not Installed

No

311,000

12 Dave Rudolph

The design of the flouridation plant must ensure monitoring and control of the flouridation process. Rural sites have no communications installed costs will be high. Under the new water regulator Taumata Arowai a new site will be included if flouridation becomes mandated as it now falls under a population base of > than 500.

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## Document Profile

### Oral Health Filing

<b>Status:</b>	Final	<b>Drawer:</b>	Community Water Fluoridation
<b>Date:</b>	08/03/2022	<b>Folder:</b>	Stakeholder
<b>Title:</b>	Whanganui - fluoridation planning response		Engagement\Fluoridation Planning Responses
<b>Author:</b>	Mark Hughes	<b>File Location:</b>	
<b>Document Type:</b>	Email	<b>Unit:</b>	
<b>Summary:</b>		<b>Maintainer(s):</b>	Vi Vu
<b>Knowledge Content:</b>	Med		

Hi Vi

All 3 serve a current population of 39,775.

Taumata Arowai have deemed them all to be part of the 6 zones comprising the urban supply.

Whanganui is an artesian supply. There are 4 bores at Kai Iwi from which some is drawn to serve Mowhanau, the remainder then goes to the reservoirs where another bore also feed directly into the reservoirs. A further bore is located at Aramoho and that feeds directly into the urban supply.

Chlorination takes place at Mowhanau, the reservoirs and Aramoho and fluoridation would also have to be undertaken at these sites.

Regards

Mark

**From:** Vi Vu <Vi.Vu@health.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 8 March 2022 9:50 AM  
**To:** Mark Hughes <Mark.Hughes@whanganui.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** RE: Fluoridation of Drinking Water

Kia ora Mark,

Thanks for sending through the spread sheet. That is much appreciated.

Can you please confirm the population size that each supply serves as per below.

**Supply name**

**Population size the supply serves**

Whanganui Aramoho

Whanganui Reservoir

Whanganui Mowhanau

Ngā mihi,

Vi

**From:** Mark Hughes <[Mark.Hughes@whanganui.govt.nz](mailto:Mark.Hughes@whanganui.govt.nz)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 8 March 2022 9:07 am

**To:** Vi Vu <[Vi.Vu@health.govt.nz](mailto:Vi.Vu@health.govt.nz)>

**Subject:** FW: Fluoridation of Drinking Water

Kia Ora

Please find the completed spread sheet as requested.

Kind regards

Mark

Document 4

**From:** Vi Vu <[Vi.Vu@health.govt.nz](mailto:Vi.Vu@health.govt.nz)> **On Behalf Of** Fluoride  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 1 February 2022 11:18 am  
**To:** Mark Hughes <[Mark.Hughes@whanganui.govt.nz](mailto:Mark.Hughes@whanganui.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: Fluoridation of Drinking Water

Kia ora Mark,

Thanks for your email.

Please see attached the spread sheet to be completed.

Any questions, please get in contact.

Ngā mihi,

Oral Health team

Please refer to Document 3b

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**From:** Mark Hughes <[Mark.Hughes@whanganui.govt.nz](mailto:Mark.Hughes@whanganui.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 31 January 2022 2:05 pm  
**To:** Fluoride <[Fluoride@health.govt.nz](mailto:Fluoride@health.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** Fluoridation of Drinking Water

Hi

As per the DG's letter of 15 December requiring information un-fluoridated drinking water, we note that :-

“I request that you provide this information by completing and returning the attached spreadsheet....”

Unfortunately, no spreadsheet was attached to the copy we received.

Could you therefore send a copy to me directly ?

Many thanks

Mark

**Mark Hughes | General Manager - Infrastructure**

P: +64 06 349 3023 | M: s 9(2)(a)

[www.whanganui.govt.nz](http://www.whanganui.govt.nz)

**Whanganui District Council | 101 Guyton Street | PO Box 637 | Whanganui 4500**

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**From:** Ben Volz <Ben.Volz@health.govt.nz> **On Behalf Of** Fluoride  
**Sent:** Thursday, 23 June 2022 5:27 pm  
**To:** david.langford@whanganui.govt.nz  
**Subject:** Letter: Community Water Fluoridation

Tena Koe David

Please find attached a letter from Dr Ashley Bloomfield regarding community water fluoridation.

Nga Mihi

Oral Health team  
Ministry of Health

Please see Document 5b below

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133 Molesworth Street  
PO Box 5013  
Wellington 6140  
New Zealand  
T+64 4 496 2000

22 June 2022

David Langford  
Chief Executive  
Whanganui District Council  
david.langford@whanganui.govt.nz

Tēnā koe Mr Langford

### **Community water fluoridation next steps**

Thank you for your response to my letter of 15 December 2021, providing information on the status of the fluoridation infrastructure in your area and the estimated costs and timeframes that would be necessary to fluoridate your drinking water supplies. This information has informed my decisions about which local authorities to consider first, in my decision-making about whether to issue directions to fluoridate.

I have now advised fourteen local authorities that I will soon decide whether to issue directions in relation to some of their drinking water supplies. In deciding which local authorities and water supplies to consider first, I took into account factors including local authority ability to implement fluoridation swiftly, and size and needs of populations served by the relevant water supplies.

Drinking water supplies controlled by your local authority are not included in the first set of potential directions to fluoridate. However, it is likely your situation will be considered in the coming months, and that a decision on whether to issue a direction to fluoridate your drinking water supplies will be made by the end of 2022. As I noted in my earlier letter, I am also mindful of current service delivery pressures across the water services and broader local government sector. In light of this, if I do issue directions for your water supplies, some of these may have compliance dates set for after July 2024 when the new water service entities are established as part of the Three Waters reforms.

When considering whether to issue any direction to fluoride, and as required under the new legislation, I will seek written comment from you on the estimated costs of fluoridation (including costs of ongoing monitoring and maintenance), and the date by which you could comply with a direction. I will also consider the scientific evidence on the effectiveness of fluoridation, and the oral health status, population size and estimated costs of fluoridation for the area served by each water supply.

Please note too that you do not need to wait for a potential direction from me to start fluoridating water supplies in your area. Community water fluoridation is widely recognised by national and international expert bodies to improve public health by substantially reducing rates of preventable tooth decay. Here in Aotearoa New Zealand

we still have high rates of preventable tooth decay, particularly amongst Māori and Pacific people, and people living in deprived communities. Evidence shows that community water fluoridation both improves the oral health of everyone and also has a proportionately larger benefit for these groups.

Thank you for your co-operation as we work together to improve the oral health of the communities we each serve.

Nāku noa, nā



Dr Ashley Bloomfield  
**Te Tumu Whakarae mō te Hauora**  
**Director-General of Health**

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