



OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S CHIEF SCIENCE ADVISOR

Professor Sir Peter Gluckman, KNZM FRSNZ FMedSci FRS
Chief Science Advisor

19 February 2014

Dr Roger Blakeley
Chief Planning Officer
Auckland Council
Civic Building
1 Greys Avenue
Auckland

Dear Roger

Re: Fluoride

As discussed, you have invited me and others to comment on the debate around the addition of fluoride to water supplies, following a recent public meeting in Auckland.

After discussing with the Prime Minister, he has agreed that my Office should assist Councils by preparing a report on the scientific and related perspectives on the issue. I have proposed to Sir David Skegg, President of the Royal Society of NZ that we should jointly undertake a definitive analysis accessible to a lay audience but done in sufficient depth to address the many issues, real or otherwise, that have led to some level of disquiet.

Sir David and I have agreed on a process – the report will be written out of my Office, with input from the Ministry of Health, and with an expert advisor panel appointed by the Royal Society of New Zealand, to produce a report that Sir David and I will jointly sign off. I also intend to ensure community engagement from the outset via a distinguished and respected New Zealander being part of the process and my Office is currently considering who might be approached.

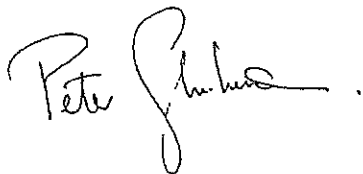
Based on past experience of similar exercises, we think this work will take 5 months and I have a contract staffer ideally placed and experienced to undertake the work and will lead the project.

I estimate the total cost of the project to be in the order of \$50,000. My office does not have funds for this kind of additional activity. I have written to the

Ministry of Health to confirm their level of assistance and they have verbally committed half the funds.

As we have discussed, I am asking Auckland Council to contribute to the costs of the project either directly or together with other Councils. I would suggest that \$15000 would be appropriate given the total costs and the assistance of the MOH. I would meet the remainder of the costs. I would be grateful for your confirmation so I can initiate the project.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Gluckman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sir Peter Gluckman KNZM FMedSci FRSNZ FRS