

## **Flouridation – reports provided to Council**

### **Excerpt from Group Manager Report, Council Agenda 28 March 2022**

#### **Water Supply**

- 15.6 Ongoing monitoring of the Blackball, and Greater Greymouth Water Supplies has shown an increase in leakage. This has been further confirmed by associated desktop estimates completed for the 2020/21 year. Staff are also monitoring increases in usage through daily demand, during the current, extended fine weather periods. Staff have provided information to the Ministry of Health relating potential budget estimates to implement fluoridation to the Greater Greymouth Water Treatment Plant. There is a possibility that the Director General of Health may confirm that fluoridation is required for all water supplies servicing over 500 people.

### **Excerpt from Council Minutes of 30 May 2023**

#### **RESOLUTION SCM 23/05/001**

**Moved: Mayor Tania Gibson**

**Seconded: Cr John Canning**

That Council

1. **Receives the report.**

**Carried Unanimously**

#### **Fluoridation Plant**

Her Worship stated that this has been mandated by central government, she does not believe that the community has been consulted with or had a chance to have discussion on this. Cr Mallinson asked what the impact building a fluoridation Plant is likely have on rates. The FM advised that Council would look at drawing down a loan and provided information on debt levels and this would equate to 2.89% increase in debt level. The CE advised that Council was not included in the first funding tranche but there may still be some funding available from the Ministry of Health. Extensive discussion took place on community consultation, risk, funding and the risk around not doing this and the possibility that Council could be acting illegally. The CE advised that the Director General of Health now has the decision making power to put fluoride in water, or not. The CE advised that a pushback with a view for Council seeking the views of its community may be appropriate. The GMO read the legislation from the MOH to the meeting, which states that a Local Authority is not required to consult on fluoridation of water where it is instructed by the Director General of Health to fluoridate.

**Moved: Mayor Tania Gibson**

**Seconded: Cr John Canning**

2. That Council does not approves the additional capital expenditure of \$900,000 to upgrade the greater Greymouth water scheme for fluoridation and that:
  - a) Investigates external funding streams around fluoridation.
  - b) Council would like the option to engage with our communities on these important decisions and not be mandated.

Cr Mora moved an amendment to 2 b).

**Moved: Cr Tim Mora**

**Seconded: Cr John Canning**

- 2 b) That Council defers spending money until Council has the opportunity to consult with its communities.

**Carried Unanimously**