

9 March 2022

Phone (06) 356 9169
Fax (06) 350 8818

Postal Address:
Private Bag 11036
Manawatu Mail Centre
Palmerston North 4442
New Zealand

Physical Address:
Ruahine Street
Palmerston North
New Zealand

Bernie Wanden
Mayor
Horowhenua District Council
126 Oxford Street,
Levin 5510

Tēnā koe Bernie



Letter of support for fluoridation of community drinking water supplies:

On 15 December 2021 our District Health Board was copied into a letter from Director General of Health, Dr Ashley Bloomfield, to local authorities with un-fluoridated drinking water supplies. The purpose of the letter was to update drinking water suppliers on implementation planning for the Health (Fluoridation of Drinking Water) Amendment Act 2021.

I note that within the Horowhenua District Council rohe, there are five supplies with more than 500 people that are currently un-fluoridated.

Horowhenua District Council	Foxton	2700
Horowhenua District Council	Foxton Beach	1900
Horowhenua District Council	Levin	20,000
Horowhenua District Council	Shannon	1450
Horowhenua District Council	Tokomaru	550

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. It will also help to reduce current health inequities amongst tamariki Māori, who have higher rates of decayed, missing and filled teeth.

I would like to endorse the recommendation that Horowhenua District Council start fluoridation-related preparatory work at an early opportunity.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Weir'.

Dr Rob Weir
Medical Officer of Health