

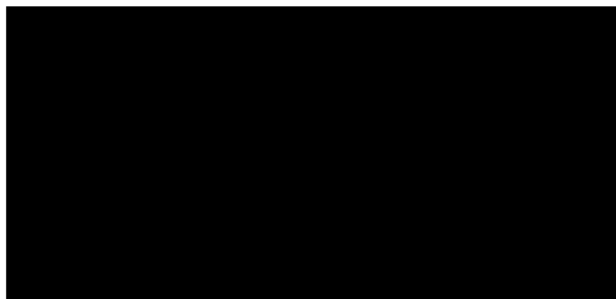


Ref: [REDACTED]

Civic House, 110 Trafalgar Street
PO Box 645, Nelson 7040, New Zealand

23 October 2024

P (03) 546 0200
E LGOIMA@ncc.govt.nz
nelson.govt.nz



OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST – FLUORIDATION

I refer to your official information request dated 6 October 2024 'LGOIMA' regarding the proposed fluoridation of the Nelson drinking water, which is reproduced below:

I understand that Nelson is still contemplating becoming a provider of mass fluoride medication in our drinking water under the Code of Health and Disability Services Consumer Rights Regulations 1996.

This is despite the recently updated Cochrane report finding no or minimal benefits from Fluoride and the US Federal Court finding that the risk of fluoride cannot be justified due to its established neurotoxicity, even at 0.7ppm.

The usual safety margin for toxic substances is at least one order of magnitude and in many cases two orders of magnitude ie a safety margin of 1/100 to reflect individual variability in susceptibility. Given that the US National Toxicology Report (which assessed published research on neurotoxicity over the last 7 years,) and found a significant reduction in IQ at a dose of just 1.5ppm, the maximum justifiable dose is similar to the naturally occurring level or 0.1ppm

Please provide a copy of all information you have about how the council intends to comply with the rights of consumers under the Code of Health and Disability Services Consumer Rights Regulations.

Please also provide the information you provide or intend to provide to the community about the safe dose of water per day for"

A) pregnant women,

B) bottle-fed babies,

C) people with kidney disorders and

D) people who already are at risk of fluorosis due to existing fluoride intake from Prozac or other medications, fluoride toothpaste, high tea consumption and/or their genetic make up and

E) People with excellent teeth or dentures who will get no benefit from Fluoride.

Please also provide information about risks, benefits, uncertainties and alternatives for each of the above groups to satisfy Rights 1- right to be treated with respect, 2 - right to freedom from discrimination, coercion, harassment and exploitation 3- right to dignity and independence, 4- right to services of an appropriate standard, 5- right to effective communication, 6- right to be fully informed, 7- right to make an informed choice, 8 -Right to Support and Right 10- right to complain.

I'm happy to provide copies of the documents referred to if you don't already have them.

Internal Document ID: [REDACTED]

In response to your queries I confirm the following:

- Nelson City Council is acting under a Direction by the Director General of Health - dated 27 July 2022, to fluoridate the Nelson drinking water supply. Council intends to comply with the Direction.
- Council supplies water that complies with the Water Services (Drinking Water Standards for New Zealand) Regulations 2022.
- Your queries are more appropriately addressed to the Ministry of Health.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alec Louverdis', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Alec Louverdis

Deputy Chief Executive / Group Manager Infrastructure