



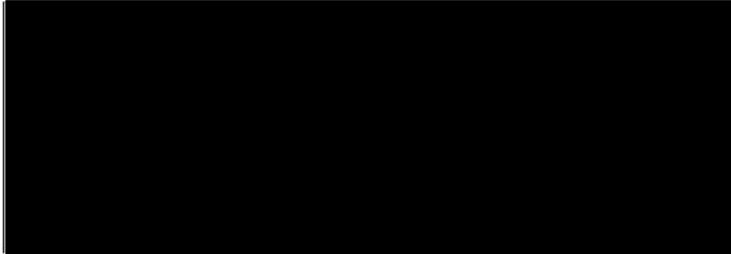
Ref: [REDACTED]

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

P (03) 546 0200

E LGOIMA@ncc.govt.nz
nelson.govt.nz

23 January 2025



OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST FOR PUBLIC FORUM INFORMATION

I refer to your official information request dated 7 January 2025:

- 1. All the communication behind the Mayor's initiative to invite Ministry of Health representatives to 05th of December 2024 meeting.*
- 2. The number of submission requests by members of the public who were denied speaking to the water fluoridization issue on 05th of December 2024.*
- 3. The cost to NCC rate payers for the travel, accommodation and time of the Ministry of Health presenters on 05th of December 2024.*

The information you requested is below.

1. Communication related to the invitation of health representatives is attached. Please note a small amount of contact information has been redacted under section 7(2)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, it having been assessed that the public interest does not outweigh it being withheld.
2. Two requests to speak at the 5 December 2024 public forum on the topic of fluoride were declined. Council received a number of applications to speak both on the issue of fluoridation and other issues, some of which were declined as the Public Forum section of the meeting had already been fully allocated to speakers and Council had a very full agenda for its last meeting of the year.
3. There was no cost to Council from the attendance of the two health representatives at the 5 December 2024 Council meeting.

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.

Internal Document ID: [REDACTED]

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact LGOIMA@ncc.govt.nz

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DS' with a large loop and a vertical line through it.

Devorah Nicuarta-Smith

Manager Governance and Support Services

Encl: Collated communication results



Office of the Mayor

Dr Diana Sarfati
Director-General of Health and Chief Executive, Ministry of Health

Cc: Lexie O'Shea District Director, Health New Zealand – Nelson Marlborough

25 September 2024

Dear Dr Sarfati,

Re: Presentation to Nelson City Council on Thursday 5 December 2024 regarding Fluoridation of the Water Supply

As per the directive from the Director-General of Health, Nelson City Council is proceeding with the fluoridation of its water supply by 31 December 2024. We are also managing the necessary and important communications with our community over this public health measure.

I am sure you will appreciate that some in our community vigorously oppose fluoridation of the city's water supply and have been vocal in their opposition. Council has recently received a request from the Nelson Clean Water Coalition Incorporated to speak for 10 minutes during the public forum at the 5 December Council meeting. There is no reason under our Standing Orders to decline the application but consequently I am concerned that our community will only hear a very one-sided view about fluoridation. I am also concerned that claims may be made that are inaccurate.

To ensure there is a balanced perspective on this issue, I would like a representative from either the Ministry of Health or Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora to present to the same meeting. Our request is made on the premise that the Ministry of Health and Health New Zealand Te Whatu Ora are in a better position than Council to provide scientific and robust information on this public health measure.

I am aware that Dr Robert Beaglehole has previously spoken publicly about fluoridation, and I would welcome him or another health professional with the appropriate technical public health knowledge to present for 10 minutes to the 5 December Council meeting. It would be





Office of the Mayor

helpful to our community if we were able to ensure that our public forum presented a balanced perspective regarding the fluoridation of Council's water supply.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nick Smith'.

Hon Dr Nick Smith

Mayor of Nelson | Te Koromatua o Whaka



From: [Diana Sarfati](#)
To: [Mayor Nick Smith](#)
Subject: RE: Request for Presentation to Nelson City Council on Thursday 5 December 2024 regarding Fluoridation of the Water Supply
Date: Friday, 18 October 2024 10:54:53 am
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[MFD Scan - 2024-10-18_10-50-18-670_.pdf](#)

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Kia ora Phoebe

Please find attached a response from Dr Diana Sarfati.

Kind regards

Jo Waugh

Executive Advisor to

Te Tumu Whakarae mō te Hauora

Director-General of Health

LGOIMA 7(2)(a)

E jo.waugh@health.govt.nz

Pronoun: She/ Her

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



From: Mayor Nick Smith <MayorNick@ncc.govt.nz>

Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2024 2:20 PM

To: Diana Sarfati <Diana.Sarfati@health.govt.nz>; Lexie O'Shea <Lexie.OShea@nmdhb.govt.nz>

Subject: Request for Presentation to Nelson City Council on Thursday 5 December 2024 regarding Fluoridation of the Water Supply

Kia ora Ms Sarfati,

Please find attached correspondence from Mayor Nick requesting a NZ Health spokesperson to attend the Council meeting on 5 December.

Kind regards,

Phoebe Tayerle

Executive Assistant – Mayor and Councillors' Office

[Nelson City Council](#) | Te Kaunihera o Whakatū

LGOIMA 7(2)(a) www.nelson.govt.nz

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

18 October 2024

Hon Dr Nick Smith
Mayor of Nelson
MayorNick@ncc.govt.nz

Ref. H2024052495

Tēnā koe Nick

Thank you for your letter of 25 September 2024 providing an update on the implementation of community water fluoridation for the Nelson water supply. I'm pleased to hear that the Council is making good progress to meet the implementation date of 31 December 2024.

You have asked about the possibility of having someone from the Ministry of Health - Manatū Hauora or Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora attend the Nelson City Council meeting on 5 December 2024 to provide information about community water fluoridation. I appreciate your wish to provide clear and evidenced-based information to your community about this public health measure.

I have been advised that Nick Chamberlain, the National Director of the National Public Health Service at Health New Zealand, is working with you to ensure that a spokesperson on community water fluoridation is available to attend your council meeting.

Thank you for your ongoing collaboration to improve the oral health of the communities we each serve.

Nāku noa, nā



Dr Diana Sarfati
Director-General of Health
Te Tumu Whakarae mō te Hauora

From: Susan Coleman <susan.coleman@ncc.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 5:48 PM
To: Cherie Sivignon <cherie.sivignon@ncc.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: Nelson City Council: Public Forum 5 December 2024

Hi Cherie

I know you preferred that I didn't forward the emails to you but this one will need replying to once you have had a chance to discuss it with Nick.

Ngā mihi Susan

Susan Coleman

Interim Senior Adviser – Mayor and Councillors Office
Kaitohutohu Matua - Koromatua
Nelson City Council | Te Kaunihera o Whakatū
P 03 546 0200 | **LGOIMA 7(2)(a)**
nelson.govt.nz

From: Philip Sussex <Philip.Sussex@nmdhb.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2024 11:11 AM
To: Susan Coleman <susan.coleman@ncc.govt.nz>
Cc: Vince Barry <Vince.Barry@tewhatauora.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Nelson City Council: Public Forum 5 December 2024

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Hi Susan

Slight change of plan having discussed in depth with our CEO Lexie O'Shea overnight....

Andrew Marriott won't be speaking (but I will include him in my support group and publicly acknowledge the dental association support).

I'll speak first for ¾ of the time (I'll have a power point) and then I'll ask Paediatrician and Chief Medical Officer Dr Nick Baker to join me and speak to the safety concerns

LGOIMA 7(2)(a) will have raised. We'll both then take questions from councillors only (have I got that right?).

How does that sound?

Nick Baker has yet to be asked by Lexie – he's away until tomorrow. If it's not Nick, it will likely be Paediatrician Dr Garth Smith.

I can confirm next week – could I have Nan Ward's email please?

Just like Garth is likely the backup for Nick, Donna Kennedy (Clinical Director Nelson Hospital Dental Department and Dental Public Health Specialist) has agreed to be my backup in the unlikely event of COVID etc....

Phil

From: Susan Coleman <susan.coleman@ncc.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 12 November 2024 9:34 AM
To: Philip Sussex <Philip.Sussex@nmdhb.govt.nz>
Subject: Nelson City Council: Public Forum 5 December 2024

You don't often get email from susan.coleman@ncc.govt.nz. [Learn why this is important](#)

Kia ora Philip,

Thank you so much for your time on Friday re speaking at Council's public forum on Thursday 5 December.

As explained the meeting starts at 9am with the Public Forum and you and Andrew will have a joint 10-minute speaking time. Our Governance team will contact you directly to confirm details and answer any questions relating to logistics.

I am not going to be available from Monday 18 November but will brief my colleague Nan Ward and ask her to touch base with you in the next week or so.

Ngā mihi Susan

Susan Coleman

Interim Senior Adviser – Mayor and Councillors Office
Kaitohutohu Matua - Koromatua
Nelson City Council | Te Kaunihera o Whakatū
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Thank you.

From: Cherie Sivignon <cherie.sivignon@ncc.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 4:19 PM
To: Philip Sussex <Philip.Sussex@nmdhb.govt.nz>
Cc: Lexie O'Shea <Lexie.OShea@nmdhb.govt.nz>; Gaylene Corlett <Gaylene.Corlett@nmdhb.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Nelson City Council public forum for 5 December 2024

Good afternoon, Phil et al

That's all fine. We still have plenty of time.

Have a good evening.

Ngā mihi nui,

Cherie Sivignon
Communications Adviser – Mayor and Councillors' Office
Kaitohutohu Whakawhiti – Koromatua

Nelson City Council | Te Kaunihera o Whakatū

LGOIMA 7(2)(a)

nelson.govt.nz

From: Philip Sussex <Philip.Sussex@nmdhb.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 3:24 PM
To: Cherie Sivignon <cherie.sivignon@ncc.govt.nz>
Cc: Lexie O'Shea <Lexie.OShea@nmdhb.govt.nz>; Gaylene Corlett <Gaylene.Corlett@nmdhb.govt.nz>

Subject: Re: Nelson City Council public forum for 5 December 2024

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Hi Cherie

Yes, it is sounding like it may be Dr Nick Baker as the second speaker - Lexie is likely to be able to confirm this tomorrow for us.

Phil

LGOIMA 7(2)(a)

From: Cherie Sivignon <cherie.sivignon@ncc.govt.nz>

Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 8:37 AM

To: Philip Sussex <Philip.Sussex@nmdhb.govt.nz>

Subject: Nelson City Council public forum for 5 December 2024

You don't often get email from cherie.sivignon@ncc.govt.nz. Learn why this is important

Mōrena, Philip

I work in the Mayor's office and am taking over the arrangements from Susan Coleman for the Nelson City Council public forum item on fluoridation for 5 December 2024.

Susan passed on your latest email exchange. Has it been confirmed that Dr Nick Baker will join you on 5 December?

Once we have confirmation of who will be speaking, we will make all the logistical arrangements.

If you want to speak to me at any time on this matter, my person cellphone number is: LGOIMA 7(2)(a) . Please don't hesitate to call.

Ngā mihi nui,

Cherie Sivignon

Communications Adviser – Mayor and Councillors' Office

Kaitohutohu Whakawhiti – Koromatua

Nelson City Council | Te Kaunihera o Whakatū

LGOIMA 7(2)(a)

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From: Katie Libeau <katie.libeau@ncc.govt.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2024 4:34 PM

To: Cherie Sivignon <cherie.sivignon@ncc.govt.nz>

Subject: From Nigel

FYI Nick from Vince Barry

Thank you for our recent discussions regarding the Council forum on Fluoride on 5/12

As discussed it will be important for the Ministry of Health to have an expert available on the day to provide the Council with the latest evidence and assurance.

I can confirm that the MoH will provide that person and we are likely to have also some Public Health support for the ministry expert

Happy to discuss further if you wish?

Vince

Thanks Vince - happy to confirm we will provide 15 minutes as part of the councils public forum for MoH to speak. We will be giving 15 mins to the anti fluoridation group. 30 mins TOTAL is the max our standing orders allow. If the brief is shorter than 15 mins that will allow time for questions which I am sure would be valued. Nige

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Vince Barry <Vince.Barry@TeWhatuOra.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2024 5:32 PM
To: Nigel Philpott <Nigel.Philpott@ncc.govt.nz>
Subject: NCC Public forum on Fluoride

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Nigel

Thank you for the recent discussions about your council forum on the 5th December. Firstly I can confirm that I have been advised this afternoon that the directive that you have received from the Ministry of Health regarding fluoridation of your drinking water supply in Nelson still stands.

The Ministry will supply an expert to present at your forum and that person will be supported by Prof John Eastwood Public Health Medicine Specialist and Medical Officer of Health.

I will ensure that you are informed of the experts name as soon as possible and happy to discuss further.

Regards

Vince

Vince Barry

Regional Director, Public Health Te Waipounamu

National Public Health Service

LGOIMA 7(2)(a) | vince.barry@tewhatuora.govt.nz

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From: Nigel Philpott <Nigel.Philpott@ncc.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2024 5:39 PM
To: Mayor Nick Smith <MayorNick@ncc.govt.nz>
Cc: Cherie Sivignon <cherie.sivignon@ncc.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: NCC Public forum on Fluoride

As discussed...

From: Vince Barry <Vince.Barry@TeWhatuOra.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2024 5:32 PM
To: Nigel Philpott <Nigel.Philpott@ncc.govt.nz>
Subject: NCC Public forum on Fluoride

CAUTION: External email.

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Nigel

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The Ministry will supply an expert to present at your forum and that person will be supported by Prof John Eastwood Public Health Medicine Specialist and Medical Officer of Health.

I will ensure that you are informed of the experts name as soon as possible and happy to discuss further.

Regards

Vince

Vince Barry

Regional Director, Public Health Te Waipounamu
National Public Health Service

LGOIMA 7(2)(a)

vince.barry@tewhatuora.govt.nz

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From: Governance Advisers <governance.advisers@ncc.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, November 28, 2024 2:47 PM
To: Nan Ward <nan.ward@ncc.govt.nz>
Cc: Governance Advisers <governance.advisers@ncc.govt.nz>; Katie Libeau <katie.libeau@ncc.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: NCC Public forum on Fluoride

FYI Nan

See email below.

Standard practice is that the Governance Team liaise with speakers attending public forum however in this particular case MACO have been liaising with the local hospital team and the CE office have been liaising with the MoH.

Katie has now handed this over but it would be good if MACO were able to pick up liaising with the MoH expert and Prof John Eastwood as we will not have enough people on deck to look after them individually. All five of the team will be fully committed to managing the meeting and the high level of public expected to attend, and working with the two other PF speakers.

We will forward you the information to send to Vince Barry, or whoever he advises.

Thanks again.

Ngā mihi
Robyn

From: Katie Libeau <katie.libeau@ncc.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, November 28, 2024 2:19 PM
To: Vince.Barry@TeWhatuOra.govt.nz
Cc: Governance Advisers <governance.advisers@ncc.govt.nz>
Subject: NCC Public forum on Fluoride

Kia ora Vince,

Our Governance Team have information about presenting in public forum they will need to pass on to the attendees from Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora.

Please can you advise the Governance Team (cc'd) of the relevant contact details of the attendees so that they can pass this information on.

Kind regards

Katherine (Katie) Libeau
Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive
[Kaiāwhina Tāhūhū ki te Tāhūhū Rangapū](#)

From: Vince Barry <Vince.Barry@TeWhatuOra.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2024 5:32 PM
To: Nigel Philpott <Nigel.Philpott@ncc.govt.nz>
Subject: NCC Public forum on Fluoride

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Nigel

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The Ministry will supply an expert to present at your forum and that person will be supported by Prof John Eastwood Public Health Medicine Specialist and Medical Officer of Health.

I will ensure that you are informed of the experts name as soon as possible and happy to discuss further.

Regards

Vince

Vince Barry

Regional Director, Public Health Te Waipounamu

National Public Health Service

LGOIMA 7(2)(a) vince.barry@tewhatuora.govt.nz

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From: Nigel Philpott <nigel.philpott@ncc.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, December 3, 2024 11:27 AM
To: Nan Ward <nan.ward@ncc.govt.nz>
Cc: Holly Phillips <holly.phillips@ncc.govt.nz>; Phoebe Tayerle <phoebe.tayerle@ncc.govt.nz>; Robyn Byrne <robyn.byrne@ncc.govt.nz>; Governance Advisers <governance.advisers@ncc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Fluoride

Great plan – thank you

From: Nan Ward <nan.ward@ncc.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, December 3, 2024 11:24 AM
To: Nigel Philpott <nigel.philpott@ncc.govt.nz>
Cc: Holly Phillips <holly.phillips@ncc.govt.nz>; Phoebe Tayerle <phoebe.tayerle@ncc.govt.nz>; Robyn Byrne <robyn.byrne@ncc.govt.nz>; Governance Advisers <governance.advisers@ncc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Fluoride

Hello

I have just spoken to Sonya to confirm arrangements as I am conscious of the fact Prof Eastwood is coming from Dunedin and Dr Jaine from Wellington.

Prof Eastwood is flying in tonight and Dr Jaine 0700 Thursday. Sonya will bring them both to Civic House on Thursday morning.

I have advised I will be able to confirm which entrance I will meet them at after our security meeting tomorrow afternoon. She is very happy to bring them earlier (0830) if required. I could take them up to the 3rd floor for coffee as Nick will still be in his office. Nigel I will let you know where we are so you can pop in and meet. I will then bring them down through Floor 2 to the Chamber just before 0900. I will seat them and then take my own seat.

At the end of the Public Forum I will escort them back to the Mayor's Office and out of Civic House.

Cheers
Nan

From: Nigel Philpott <Nigel.Philpott@ncc.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, December 3, 2024 10:05 AM
To: Sonya Briggs <Sonya.Briggs@nmdhb.govt.nz>; Nan Ward <nan.ward@ncc.govt.nz>
Cc: Holly Phillips <holly.phillips@ncc.govt.nz>; Phoebe Tayerle <phoebe.tayerle@ncc.govt.nz>; Robyn Byrne <robyn.byrne@ncc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Fluoride

Hi Sonya

Really appreciate this thank you. Nan Ward will meet them both at the rear entrance of the building and take them up to the mayor's office. They will have seats reserved in the chamber but Nan will escort them and make them welcome. The meeting starts at 9 am but I will ask Nan to arrange the best time to meet and where. I will pop in and see them both before the meeting starts.

Best regards

Nigel

From: Sonya Briggs <Sonya.Briggs@nmdhb.govt.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, December 3, 2024 8:13 AM

To: Nigel Philpott <Nigel.Philpott@ncc.govt.nz>

Subject: Fluoride

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Mōrena Nigel

Our speaker will be Dr Richard Jaine who will present, and he will be accompanied by Professor John Eastwood who will answer any questions. I will accompany them but sitting in the gallery.

Their official titles are:

Dr Richard Jaine

Deputy Director of Public Health

Professor John Eastwood

Medical Officer of Health

It would be great to touch base prior to Thursday if you have a moment to discuss entry into the building. Is there a safe entrance we can use prior rather than waiting with the anti-fluoride team? How early do we need to arrive prior to the start of the hui?

Ngā mihi nui,
Sonya

Sonya Briggs (she/her)

Te Atiawa

Kaitātaki Group Manager Health Protection

National Public Health Service | Te Waipounamu Region

LGOIMA 7(2)(a)

īmēra: sonya.briggs@nmdhb.govt.nz

281 Queen Street, Richmond | PO Box 647, Nelson 7040

Te Whatu Ora

Health New Zealand

Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand
TeWhatuOra.govt.nz

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From: Richard Jaine <Richard.Jaine@health.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 3:02 PM
To: Nan Ward <nan.ward@ncc.govt.nz>
Cc: Ben Heather <Ben.Heather@health.govt.nz>; John Eastwood [Southern] <John.Eastwood@southerndhb.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: NCC Public forum on Fluoride

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Kia ora Nan,

Please find attached the powerpoint slides to support the presentation tomorrow. Please let me know if you need anything else at this stage.

Ngā mihi,
Richard

From: Nan Ward <nan.ward@ncc.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, November 29, 2024 12:03 PM
To: Richard Jaine <Richard.Jaine@health.govt.nz>; John Eastwood [Southern] <John.Eastwood@southerndhb.govt.nz>
Subject: NCC Public forum on Fluoride

Kia ora Dr Richard Jaine and Professor John Eastwood

We are pleased to confirm that you are booked in to speak, on behalf of Health New Zealand , at the public forum at the 05 December Council Meeting regarding fluoridation.

Please read as the below details are very important for your presentation.

The meeting will commence at 9:00am. You will be the third speakers in the public forum part of the meeting.

The details of your scheduled speaking time are:

When: Thursday, 05 December 2024

Your speaking time: 9:25am

Venue: Council Chamber, Floor 2A, Civic House, Trafalgar Street Nelson

Please confirm your availability as soon as possible, by reply email or calling
LGOIMA 7(2)(a)

You are very welcome to make a PowerPoint presentation, or to circulate written material to Elected Members. If you would like to do so, please email copies to this email address by 3pm Wednesday, 04 December 2024 (we are a paperless Council so if you wish to have paper copies circulated during the meeting you will need to print these off yourselves) and we will have the presentation pre-loaded onto the computer for you. Receiving presentations the day before the meeting allows us to run checks and ensure that all works smoothly on the Chamber system. If we receive a presentation or USB stick on the day we will not be able to accept it as the Chamber computer will be in use and we won't have adequate time to run through the required checks.

Below is an extract from our Standing Orders. Please note that your presentation should be no longer than 15 minutes, including time for questions. To help you with managing your speaking time, a bell will be rung by staff at 13 minutes, followed by a second and final bell at 15 minutes.

Please also note that media representatives may be viewing the meeting and the meeting may be recorded for the purpose of live video-streaming for viewing by the public from the Council's website.

As you are aware the Clean Water Coalition will be speaking prior to you and we expect a high level of public attendance at this meeting so we will meet you in the Reception area on the ground floor of Civic House and escort you to the Chamber on the second floor.

I would appreciate one/both cell phone numbers so I can call/text you if there are any changes to the entrance arrangement. My cell is at the base of my signature.

If you have any questions on the above, please contact me on LGOIMA 7(2)(a)

Nan Ward

Senior Adviser to the Mayor (Interim)

Mayor and Councillors Office

Nelson City Council | Te Kaunihera o Whakatū

P 03 546 0200 | LGOIMA 7(2)(a)

nelson.govt.nz

Standing Orders Extract:

15. Public Forums

Public forums are a defined period of time, usually at the start of an ordinary Council meeting, which, at the discretion of a meeting, is put aside for the purpose of public input. Public forums are designed to enable members of the public to bring matters of their choice, not necessarily on the meeting's agenda, to the attention of the local authority.

In the case of a committee, subcommittee, any issue, idea, or matter raised in a public forum, must fall within the terms of reference of that body.

15.1 Time limits

A period of up to 30 minutes, or such longer time as the meeting may determine, may be available for the public forum at ordinary Council meetings. Requests must be made to the chief executive (or their delegate) at least two clear day before the meeting; however, this requirement may be waived by the chairperson. Requests should also outline the matters that will be addressed by the speaker(s) and must identify how their presentation relates to the responsibilities of Council.

Speakers can speak for up to 5 minutes in total and representatives from organisations can speak for up to 10 minutes in total. No more than three speakers can speak on behalf of an organisation during a public forum. The Mayor, in consultation with the Deputy Mayor, may choose the speakers that will be given the opportunity to present within the time available, noting that priority will be given to those requests that were first received and have the greatest relevance to the proceedings of council.

15.2 Restrictions

The chairperson has the discretion to decline to hear a speaker or to terminate a presentation at any time where:

- A speaker is repeating views presented by an earlier speaker at the same public forum;
- The speaker is criticising elected members and/or staff;

- The speaker is being repetitious, disrespectful or offensive;
- The speaker has previously spoken on the same issue;
- The matter is subject to legal proceedings; and
- The matter is subject to a hearing, including the hearing of submissions where the local authority or committee sits in a quasi-judicial capacity.
- The matter does not relate to the responsibilities of Council.

15.3 Questions at public forums

At the conclusion of the presentation, with the permission of the chairperson, elected members may ask questions of speakers. Questions are to be confined to obtaining information or clarification on matters raised by a speaker.

15.4 No resolutions

Following the public forum, no debate or decisions will be made at the meeting on issues raised during the forum unless related to items already on the agenda. (See the LGNZ Guide to Standing Orders for suggestions of good practice in dealing with issues raised during a forum).

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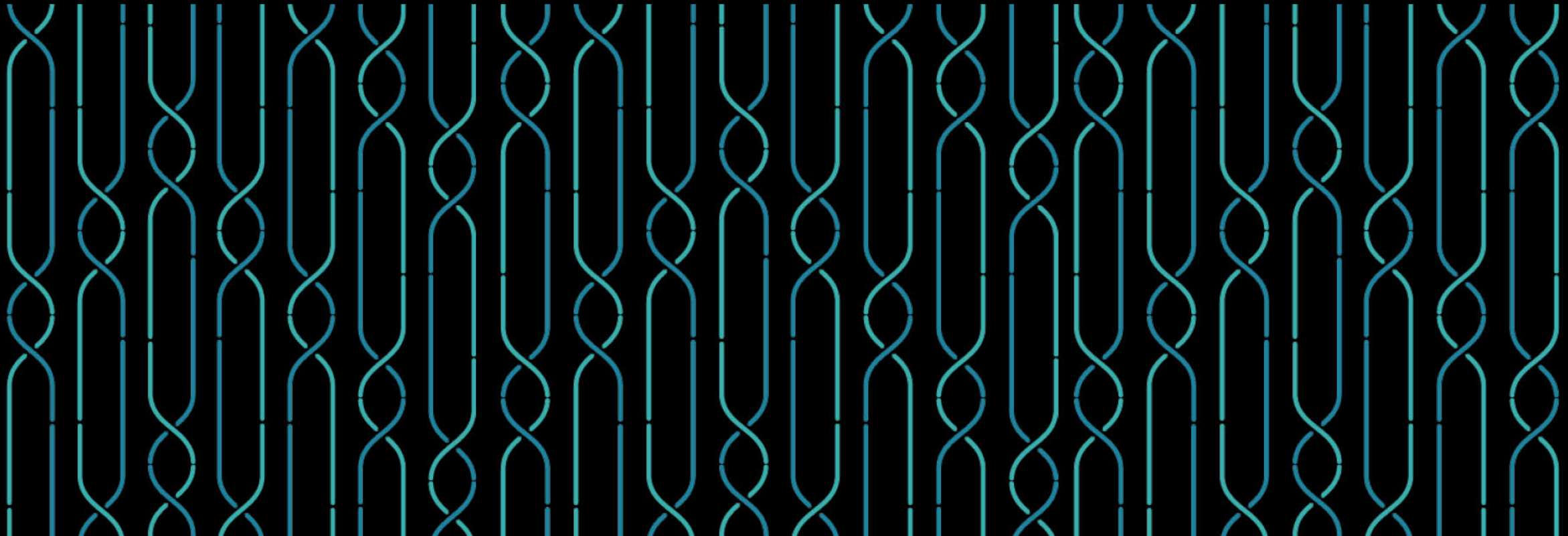
Te Pou Hauora
Tūmatanui
Public Health Agency

MANATŪ
HAUORA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Community water fluoridation

Dr Richard Jaine, Deputy-Director of Public Health

5 December 2024



Overview

1. Community water fluoridation is a well-established public health measure
2. Community water fluoridation is safe, effective, affordable and equitable
3. Nelson Marlborough oral health data
4. Useful websites



Community water fluoridation is a well-established public health measure

- It is the process of adjusting the natural level of fluoride in the water supply to between 0.7–1.0 mg per litre.
- New Zealand has high rates of preventable tooth decay, particularly among Tamariki Māori, Pacific children and those living in deprived communities.
- Currently, approximately 50% of the population of New Zealand has access to fluoridated drinking water.
- Community water fluoridation is part of a suite of measures that supports oral health in New Zealand, including individual dental hygiene, free dental services for under 18-year-olds, providing free toothbrushes and toothpaste to vulnerable communities.



Community water fluoridation is SAFE

- 2014 & 2021 Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor review of evidence-base – concluded that from a medical and public health perspective, water fluoridation at the levels used in New Zealand poses no significant health risk.
- This year, the Ministry of Health carried out an update of the review of the evidence about the safety and effectiveness of community water fluoridation. The Ministry's review concurs with the conclusions of the 2014 and 2021 reviews.
- The Ministry of Health has also considered other key recent publications, and do not consider that these alter the conclusions relating to the safety and effectiveness of community water fluoridation
- The only known side-effect of fluoridation at levels used in NZ is mild dental fluorosis and this is only really visible by dental health professionals under close examination.
- The level of fluoride in water is monitored to ensure it does not exceed the maximum acceptable value



Community water fluoridation is EFFECTIVE

- Community water fluoridation is endorsed by the World Health Organization and other international health authorities as one of the most effective public health measures for the prevention of dental decay
- Fluoride in drinking water acts like a constant repair kit for teeth and requires no behavioural change.
- In 2015, a Review of the Benefits and Costs of community water fluoridation in New Zealand (the Sapere Report) estimated significant benefits of water fluoridation:
 - **40%** lower lifetime incidence of tooth decay among children and adolescents
 - **48%** reduction in hospital admissions for tooth decay treatment among children aged 0–4 years
 - **21%** reduction in tooth decay among adults aged 18–44 years
 - **30%** reduction in tooth decay among adults aged 45 years and over

Community water fluoridation is AFFORDABLE

- The Sapere Report estimated that introducing CWF to all public drinking water supplies would result in net savings of more than **\$600 million over 20 years**.
- The average ongoing cost of CWF is just **\$2.60 per person per year** for water supplies that serve populations of over 500 people. Every dollar spent on water fluoridation will save around \$9 in dental care costs.
- Savings will mostly benefit individual New Zealanders and whānau needing to pay for fewer fillings and tooth extractions (which can cost ~\$250). There will be some savings also to the health care system.





Community water fluoridation is EQUITABLE

- Community water fluoridation benefits everyone but will have the greatest impact on Māori, Pacific people, and those living in vulnerable communities.
- The Pasifika Dental Association, Te Ao Mārama (the Māori Dental Association), and Te Rōpu Niho Ora (representing Māori oral health providers) all support community water fluoridation.
- 2019 Māori Oral Health Equity Symposium key recommendation was that the Government pass the Act to change community water fluoridation decision-making.

Tooth decay remains the single most common chronic disease among New Zealanders of all ages

*In year ending December 2023, preventable **dental conditions were the third most common reason for preventable hospital admissions** for children aged 0–4 years in Nelson Marlborough (Nationwide Service Framework Library 2023).*

*In 2023, **186 0–14 year-olds** received in-patient hospital level care for preventable dental conditions in Te Whatu Ora Nelson Marlborough district, usually under general anaesthetic. 66 of those children were Māori. (Te Whatu Ora data)*

In Nelson Marlborough, tooth decay is common and inequitably distributed

		Experienced tooth decay	Decayed, missing or filled teeth
Aged 5 years	All children	31%	1.51
	Māori children	63%	3.46
	Pacific children	59%	3.05
Aged 8 years	All children	36%	0.83
	Māori children	43%	1.16
	Pacific children	45%	1.13

Source: Community Oral Health Service, <https://www.tewhatauora.govt.nz/for-health-professionals/data-and-statistics/oral-health/age-5-and-year-8-data>

In Nelson Marlborough adults:

- 50% had one or more teeth removed in their lifetime due to decay, an abscess, infection or gum disease
- 6% had one or more teeth removed in the last 12 months due to decay, an abscess, infection or gum disease

Source: NZ Health Survey 2019/20

Useful websites

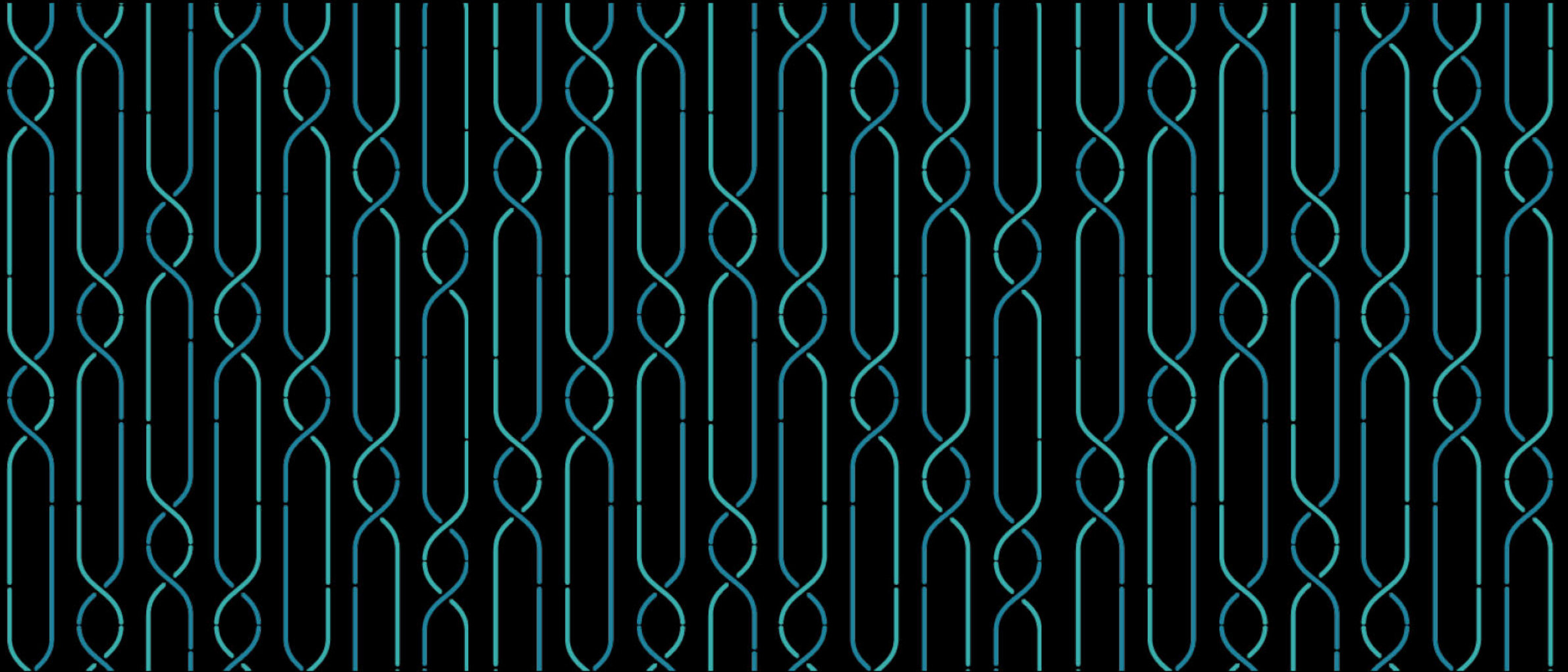
- Manatū Hauora: <https://www.health.govt.nz/strategies-initiatives/programmes-and-initiatives/oral-health/community-water-fluoridation-policy>
- Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor website: www.pmcsa.ac.nz/topics/fluoridation-an-update-on-evidence/



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Legislative basis

Health (Fluoridation of Drinking Water) Amendment Act 2021

- Amended the Health Act 1956 in November 2021
- Gives the Director-General of Health (DG) the power to direct local authorities to fluoridate drinking water supplies

Before a direction is issued, the DG needs to consider:

- 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, taking into account the oral health status and size of the community as well as the financial costs of fluoridating including ongoing management and monitoring.
- Local authorities can still choose to fluoridate drinking water in the absence of a direction from the DG

Directions to fluoridate water supplies reconfirmed

- A High Court judgment directed the Director-General of Health to assess whether each of the directions for local authorities is a demonstrably justified limit on the right of persons in those districts to refuse medical treatment.
- That right is provided for in section 11 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act.
- Yesterday, the Director-General of Health has reconfirmed the directions issued to 14 local authorities to fluoridate one or more of their water supplies.
- The Ministry of Health continues to work with these local authorities to support them to comply with their directions
- As of Wednesday 4 December, seven of the 14 local authorities have started fluoridating their water supplies

From: Richard Jaine <Richard.Jaine@health.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 4:42 PM
To: Nan Ward <nan.ward@ncc.govt.nz>
Cc: Nigel Philpott <nigel.philpott@ncc.govt.nz>; Sonya Briggs <sonya.briggs@nmdhb.govt.nz>; John Eastwood [Southern] <John.Eastwood@southerndhb.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Meeting arrangements at NCC tomorrow

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Kia ora Nan,

Thanks for sending through this detail.

I have also had a request from a TVNZ reporter for a brief interview after the meeting (as well as reporters from the Nelson Mail and a local government reporter). Our media team have been in contact with the NCC media team (James Murray) about this. Ideally, it would be great to have a separate/private meeting space/room for these to take place if possible.

Ngā mihi,
Richard

From: Sonya Briggs <Sonya.Briggs@nmdhb.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 4:22 PM
To: Nan Ward <nan.ward@ncc.govt.nz>; John Eastwood [Southern] <John.Eastwood@southerndhb.govt.nz>; Richard Jaine <Richard.Jaine@health.govt.nz>
Cc: Nigel Philpott <nigel.philpott@ncc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Meeting arrangements at NCC tomorrow

Thanks for this confirmation Nan.

What time are we expecting this hui to conclude?

Ngā mihi nui,

Sonya

Sonya Briggs (she/her)

Te Atiawa

Kaitātaki Group Manager Health Protection

National Public Health Service | Te Waipounamu Region

LGOIMA 7(2)(a) | Īmēra: sonya.briggs@nmdhb.govt.nz

281 Queen Street, Richmond | PO Box 647, Nelson 7040

Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand

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From: Nan Ward <nan.ward@ncc.govt.nz>

Sent: Wednesday, 4 December 2024 4:21 pm

To: John Eastwood [Southern] <John.Eastwood@southerndhb.govt.nz>;
Richard.Jaine <Richard.Jaine@health.govt.nz>; Sonya Briggs
<Sonya.Briggs@nmdhb.govt.nz>

Cc: Nigel Philpott <nigel.philpott@ncc.govt.nz>

Subject: Meeting arrangements at NCC tomorrow

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Good afternoon Professor Eastwood, Dr Jaine and Sonya

Thank you for the power point received this afternoon and my apologies for the lateness of this email. We are just finalising dotting I's and crossing t's here for tomorrow.

Please come to the back door of Civic House, access through the car park area of Wakatu Square in a fenced area opposite the back of MacPac.

I will be waiting there at 0830 and will take you into the building and up to the staff cafeteria on the third floor. There are two decent coffee machines there and you can have a coffee while we wait.

Our Chief Executive Nigel Philpott would like to meet you and will pop in before we go down to the Chamber about 0855. We will enter from a side door so we do not have to walk through the public gallery.

There will be reserved seating for you in the front row and as earlier advised you are the third speakers. I will sit elsewhere.

Upon completion of your presentation I will escort you out of the side of the chamber and back out of the building.

Thank you again for coming to Nelson to take part. I am looking forward to meeting you.

Kind Regards

Nan Ward

Senior Adviser to the Mayor (Interim)

Mayor and Councillors Office

Nelson City Council | Te Kaunihera o Whakatū

P 03 546 0200 |

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LGOIMA 7(2)(a)

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