



THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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7 August 2020

Hon Nanaia Mahuta
Minister of Local Government
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Wellington 6160

By email: n.mahuta@ministers.govt.nz

Tēnā koe Minister

RE: Response to letter from Cr Macpherson dated 3 August 2020

It is unfortunate you have been dragged into Cr Macpherson's political machinations.

What I need to assure you as our Minister of Local Government, is that our Council has entered into a Performance-specified, fixed-cost contract which has been robustly created and reviewed over the last four years. It is not a Public Private Partnership (PPP) as claimed by the Councillor.

It is somewhat embarrassing that a member of our Council has written directly to you in the manner he has. It is also disturbing that many of the claims he has made are untrue. For your ease of mind, I have attached to this letter our organisation's responses to all of the claims made by Cr Macpherson.

What I can add, as Mayor of Rotorua, is that getting the right water services solution for our district, right now, has been a major driver for this Council.

For four years we have been discussing a wastewater treatment solution with our community, prospective partners and Iwi; and we believe that we have come up with a solution that is in the best interests of our community. This process was understood and supported by most of our Councillors and is reflected in the 7/4 decision, at our Council meeting on the 29 July, to enter into the wastewater contract.

It is my hope that you will not see fit to waste time on this matter, but I would be more than willing to discuss the letter with you if you see fit.

Nāku noa, nā

Hon Steve Chadwick JP
Mayor