

**From:** "Lisa Lowe" <Lisa.Lowe@npdc.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Wed, 22 Dec 2021 09:02:28 +1300  
**To:** "T1Connect" <T1Connect@npdc.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Dr Ashley Bloomfield - Planning for community water fluoridation  
**Attachments:** Letter Neil - signed.pdf, Letter to local authority CEs.pdf

#ecmbody  
#silent  
#noresponse

---

**From:** Ashley Bloomfield [mailto:Ashley.Bloomfield@health.govt.nz]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 16 December 2021 2:40 PM  
**To:** Neil Holdom  
**Subject:** Action Required – Planning for community water fluoridation

Kia ora Neil,

Following your recent phone call with Deborah Woodley, Deputy Director-General Population Health and Prevention, I have attached a letter to formally update you on community water fluoridation and the benefits it will have on your community. Please note, the Ministry of Health has asked for information from your local authority to assist with planning for fluoridation, which is due on **11 March 2022**.

Ngā mihi nui

Ashley

**Dr Ashley Bloomfield**  
Te Tumu Whakarae mō te Hauora  
Director-General of Health

Pronoun: He/Him  
email: [ashley.bloomfield@health.govt.nz](mailto:ashley.bloomfield@health.govt.nz)  
[www.health.govt.nz](http://www.health.govt.nz)



\*\*\*\*\*  
Statement of confidentiality: This e-mail message and any accompanying attachments may contain information that is IN-CONFIDENCE and subject to legal privilege.  
If you are not the intended recipient, do not read, use, disseminate, distribute or copy this message or attachments.

If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete this message.

\*\*\*\*\*

---

This e-mail message has been scanned for Viruses and Content and cleared by the Ministry of Health's Content and Virus Filtering Gateway

---

15 December 2021

Neil Holdom  
Mayor of New Plymouth  
New Plymouth District Council  
Private Bag 2025  
New Plymouth

Tēnā koe Neil

I am writing to let you know that the Health (Fluoridation of Drinking Water) Amendment Act 2021 (the Act) came into force on 13 December 2021, and to encourage you and your colleagues to take positive action in light of this development. The new legislation amends the Health Act 1956 to give the Director-General of Health the power to issue a direction to local authority water suppliers (including bulk water suppliers) to fluoridate a public drinking water supply.

The Ministry's records indicate that the water supply in your local authority is un-fluoridated and serves a large community. Community water fluoridation has been endorsed by the World Health Organization and other international health authorities as the most effective health measure for the prevention of dental decay. Good oral health is essential to achieving and maintaining the overall health and wellbeing of the community you serve.

Community water fluoridation is an effective, safe and affordable public health measure to improve the oral health of all New Zealanders. It is also estimated that introducing community water fluoridation to all public drinking water supplies across the country would result in net savings of more than \$600 million over 20 years for consumers.

I encourage you and your colleagues to act proactively and start the process now to enable fluoridation of your water supply. Please note the local authority can commence this at any time, and this does not require a direction from the Director-General of Health. I have attached a letter addressed to your Chief Executive that also encourages this and seeks information to assist with planning for fluoridation.

The Ministry of Health can provide general advice and support on the evidence for fluoridation, and the steps needed to commence this process. I hope you will support your communities with this important initiative.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Bloomfield', written in a cursive style.

Dr Ashley Bloomfield  
**Te Tumu Whakarae mō te Hauora**  
**Director-General of Health**

15 December 2021

Tēnā koe

Further to the Ministry of Health's letter of 11 November 2021, I am writing to update you on implementation planning for the Health (Fluoridation of Drinking Water) Amendment Act 2021 (the Act) and seek information from you to assist with this.

### Next steps

I expect to consider issuing directions to fluoridate from mid-2022 onwards and implementing these directions will take a staged approach. This will align with the significant reforms to the Three Waters infrastructure announced last month.

I encourage all local authorities with un-fluoridated community water supplies that service over 500 people to start fluoridation-related preparatory work now (a list of these supplies is attached as **Appendix one**), especially in areas with larger populations or that have poor oral health outcomes.

Please note local authorities do not need to wait for a potential direction from me to start fluoridating water supplies in their area. 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

To support early adoption, the Ministry has a limited amount of capital works funding available for local authorities that are willing and able to begin the capital works to fluoridate by the end of 2022. The Ministry will provide more information about funding applications when it has received the information requested below. The Ministry will likely prioritise financial support for communities with poor oral health, or where there are disparities in oral health outcomes.

I recognise that there are some complex council-owned supplies across the country where it may not be feasible to fluoridate in a short timeframe. As part of the Three Waters reforms, new water services entities are due to be established in July 2024. These entities could be responsible for fluoridating these supplies (subject to any directions being issued). The Ministry and the Department of Internal Affairs will work together on how this will be managed as part of the asset management planning processes to establish the new entities. These processes will start next year.

## The Ministry requests some information from you now

The Ministry is now seeking information on the fluoridation 'readiness' of local authorities, and any cost and planning pressures they face. This will allow the Ministry to better understand how implementation of fluoridation will be phased<sup>1</sup>.

We ask that you provide the following information for each of your council-owned un-fluoridated drinking water supplies that service a population of 500 people or more:

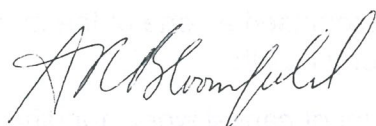
- the status of your fluoridation infrastructure
- whether fluoridation capital works is underway or planned
- the expected date for completion of capital works (if relevant)
- the estimated capital works cost to fluoridate your supplies
- the budgeted capital works costs to fluoridate supplies included in long term plans or budgets
- the number of months required to fluoridate water supplies if a direction is issued
- other information useful for implementation planning.

Please also confirm the list of un-fluoridated supplies controlled by your local authority (see **Appendix one**) and provide the information above for any additional supplies that are not listed.

I request that you provide this information by completing and returning the attached spreadsheet by 11 March 2022 to [fluoride@health.govt.nz](mailto:fluoride@health.govt.nz). You can also use this contact email if you have any questions or would like to discuss matters further.

I look forward to working with you on this initiative to help improve the oral health of the communities you serve.

Nāku noa, nā



Dr Ashley Bloomfield  
**Te Tumu Whakarae mō te Hauora**  
**Director-General of Health**

Cc: Jon Lamonte, Chief Executive, Watercare  
Colin Crampton, Chief Executive, Wellington Water  
Bill Bayfield, Chief Executive, Taumata Arowai  
District Health Board Chief Executives  
Public Health Unit Managers

---

<sup>1</sup> This information is not being sought as part of my requirements under section 116G the Act. I will ask local authorities to formally provide comment on these provisions in advance of issuing directions regarding specific water supplies.

## Appendix One: Non-fluoridated community water supplies servicing populations of 500 or more

Water supplier	Water supply	Estimated population size
Ashburton District Council	Ashburton	19,000
Ashburton District Council	Rakaia	1100
Buller District Council	Westport	4974
Buller District Council	Reefton	951
Carterton District Council	Carterton	5230
Central Hawke's Bay District Council	Waipawa	2355
Central Hawke's Bay District Council	Waipukurau	3666
Central Hawke's Bay District Council	Takapau	570
Central Otago District Council	Alexandra	6000
Central Otago District Council	Clyde	2200
Central Otago District Council	Cromwell	8000
Central Otago District Council	Ranfurly	950
Central Otago District Council	Roxburgh	790
Christchurch city Council	Akaroa	820
Christchurch city Council	Brooklands / Kainga	1629
Christchurch city Council	Christchurch	381,816
Christchurch city Council	Lyttelton	5854
Clutha District Council	Richardson Rural	1003
Clutha District Council	Clydevale-Pomahaka Rural	778
Clutha District Council	Glenkenich Rural	705
Clutha District Council	Moa Flat	534
Clutha District Council	North Bruce Rural	928
Clutha District Council	Stirling	737
Clutha District Council	Waitahuna Rural	922
Dunedin City Council	Waikouaiti	1642
Dunedin City Council	Outram	750
Far North District Council	Kaikohe	4200
Far North District Council	Kaitaia	5400
Far North District Council	Kawakawa / Moerewa	3500
Far North District Council	Kerikeri	6700
Far North District Council	Paihia	4000
Far North District Council	Okaihau	800
Far North District Council	Omapere	900
Far North District Council	Rawene	600
Gore District Council	Gore	7480

Gore District Council	Mataura	1790
Grey District Council	Greymouth	8320
Grey District Council	Runanga	1090
Hastings District Council	Haumoana / Te Awanga	1900
Hastings District Council	Clive	560
Hastings District Council	Whirinaki- Hawkes Bay	800
Hastings District Council	Hastings Urban	64,764
Hauraki District Council	Kerepehi	2552
Hauraki District Council	Paeroa	4887
Hauraki District Council	Waihi	4927
Hauraki District Council	Waitakaruru	2076
Horowhenua District Council	Foxton	2700
Horowhenua District Council	Foxton Beach	1900
Horowhenua District Council	Levin	20,000
Horowhenua District Council	Shannon	1436
Horowhenua District Council	Tokomaru	550
Hurunui District Council	Amberley	1921
Hurunui District Council	Ashley Rural	5832
Hurunui District Council	Amuri Plains Rural Water	699
Hurunui District Council	Broomfield	565
Hurunui District Council	Cheviot	888
Hurunui District Council	Hanmer	948
Hurunui District Council	Hawarden	753
Hurunui District Council	Motunau, Greta, Scargill	681
Hurunui District Council	Waitohi Upper	513
Hutt City Council	Petone	7491
Hutt City Council	Korokoro	1482
Kaikoura District Council	Kaikoura	2500
Kaipara District Council	Dargaville	4683
Kaipara District Council	Maungaturoto	980
Kapiti Coast District Council	Otaki	5700
Kapiti Coast District Council	Paekakariki	1665
Kapiti Coast District Council	Hautere	700
Kawerau District Council	Kawerau	7721
Mackenzie District Council	Fairlie	1000
Mackenzie District Council	Twizel	1300
Mackenzie District Council	Tekapo	500
Manawatu District Council	Himatangi Beach	513
Manawatu District Council	Rongotea	639
Manawatu District Council	Sanson	582
Marlborough District Council	Blenheim	24,028
Marlborough District Council	Picton/Waikawa	4185
Marlborough District Council	Renwick	1884
Marlborough District Council	Seddon	535
Marlborough District Council	Havelock	618
Marlborough District Council	Riverlands Industrial	740



Matamata Piako District Council	Matamata	6943
Matamata Piako District Council	Morrinsville	6603
Matamata Piako District Council	Te Aroha	3838
Napier City Council	Napier	59,055
Napier City Council	Bayview	894
Nelson City Council	Nelson	52,400
New Plymouth District Council	Inglewood	3983
New Plymouth District Council	New Plymouth	59,072
New Plymouth District Council	Oakura	1625
New Plymouth District Council	Okato	530
Opotiki District Council	Opotiki	4530
Otorohanga District Council	Otorohanga	3050
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Arrowtown	4366
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Arthurs Point	1631
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Glenorchy	1232
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Hawea	3767
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Lake Hayes	3743
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Queenstown	25,271
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Wanaka	13,633
Queenstown Lakes District Council	Luggate	855
Rangitikei District Council	Bulls	1419
Rangitikei District Council	Marton	4764
Rangitikei District Council	Taihape	1584
Rotorua Lakes Council	Hamurana/Kaharoa	1700
Rotorua Lakes Council	Ngongotaha	4826
Rotorua Lakes Council	Reporoa	1060
Rotorua Lakes Council	Rotorua Central	42,500
Rotorua Lakes Council	Rotorua East	10,330
Rotorua Lakes Council	Mamaku	868
Rotorua Lakes Council	Rotoiti	880
Ruapehu District Council	Ohakune	1500
Ruapehu District Council	Taumarunui	4870
Ruapehu District Council	Raetihi	749
Selwyn District Council	Darfield	3720
Selwyn District Council	Kirwee	1300
Selwyn District Council	Leeston	3000
Selwyn District Council	Lincoln	7200
Selwyn District Council	Malvern Hills RWS	1684
Selwyn District Council	Prebbleton	4500
Selwyn District Council	Rolleston	18,550
Selwyn District Council	Selwyn RWS	1160
Selwyn District Council	West Melton	2270
Selwyn District Council	Sheffield/Waddington	585
Selwyn District Council	Southbridge	990
Selwyn District Council	Springfield	580
Selwyn District Council	Springston	510

Selwyn District Council	Tai Tapu	760
South Taranaki District Council	Eltham	1980
South Taranaki District Council	Opunake	1370
South Taranaki District Council	Patea	1150
South Taranaki District Council	Waimate West	2880
South Taranaki District Council	Waverley	950
South Waikato District Council	Putaruru	4116
South Waikato District Council	Tirau	700
South Wairarapa District Council	Featherston	2599
South Wairarapa District Council	Greytown	2623
South Wairarapa District Council	Martinborough	1776
Southland District Council	Edendale/Wyndham	1152
Southland District Council	Lumsden/Balfour	1061
Southland District Council	Riverton	1506
Southland District Council	Te Anau	2628
Southland District Council	Winton	2436
Southland District Council	Ohai/Nightcaps	667
Southland District Council	Otautau	798
Southland District Council	Tuatapere	561
Tararua District Council	Dannevirke	6000
Tararua District Council	Pahiatua	2700
Tararua District Council	Woodville	1500
Tasman District Council	Hope/Brightwater	2100
Tasman District Council	Motueka	1200
Tasman District Council	Richmond/Waimea Industrial	14,000
Tasman District Council	Waimea Mapua Ruby Bay	2500
Tasman District Council	Wakefield	2100
Taupo District Council	Acacia Bay	2381
Taupo District Council	Kinloch	1696
Taupo District Council	Mangakino	1312
Taupo District Council	Omori/Kuratau/Pukawa	1883
Taupo District Council	Motuoapa	739
Tauranga City Council	Tauranga	146,097
Thames Coromandel District Council	Coromandel	1718
Thames Coromandel District Council	Tairua	1314
Thames Coromandel District Council	Whangamata	3674
Thames Coromandel District Council	Whitianga	4550
Thames Coromandel District Council	Pauanui	750
Timaru District Council	Downlands	4550
Timaru District Council	Geraldine	2121

Timaru District Council	Pleasant Point	1200
Timaru District Council	Te Moana Scheme	1650
Timaru District Council	Temuka	4620
Timaru District Council	Timaru City	26,832
Timaru District Council	Seadown	895
Upper Hutt City Council	Kaitoke	650
Waikato District Council	Raglan	4000
Waimakariri District Council	Kaiapoi	12,630
Waimakariri District Council	Mandeville	2353
Waimakariri District Council	Oxford Urban - Rural No. 2	2993
Waimakariri District Council	Rangiora	17,880
Waimakariri District Council	Waikuku	1150
Waimakariri District Council	Pegasus - Woodend	7325
Waimakariri District Council	Oxford Rural No1	828
Waimakariri District Council	West Eyreton	613
Waimate District Council	Hook/Waituna Rural	1350
Waimate District Council	Waimate	3000
Waimate District Council	Lower Waihao Rural	600
Waipa District Council	Cambridge	20,833
Waipa District Council	Kihikihi	2000
Waipa District Council	Pukerimu Rural	3387
Waipa District Council	Te Awamutu & Pirongia	10,665
Wairoa District Council	Wairoa	4650
Waitaki District Council	Oamaru	15,561
Waitaki District Council	Waihemo	1357
Waitaki District Council	Lower Waitaki, Rural	778
Waitaki District Council	Tokarahi/Livingstone	573
Waitomo District Council	Te Kuiti	4612
Waitomo District Council	Piopio	500
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Shakespear Regional Park	1425
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Greenlane Hospital	1500
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Helensville/Parakai	4579
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Snells/Algies	4664
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Waiuku	8697
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Warkworth	4111
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Wellsford/Te Hana	2114
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Bombay	609
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Broadway Park, Newmarket	1000

Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Huia Village	597
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Muriwai	563
Watercare Services Ltd- Auckland Council	Auckland	25,507
Western Bay of Plenty District Council	Athenree	5125
Western Bay of Plenty District Council	Katikati	5700
Western Bay of Plenty District Council	Omokoroa Minden	6450
Western Bay of Plenty District Council	Pongakawa	4600
Western Bay of Plenty District Council	Te Puke	8460
Westland District Council	Hokitika	3447
Westland District Council	Franz Josef	2611
Whakatane District Council	Murupara	1674
Whakatane District Council	Rangitaiki Plains	2897
Whakatane District Council	Matata	690
Whakatane District Council	Ruatoki	560
Whakatane District Council	Taneatua	790
Whakatane District Council	Otumahi	2841
Whanganui District Council	Whanganui	39,475
Whangarei District Council	Bream Bay	14,800
Whangarei District Council	Whangarei	56,530

**Note:** In a small number of cases zones are listed rather than supplies, or a supply may be captured where only one or more zones or parts of zones are non-fluoridated.