

Hon Dr David Clark

MP for Dunedin North

Minister of Health

Associate Minister of Finance



19 MAR 2018

Kane Titchener
ktitchener@gmail.com

Ref: P180710

Dear Mr Titchener

Thank you for your email of 17 December 2017 regarding water fluoridation. I apologise for the delay in replying to you, due to the large amount of correspondence my office has received since the Government was formed.

In your correspondence you included a request from Fluoride Free NZ for Paul Connett to present to Caucus. You may be aware that Paul Connett presented to MPs during his visit to the country.

Community Water Fluoridation (CWF) has been endorsed by the World Health Organization (WHO) and other international health authorities as the most effective health measure for the prevention of dental decay. The Ministry of Health supports CWF as an effective, safe and affordable public health measure to improve oral health. Fluoride is naturally present in water. The Ministry's recommended drinking-water fluoridation levels are based on WHO guidelines. The Ministry is satisfied that when used at appropriate concentrations, between 0.7 and 1.0 mg/litre in drinking-water, water fluoridation is a safe practice.

I appreciate that there are strongly held views on the fluoridation of water. Thank you for taking the time to express your concerns.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'D' and 'C'.

Hon Dr David Clark
Minister of Health