

13 March 2025

Mayor Campbell Barry  
Chair, Wellington Water Committee  
C/o Hutt City Council  
**By email:** campbell.barry@huttcity.govt.nz

Tēnā koe Campbell

### **Wellington Water Limited Board: Management of perceived conflicts of interest**

Our Council requests that the Wellington Water Committee seeks renewed assurance from Wellington Water Limited (WWL) that their Board members' conflicts of interest are still being appropriately and proactively managed in accordance with the Companies Act 1992 and general good practice.

As you know, the Committee has responsibility to monitor the performance of the Board of Wellington Water Limited (WWL), and this request comes in light of recent reports on value for money and management of contractors and suppliers.

While our request relates to all members of the Board of WWL, we would like the Committee to seek further assurance that any actual and perceived conflicts of interest arising from Nick Leggett's role as Chief Executive of Infrastructure New Zealand are being appropriately managed by the company.

While we acknowledge the WWL Chair's conflicts have been declared previously, we want to make sure that he remains safe throughout this process by having the Committee revisit the measures currently in place.

This is of particular importance for any future Commerce Commission investigation, which may require both a response from Infrastructure New Zealand and from WWL. If that eventuates, it would not be appropriate for the WWL Chair to be speaking for both organisations.

Therefore, we ask that the Committee discuss what additional measures and controls might be appropriate to put in place. For example, whether the Chair should refrain from being the public WWL spokesperson on financial control, procurement or value for money, with an alternate board member taking primary responsibility for the governance response to these matters.

Given this matter has urgency, I ask that you include this matter at the Wellington Water Committee meeting on 14 March 2025.

I look forward to the assurances that this request may provide, alongside other practical steps you and WWL may be undertaking to restore public confidence in both current and future water services delivery in the Wellington region.

Nāku iti noa, nā

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

**Daran Ponter**  
Heamana | Chair

cc Cr Ros Connelly, Deputy Chair, Wellington Water Committee