## **Hon Chris Bishop**

Minister of Housing
Minister for Infrastructure
Minister Responsible for RMA Reform
Minister of Transport
Leader of the House
Associate Minister of Finance
Associate Minister for Sport and Recreation



TCB25-1124

Daran Ponter Greater Wellington Regional Council Daran.Ponter@gw.govt.nz

Dear Daran,

Thank you for your email of 25 March 2025 about Wellington's Future Development Strategy and Waterloo Transit Oriented Development (TOD) proposal. I apologise for the delay in getting a response back to you. It was great to discuss TOD with you and Nigel Corry earlier this year, and I appreciate the additional information about this proposal.

As mentioned in your letter, the Waterloo TOD proposal is an important project and an identified Priority Development Area. This aligns with the strategic direction of the Wellington Horowhenua region's Future Development Strategy to encourage greater development on major public transport corridors. It is wonderful to see Greater Wellington Regional Council's (GRWC) active work in this space as I also believe that TOD is one key avenue to unlock economic growth in our urban areas.

Going for Housing Growth (GfHG) and resource management reform will enable more development opportunities for TOD in and around the vicinity of transit stations, such as Waterloo Station. Consultation on the RMA Phase 2 national direction will occur shortly and will consult on how aspects of GfHG will be reflected in the new planning system. I encourage GRWC to make a submission to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) during the consultation period and provide your insights on TOD.

Local government and the private sector are best placed to work together to unlock opportunities. As the project progresses, I will be interested to hear your insights about the barriers and opportunities for progressing TODs. Please feel free to share that information with my housing and transport officials.

The Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Enterprise (MBIE) is responsible for the Government Property Office (GPO). MBIE supports agencies in a range of areas including property portfolio planning, lease management, property brokerage, workplace design and project delivery. The GPO does not list properties as potential sites for Crown entity accommodation. Rather, MBIE identifies potential government tenants, conducts centralised portfolio planning, and works alongside agencies to find customer-centric leasing solutions.

The GPO is available to engage with GWRC to explore potential strategic alignment with the proposed Waterloo TOD, test if there is demand for office space at that location and determine how the station fits in MBIE's portfolio planning. You may wish to contact the GPO directly at: <a href="mailto:info@gpg.govt.nz">info@gpg.govt.nz</a>.

Thank you again for writing, I look forward to seeing how the Waterloo TOD proposal continues developing.

Yours sincerely,

**Hon Chris Bishop** 

**Minister of Transport**