

Hon Kieran McAnulty

Minister for Emergency Management
Minister of Local Government
Minister for Racing
Minister for Rural Communities
Deputy Leader of the House



Thursday, 29th June 2023

Local Government Mayors and Chief Executives
By email

Dear Local Government Mayors and Chief Executives

I am writing to express my thanks for the support the local government sector has provided to the Future for Local Government Review (the Review). The Review's final report, launched on 21 June 2023, is a true reflection of the challenges facing the sector and provides a clear vision for what local government can be.

I am pleased to see the positive responses to the report so far. The Review's roadmap for reforming the sector is ambitious, and councils will need to agree on how to give effect to its recommendations.

Accordingly, I have written to Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) to highlight that LGNZ is well placed to facilitate a sector-wide conversation on the final report. I consider that the central government pre-election phase provides the sector with an ideal opportunity to hold these discussions. The objective is that the sector is in a position to outline its agreed views by the time the Government is ready to consider the Review's work in the next term. This is the commitment I made to you before the panel concluded the Review.

I encourage you to contact LGNZ to discuss how best to engage on the Review's final report. I very much look forward to working with you to help make local government fit for purpose for the next 30 plus years.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Kieran McAnulty'.

Hon Kieran McAnulty
Minister of Local Government