



The Hon. Shelley Hancock MP
Minister for Local Government

Ref: A764185

Clr Ambrose Doolan and Roger Bailey
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Dear Clr Doolan and Mr Bailey

I refer to my Notice of Intention to Issue a Performance Improvement Order dated 8 February 2021 and to your reply of 9 March 2021.

I have carefully considered each of the matters put by you in your response.

I acknowledge that Council has taken and is taking steps to address the concerns referred to in the Notice. It is pleasing to note that Council appears to be addressing the underlying issues of delay and poor project management. I understand that the work on its water program will be ongoing, particularly having regard to the Government's Safe and Secure Water Program, and that Council will need to direct its attention to the needs of its communities.

I note that Council has both appointed a project manager within staff and is retaining an external project manager to manage larger projects. However, there remains a significant and ongoing body of work, including the re-introduction of fluoridated water to the towns and villages supplied by Council, and this work should continue to be a priority. Importantly, Council needs to pursue further opportunities for funding to ensure both current and future works are undertaken in a professional, efficient and timely manner.

Having considered the matter fully, I have determined not to issue a Performance Improvement Order. This is predicated on an expectation that Council will give substantial priority to relevant works to ensure both the safety and the sufficiency of water provided to Council's towns and villages.

Additionally, Council should continue to liaise with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Water Team in the implementation of its strategic plan for its water activities.

Thank you for providing a fulsome response to the Notice.

Yours sincerely

The Hon. Shelley Hancock MP
Minister for Local Government

5 AUG 2021