

From: Neil Wells <newells@cybernet.co.nz>
To: "Barry O'Neil" <oneilb@ra.maf.govt.nz>
Date: 28 July 1997 10:47am
Subject: TERRITORIAL AUTHORITIES

Dear Barry

I want to say thanks to you and David for the way you have handled this issue.

I am aware of the perils of time slippage so I would like to follow up on our conversation of a few weeks ago.

My understanding is that the next action point was that MAF Legal were to comment further on issues raised by MAF Policy and that, unless MAF Legal can show that the proposed policy is ultra vires, there should be no impediment to seeking the Minister's approval to expand the Waitakere City Council pilot programme to other territorial authorities.

UNITEC understood the reasons why it was not possible to commence a course this month to trial the unit standards. However, UNITEC are still pressing on with the intention that the course be available as a national certificate course from the first semester next year (February).

In order that this can be marketed UNITEC will need to promote the course this year to get sufficient enrolments to make it viable.

At the same time I understand PSTO are proceeding with hooking the national certificate onto the national qualifications framework.

At the risk of sounding repetitive I need to emphasise that without the prospect of attracting territorial authority people into the UNITEC course it cannot stand commercially just on the possibility of attracting SPCA and possibly some MQM people.

I have yet to see any legal opinion that would be an impediment to territorial authority personnel being acceptable as inspectors.

To progress this issue I would like to see a positive policy decision within the next month that territorial authorities may chose to add animal welfare compliance to their services and that there will be no impediment from MAF that suitable persons, who are properly trained and nominated by territorial authorities who have agreed to accept the CVO*s conditions, may be appointed by the CVO to be inspectors under the Act.

If I am unable to advise UNITEC that we are ready to advance by the end of August, I fear that the UNITEC curriculum development board may decide that this venture is not viable and the opportunity to put in place professional training to a high standard will be lost.

I would really appreciate your views on where we are now going.

Kind regards

Neil Wells

CC: David Bayvel <bayveld@ra.maf.govt.nz>