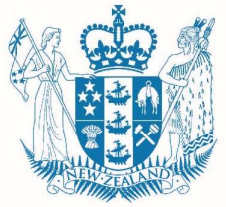


Hon Nicola Willis

Minister of Finance
Minister for the Public Service
Minister for Social Investment
Associate Minister of Climate Change



26 September 2024

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

Dear Daran

Thank you for your letter of 15 August 2024 following on from CentrePort's letter.

I acknowledge the Greater Wellington Regional Council's (GWRC) support for the proposals outlined lined in CentrePort's letter, specifically around the benefits of a multi-user terminal.

The immediate focus is ensuring that port infrastructure decisions are well aligned with any decisions regarding new ships to provide Cook Strait ferry services. We need to ensure that there is clarity regarding the port infrastructure requirements and the cost of that infrastructure.

However, I agree that if a multi-user terminal was to go ahead, further discussions will be needed to ensure there is sufficient network capacity at both ports, especially given the important role Cook Strait plays in State Highway 1. This was also noted by the Ministerial Advisory Group.

The Government is considering a wide range of options and decisions regarding new ships on Cook Strait are yet to be made. However, we appreciate the need for discussion between the many parties involved and are open to seeing a revitalised Future Ports Forum.

I expect the relevant stakeholders to continue engaging going forward about how the needs of the wider transport network can be met.

I have also referred your correspondence to the Minister of Transport given its relevance to the transport network.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nicola Willis'.

Hon Nicola Willis
Minister of Finance