

25 May 2018

Committee Secretariat  
Governance and Administration Committee  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington 6160

Tēnā koe

## **Re: Local Government (Community Well-being) Amendment Bill**

### **Introduction**

Regional Public Health (RPH)<sup>1</sup> is grateful for the opportunity to make a submission to the Governance and Administration Committee. RPH would like to formally register our agreement and strong support for the Local Government (Community Well-being) Amendment Bill.

As a peak public health organisation, operating in the greater Wellington region, RPH delivers population and personal health services within the geographical area of the Hutt Valley, Capital & Coast and Wairarapa District Health Boards. Our aim is to improve the health of communities throughout the region, with a focus on achieving equitable health outcomes for high needs groups such as Māori, Pacific peoples, children, and low-income families. RPH has a range of occupations working including: medical officers of health and public health physicians, public health advisors, public health analysts, health protection officers and public health nurses.

RPH frequently works with our local authorities across the region on a variety of public health matters including drinking water, emergency planning, physical activities and environmental health.

### **Basis of support**

RPH strongly endorses the following:

- **Purpose:** the amended 'Purpose' augments RPH planning in relation to a partnered approach with local authorities' that improves the well-being of the community through activities, events and provision of advice.
- **Part 1 s3(d) and Part 1 s5(1):** RPH supports the reinstatement of the four aspects (promoting the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of their communities) which reinforce the work undertaken by our organisation on a daily and broader strategic basis. RPH views itself as an active partner in promoting community outcomes that align with these proposed amendments.

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<sup>1</sup> Regional Public Health, Sourced: <http://www.rph.org.nz/>

RPH is open to provide further advice or clarification on any of the points raised in our written submission. RPH **does not** wish to speak at the forthcoming hearings.

The contact point for this submission is:

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