



20 May 2016

Mr Kelvin Davis  
MP for Tai Tokerau  
Freepost PO Box 14888  
Parliament Buildings  
WELLINGTON

Dear Mr Davis

#### **Incident at Lake Horowhenua Domain**

Thank you for your letter of 1 March 2016, in which you refer to correspondence you have received from Ms Anne Hunt and request clarification regarding an incident at the Lake Horowhenua Domain.

Ms Hunt complains that Police have condoned access to a building located on the Lake Horowhenua Domain by members of the local rowing club on at least four occasions since the Domain Board passed resolutions restricting access rights. She says that this is because Police consider the Club to be tenants.

Police can advise that officers recognise the Domain Board as the body entitled to make decisions about the use of, and access to, buildings located on the domain. Police rely on information from the Board with respect to who may or may not access buildings. This is consistent with the Board's Resolutions of 30 October 2015, which provide that the Board may expressly authorise access to and occupation of the Rowing Club.

In carrying out law enforcement at the domain Police have not proceeded on the basis that the Rowing Club are tenants. Police have proceeded on the basis that it is for the Board to determine access rights to its buildings and to seek Police intervention where it believes offending has occurred. In all such cases Police have then independently assessed whether offending has occurred and, if so, what the appropriate response was.

Yours sincerely

**Inspector Sarah Stewart**  
**Area Commander Manawatu**