

Russ Watts

From: Karyn Hollman
Sent: Friday, 21 April 2023 2:34 pm
To: Julie Gardyne; Steve Giles; Libby OBrien; Sarah Matthews
Cc: Laurilee McMichael; Andy Taylor; Alice Mellow; Nigel McAdie
Subject: RE: Halt Co -Governance Risk Assessment

Thanks Steve.

I am happy to help you prepare the communication to the Client regarding the venue unavailability.

I think the message needs to be short but efficiently convey to the Client the message that, whilst we acknowledge the significant freedoms involved on this occasion, it is open to Council to curtail those freedoms in circumstances where it is reasonable to do so given other factors at play: s5 BOR.

Here the other factors are:

our statutory duties in respect of health and safety, to keep staff and public free from harm.

measures (eg: location keep secret, invite only to 200 people etc, select a public venue – eg rural community hall - that is isolated from spaces to gather and main streets) that could have been employed to ensure the health, safety and security of staff and public while having minimal impact on the freedoms are not available given the course of action taken by the organisers.

The views of the Police.

The views of the security firm.

Etc

regards

Karyn Hollman Senior Solicitor | Roia Matua

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Achiever | **Relator** | **Learner** | **Communication** | **Woo**

While it suits me to send this email now, please review and respond (as needs be) only within your own working hours.

From: Julie Gardyne <jgardyne@taupo.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, 21 April 2023 2:07 pm
To: Steve Giles <sgiles@taupo.govt.nz>; Libby OBrien <lobrien@taupo.govt.nz>; Sarah Matthews <smatthews@taupo.govt.nz>
Cc: Laurilee McMichael <lmcmichael@taupo.govt.nz>; Andy Taylor <ataylor@taupo.govt.nz>; Alice Mellow <amellow@taupo.govt.nz>; Karyn Hollman <khollman@taupo.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Halt Co -Governance Risk Assessment

Thank you for the email Steve, and the comprehensive analysis that you have supplied to support your position, based on a risk analysis approach for this booking.

I agree with your assessment that without a security presence and an independently assessed security plan the booking cannot proceed. I also concur with your assessment about the H&S risks to our staff

Given the high degree of public interest in this event, I am very happy to be the spokesperson for media comment

Ngā mihi

Julie

Julie Gardyne Acting Chief Executive Officer – Apiha Iho Matua

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From: Steve Giles <sgiles@taupo.govt.nz>

Sent: Friday, 21 April 2023 1:43 pm

To: Julie Gardyne <jgardyne@taupo.govt.nz>; Libby OBrien <lobrien@taupo.govt.nz>; Sarah Matthews <smatthews@taupo.govt.nz>

Cc: Laurilee McMichael <lmcmichael@taupo.govt.nz>; Andy Taylor <ataylor@taupo.govt.nz>; Alice Mellow <amellow@taupo.govt.nz>; Karyn Hollman <khollman@taupo.govt.nz>

Subject: FW: Halt Co -Governance Risk Assessment

Hi all,

As you are aware on Monday 17 April Michelle, Alice and I (along with Senjo Security) met with 3 members of the Stop Cogovernance group to discuss/review/plan their upcoming meeting on Wednesday 26 April.

A self assessment of risk for the event was conducted (TDC and client) and the event was deemed to be MEDIUM risk. (A copy of this assessment is attachment 4). A MEDIUM risk event therefore requires the client to supply an operational and security plan to TDC to be signed off by an ELT member, that security is required on site for the event and that the security plan is independently assessed.

The client provided TDC with an event security plan and safety management questionnaire on Thursday 20 April. The client references Senjo security as providing security and that the plan has been presented to Taupo Police for approval.

Taupo Police (Relieving Area Commander [REDACTED]) has emailed TDC and stated (Thursday 20 April):

I have phoned the person who's details were provided to contact, [REDACTED] I did so as there were some statements in the plan which pertain to the Police and their perceived role in the proposed plan. These points in the plan related to elements that the Police had apparently "taken charge of" – namely the approval of numbers of security staff, and a point in the plan which referred to whether or not the Police would have staff on site during the meeting. I have very clearly explained to [REDACTED] that Police will not be endorsing or signing the plan, and that it was matter for 'Stop Co-Governance' administration to deal directly with the TDC as the venue provider. Following the decision made by the TDC around the event, we will then plan for any Police response if required.

Senjo Security (Owner [REDACTED]) has emailed TDC and stated (Friday 21 April):

I regret to inform you that Senjo Security will unfortunately not be able to look after the security requirements on the 26th April.

I have heard nothing to how they are going to turn people away at 200, where these people are going to go once turned away etc, the potential of protests from locals regarding this event is playing on my mind also

We are a well known local company and I feel we are best to just stay right away from this event

I fully agree to freedom of speech and I also agree to freedom of choice and we choose to not be involved in any way

At the time of writing this - without a security presence and an independently assessed security plan the booking cannot proceed at the GLC Theatre and a TDC ELT member is unable to sign off.

Risk also remains around the nature of the event and how many people may attend – namely, is it a private event. The Clients event security plan (attachment 3) states the event is a “stop co-governance private meeting”. The client estimates a crowd of 200 pax. At the Monday 17 April meeting it was agreed by client and TDC that the event would be capped at 200pax but the client has also advised Taupo police that 4000 flyers have been printed and distributed;

“During the conversation when asked how many people the group were expecting Mr. Strong advised me that the group had 4,000 flyers produced for the event, but that not all of the flyers had been distributed”.

Widespread distribution of flyers suggests the event is infact public and the security plan does not take this fully into account.

TDC events has also received an email today (Friday 21 April) from a member of the public deeply disappointed by the position TDC has taken. There is a growing level of distress contained in emails opposing this event:

“Just to be clear:

- *You are effectively allowing racist ideas to be promoted in our community.*
- *Your policies and rhetoric around free speech:

 - *Enable and support the transmission of racist ideas, and*
 - *Prioritise the **comfort** of a group of racists above the **safety** of Māori.**
- *Together, these things perpetuate the racial inequity experienced by Māori in Taupō, this by definition is racism”.*

In addition to the above TDC has also conducted its own internal organisational risk assessment and bow tie exercise (attachments 1 and 2). As a PCBU TDC does have a duty of care to ensure the work environment is not putting to our staff, contractors and visitors at risk of being harmed.

The bowtie risk assessment tool (attachment 2) looks Threats and Consequences that contribute to an event.

The two health and safety risks are either physical harm to employees and public and psychological harm to our employees.

TDC also has a Corporate Risk Matrix as attached to understand our risk profiles across the organisation. On all accounts this event does not come under a low risk profile.

Risk –	Likelihood	Consequences	Risk Rating
Impact on People - Physical harm or on mental Wellbeing	Almost certain	Insignificant	Medium
	Almost certain	Minor	High
	Likely	Insignificant	Medium
	Likely	Medium	Medium

There is also Reputational Risk, Financial and Organisational Objectives that the tool can be applied to

Risk –	Likelihood	Consequences	Risk Rating
Reputation	Almost certain	Moderate	High
	Possible	Moderate	Medium
	Likely	Major	Extreme
	Possible	Major	Extreme

Financial Risk -- Jamie Dale has indicated we may not get insurance for damaged to the building caused by protest /civil unrest and if we did – excess 25K

Organisational Objectives Risk - Co governance is imbedded in our organisation strategic plans

In conclusion:

- The client has been unable to provide security on site and an independently assessed security plan (requirements of a MEDIUM risk event)
- Significant uncertainty remains over the event being “private”
- While a separate booking, elevated risk is associated with the second group booking in the venue on the same night
- There is identified risk to TDC staff and the organisation
- ELT TDC member is unable to sign off on this event
- Recommendation is to advise both bookings of venue availability

As an exec, and if in agreement I would share this email with [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] from the Taupo Police.

From a comms perspective – Julie are you happy to remain the person to make comment? I believe we need to plan on their being some media interest and a likely LGOIMA request.

In discussion with Karyn the decision to “make the venue unavailable” email to be sent to the client would be brief and I would send. I would email this afternoon to the client and share separately with elected members. I would be keen for help to proof that email.

Any questions please ask and/or if I have missed something please let me know.

Steve