

Russ Watts

From: Julie Gardyne
Sent: Friday, 21 April 2023 6:55 pm
To: Councillors Distribution List
Cc: The Executive Team; Steve Giles; Laurilee McMichael; Karyn Hollman; Andy Taylor
Subject: RE: Anti-co governance meeting

Good evening

Just letting you know that this decision is no longer in confidence, in case you are asked for comment as well. Our statement is as follows

Organisers of a Stop Co-Governance meeting at Taupō District Council's Great Lake Centre have been advised that their booking on 26 April cannot go ahead.

Taupō District Council acting chief executive Julie Gardyne said a thorough assessment of the risks associated with the event, both to the venue and to council staff, had concluded they were too high to allow it to proceed.

"The organisers were required to have a security presence on site and an independently-assessed security plan. Neither of these have been adequately provided," Mrs Gardyne said.

"The booking fails to meet the requirements for a safe and well-managed event and therefore we have contacted organisers to inform them that their booking has been declined."

Ngā mihi

Julie

Julie Gardyne Acting Chief Executive Officer – Apiha Iho Matua

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From: Julie Gardyne
Sent: Friday, 21 April 2023 4:31 pm
To: Councillors Distribution List <TDCCouncillors@taupo.govt.nz>
Cc: The Executive Team <executiveteam@taupo.govt.nz>; Steve Giles <sgiles@taupo.govt.nz>; Laurilee McMichael <lmc michael@taupo.govt.nz>; Karyn Hollman <khollman@taupo.govt.nz>; Andy Taylor <ataylor@taupo.govt.nz>
Subject: Anti-co governance meeting

Kia ora koutou Mayor David and councillors

We have this afternoon emailed the organisers of the Stop Co-Governance meeting to inform them that we are declining their booking of the Great Lake Centre booking on Wednesday 26 April.

At this stage we ask you to keep this information confidential although we do expect there will be media interest.

We have kept an open mind throughout this process and endeavoured to balance the right to free speech against the risk of harm to the public, our staff and our venue. Council has also been liaising closely with Taupō Police.

However a thorough assessment of the risks associated with the event, both to the venue and to council staff, showed that they were too high to allow the event to safely proceed without a security presence on site and an independently-assessed security plan. Neither of these were adequately provided.

The risk assessment has also identified medium to high risk of harm to staff if the event went ahead. There has been ongoing discussion with the booking organisers throughout this process to explain what has been required to manage the risk.

A waiata group has requested to book the Great Lake Centre at the same time. Council is currently undertaking a risk assessment for this booking.

Can I please remind Councillors that you are free to express your individual views from any media request, but you are to make clear that these are your personal opinions, and not that of the Council.

Nga mihi

Julie