

22 December 2022

Small Business Policy Building, Resources, and Markets Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment PO Box 1473, Wellington Submitted via email to BPPregulations@mbie.govt.nz

Tēnā Koutou,

Rangitīkei District Council Business Payment Practices Regulations

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the proposed Business Payment Practices Regulations. There are several aspects of these Regulations which will apply to Rangitikei District Council (RDC) and we wish to provide the following comments:

1. Key Principles

We agree with the underlying key principles of the proposed Regulations insofar as we recognise the importance of prompt payment to all our suppliers.

2. Impact

RDC's position is to ensure on-time payment to our suppliers so these Regulations would have minimal direct impact on our Accounts Payable function.

The key points we note with regards to the Business Payment Practices Regulations are:

- The reporting requirements should be kept simple and cost effective to avoid additional costs. In the case of Council, these costs must be passed on to ratepayers.
- Suppliers of accounting systems should have a role in developing the reporting that their clients can use to satisfy any future reporting requirements. This will avoid issues arising around the comparability and validity of "in-house" systems; and
- Disputed invoices need to be catered for in the reporting framework. These invoices can cause a valid reason for a delay in payment which should be be captured in any reporting on payment timeframes.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this submission.

Ngā mihi,

Peter Beggs

Chief Executive