



4 October 2017

Councillor Diane Calvert
Portfolio Leader – Community Planning and Engagement
Wellington City Council

via email Diane.calvert@wcc.govt.nz

Tēnā koe Councillor

I am writing in response to your recent correspondence with the Minister of Education, Hon Nikki Kaye, regarding the potential sale of the Karori Campus by Victoria University. As this is an operational matter, Minister Kaye has referred it to the Ministry of Education to provide you with an explanation of the process and the current status, from our perspective.

Our understanding has been that the open-market sale process referred to in the communication you received from VUW, was taking place in parallel to the Ministry's continued negotiation with VUW over the Ministry's requirement under the Public Works Act 1981 (PWA).

On 3 October I received correspondence from Professor Guilford which implies that he considers that the Public Works Act process has been completed. The Ministry does not agree with this position. I have written to him to reiterate our expectations and remind him of the public commitments we have made, including our joint statement of 11 August in which he said:

Professor Guilford says "while we complete these discussions, Victoria University will not be accepting offers on the parcel of campus land on which the Ministry has made an offer."

It is disappointing that we appear to now be renegotiating a process that we understood had already been agreed, and I hope that this matter can be quickly resolved.

I have also advised Professor Guilford that we will be sharing valuation advice with him in the next 1-2 weeks. This valuation was commissioned on the main campus to support our discussions. Once finalised, we will present another offer for part of the site. This would allow us to recommence discussions.

Thank you again for your interest in this matter.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Iona Holsted', with a stylized, cursive script.

Iona Holsted
Secretary for Education

ccs Hon Nikki Kaye, Minister of Education
Sir Neville Jordan KNZM, Chancellor, Victoria University of Wellington