



GOVERNMENT OF NIUE

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Member Assisting the Minister (MAM) for Ministry of Infrastructure (MOI) Appointment

Alofi, Niue – 16 February 2022 - The Premier of Niue, Hon. Dalton Tagelagi announced today the appointment of Mr John Operator Tiakia (Member of the Legislative Assembly) to assist the Minister for Infrastructure to expedite the long list of high priority projects and backlog workload of the Ministry.

Mr Tiakia (MAM) assumed acting capacity when Hon Crossley Tatui was absent overseas during the Festive season. The temporary appointment will be for six months.

The Ministry for Infrastructure management and operations has been affected by past organizational changes, including the extended unfilled senior executive positions in the Utilities, Niue Power, Water and Regulatory divisions, old machinery and critical under-resourcing issues.

Mr Tiakia was a former employee of the Public Works Department at Amanau, former Public Service Commissioner, previous and present Member of Assembly for Lakepa and member of the Public Accounts Committee. He has vast work experience and human resource development skills which will assist the Minister and Cabinet to coordinate and achieve the delayed projects and monitor Government policies in the trade-related areas.

The MAM is already involved with the ministry officials and staff to help strengthen the governance, management and service delivery on the outstanding and current projects.

Minister Tatui said the appointment of Mr Tiakia is timely to facilitate communication from Cabinet to MOI and vice versa to avoid undue bottlenecks and delays. MOI plays a significant role in keeping Niue's national infrastructure operating reliably for the country.

"MOI's workforce is also affected by the number of experienced employees who retired within the past two years leaving behind a sizeable skills gap," the Minister added.

'The overall goal is to build community confidence in the quality of work the Government of Niue and employees are expected to provide a level of skill in the services they provide', Minister Tatui concluded.

ENDS

For more information:

Please contact the Office of the Minister of Infrastructure, Government of Niue.

Phone: +683 4200