



**Office of Hon Ruth Dyson**

Minister for Disability Issues  
Associate Minister for Accident Insurance  
Associate Minister of Health  
Associate Minister of Social Services and Employment  
MP for Banks Peninsula

Attachment 2 Report **CC.309**  
Page **1** of **2**

29 MAR 2000

Mr Anthony Cross  
Manager  
Public Transport  
Wellington Regional Council  
PO Box 1 I-646  
WELLINGTON

Dear Mr Cross

Thank you for your letter of 28 February 2000 concerning Total Mobility.

I understand that the Minister of Transport, Hon Mark Gosche, has written to your regional council asking you to defer your proposed decision to cap funding for Total Mobility until the Government's policies in this area have been decided.

As you will now be aware, the Government has been reviewing two policy areas that are likely to have a major impact on the Wellington Regional Council and Total Mobility. The New Zealand Disability Strategy is being developed to include goals, targets, and priorities to remove the barriers to participation for people with disabilities. Also, The Minister of Transport is working to develop new policies for funding passenger transport as well as a New Zealand Transport Strategy.

As indicated in my colleague's letter to your regional council, decisions on all these issues will be made during this year.

There are quite complex issues relating to funding and allocation of responsibilities for the transport needs of people with disabilities and mobility impaired older people that will need to be identified and resolved as part of the processes indicated above. For example, Total Mobility schemes currently do not cover all regions of New Zealand. As funding of Total Mobility by regional councils varies greatly even among areas that do have schemes, there are major equity and funding issues to be addressed .

Thank you for writing.

Attachment 2 Report

Page  of

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ruth Dyson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hon Ruth Dyson  
MINISTER FOR DISABILITY ISSUES