Emergency Services Levy Review Draft Report

Jones, Mr Colin

I note the possibility of levying boat owners for rescue services based on the fact that not all building owners are boat owners.

I draw your attention to the fact that most registered boats use fuel on which we are taxed an amount for using roads despite also paying for the fuel we use on the roads.

Fuel taxes should be redirected.

Also in any cost-recovery exercise run by the government, there is no incentive for the government to reduce or contain costs when the simpler option is present of simply increasing compulsory and unavoidable levies. Users have no option but to pay and have no option to interrogate the funding of services.

This also detracts from volunteers working to raise their own funds for their community service.

Please introduce a mechanism whereby funding is open to scrutiny by the public and so are the calculations of the levies on users.

There is simply no such thing as a government scheme that cannot be made more efficient by openness and scrutiny.