

7 February 2023

File Ref: OIAP-7-27088

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

### **Request for information 2023-019**

I refer to your request for information dated 1 February 2023, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 1 February 2023. You have requested the following:

*“Under the Local Government Official Information Act I'm seeking the total amount of money the council has spent on culling and/or controlling Canada geese in the past three years.”*

#### **Greater Wellington's response follows:**

In the last three years Greater Wellington Regional Council has not spent any money on culling and/or controlling Canada geese.

#### *Background information:*

Canada geese are not a pest in our Regional Pest Management Plan as the species didn't meet the prescribed criteria to be included as a pest. Therefore, we are not undertaking any control of Canada geese.

The species have no protection status under any legislation as they were removed from Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Act in 2011. As such, they can be controlled by the local authorities or interested groups (with the permission of landowners). For more information, please visit: [www.doc.govt.nz/about-us/our-role/legislation/wildlife-act/change-to-protection-status-of-canada-geese/](http://www.doc.govt.nz/about-us/our-role/legislation/wildlife-act/change-to-protection-status-of-canada-geese/)

Greater Wellington can only provide limited advice on control methods and are not experts in this type of work. We have developed a webpage to host contractors interested in doing Canada geese control work which is available as a reference point for landowners wanting to control Canadian geese on their own land. [www.gw.govt.nz/pest-and-weed-central/?pwsystem=true&pwd=838&tags=geese&sort=alpha](http://www.gw.govt.nz/pest-and-weed-central/?pwsystem=true&pwd=838&tags=geese&sort=alpha)

If you have any concerns with the decision(s) referred to in this letter, you have the right to request an investigation and review by the Ombudsman under section 27(3) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request will be published shortly on Greater Wellington's website with your personal information removed.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Wayne O'Donnell  
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