

14 March 2023

File Ref: OIAPR-12740230630-754

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Request for information OIA 2023-032

I refer to your request for information dated 15 February 2023, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 15 February 2023. You have requested the following:

“Information of the extra council costs to date, specific to establishing rules for Titahi Bay Beach, throughout your PNRP planning and appeal process to the point of Environment Court Order ENV-2019-WLG-000121, 31 March 2021, followed by corrections to your various Map 35 publications.”

You asked that the costs be itemised as:

1. Legal costs
2. Officer and other costs
3. Total to date”

Greater Wellington’s response follows:

Greater Wellington can confirm the development of the policies and rules relevant to Titahi Bay over the course of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (PNRP) involved one senior planner and one senior technical advisor. These staff members were overseen by two team leaders that also spent time reviewing the work. In addition, the processes involved support from a hearings officer, legal counsel and a planning consultant.

Greater Wellington is unable to provide an itemised break down of all the costs related to the development of rules that pertain to Titahi Bay in the PNRP.

The reason for this is that the PNRP has been treated as a single project within the Greater Wellington business management and accounting software system. An accounting code was

allocated to the pNRP as a whole to track time spent on the project. Time codes were not set up for smaller aspects of the project, such as individual rules or geographic areas such as Titahi Bay.

Similarly, consultant planning and legal counsel contracted to support the process invoiced on a 'project basis', rather than to specific rules or sub-areas within the plan.

We are therefore refusing your request under section 17(g) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 on the basis that the information is not held by Greater Wellington and we have no grounds for believing that the information is held by another local authority or a department or Minister of the Crown or organisation.

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, na



Lian Butcher
Kaiwhakahaere Matua Taiao | General Manager Environment