

1 May 2023

File Ref: 2023-066

██████████
██████████
██████████@stuff.co.nz

Tēnā koe ██████████

Request for information 2023-066

I refer to your request for information dated 30 March 2023 which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 30 March 2023. You have requested the following:

"I would like to see all correspondence received by your council staff and elected members from "sovereign citizens" since January 2020. This is including but not limited to LGOIMAs, emails, letters.

If the above documentation doesn't cover this:

- how many ratepayers have refused to pay rates or abide by other council processes based on sovereign citizen ideals? What action have you taken regarding this?*
- Please include any threats to your staff or elected members from sovereign citizens. How many of these have been referred to police?*

I understand if for privacy reasons names and details are redacted."

Greater Wellington's response follows:

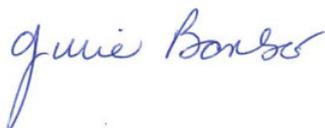
Thank you for your enquiry regarding correspondence we may have received from "sovereign citizen's". We are unaware of any form of correspondence (email, phone, call, social media) having been received in the Contact Centre from individuals who claim that they are not subject to New Zealand laws.

It should be noted that unless they had specifically identified themselves as such and with the absence of phone numbers or email addresses then it is very difficult to trace anything.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie Barber".

Julie Barber

Kaiwhakahaere Matua | Acting General Manager People & Customer