

25 March 2025

File Ref: OIAPR-1274023063-36049

By email: [REDACTED]@taxpayers.org.nz

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

## Request for information 2025-050

I refer to your request for information dated 25 February 2025, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 25 February 2025. You have requested the following:

*“This is a request for official information regarding the costs and processes associated with the construction of two bus shelters at the Paraparaumu bus garage stop.*

1. *A detailed breakdown of the costs associated with the two bus shelters, including:*
  - a. *Total expenditure on materials, construction, and design.*
  - b. *Consultancy and design fees, including the names of any firms or consultants engaged.*
  - c. *Costs associated with the plants on the shelter roofs, including installation and ongoing maintenance.*
2. *Documentation or correspondence outlining the decision-making process for the project, including:*
  - a. *Meeting minutes, memos, or reports discussing the budget and project scope.*
  - b. *Any cost-benefit analyses or evaluations conducted prior to approving the project.*
  - c. *Rationale for the design and selection of the materials and features (e.g., plants on the roof).*
3. *Information about procurement and contracts related to the project, including:*

- a. The procurement process used to select contractors, designers, and consultants.*
  - b. Copies of contracts or agreements with the parties involved.*
  - c. Any declared conflicts of interest or relationships between council staff and contractors or consultants.*
- 4. Any public consultation or community engagement conducted for this project, including:*
  - a. Feedback received from residents or stakeholders.*
  - b. Changes made to the project based on public input.*
- 5. Any assessments or audits regarding the project's costs, including:*
  - a. Investigations or reviews into why the project cost \$2.5 million.*
  - b. Any findings or recommendations for improving cost management in future projects."*

**Greater Wellington's response follows:**

On 28 February 2025 an officer emailed you to confirm that the bus shelters you referred to in your request was the Paraparaumu bus hub Shelters. On 28 February 2025 you confirmed that it was.

**Context:**

The development of the Paraparaumu bus hub was a joint project between Kāpiti Coast District Council (KCDC) and Greater Wellington. The project was initiated by KCDC and New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) as part of the KCDC led State Highway 1 Revocation project. A key objective of this project was the redevelopment of Paraparaumu town centre including the public transport connections between the town centre, the Railway station, and the bus interchange.

- 1. A detailed breakdown of the costs associated with the two bus shelters, including**
  - a. Total expenditure on materials, construction, and design**

The final cost for this project was \$2,189,369.37. Please see the breakdown below:

Project Budget Item	Actual Spend (excluding GST)
Early works and investigations	196,847.20
Shelter and canopy construction (including foundation works)	1,867,218.70
CCTV Infrastructure	39,765.24
Additional KCDC cost share for bus hub civil works	85,538.23

**b. Consultancy and design fees, including the names of any firms or consultants engaged**

Designbrand Limited were contracted for the concept design, manufacture, supply and installation of the two living roof shelters and pedestrian canopy:

- Bus shelter A – total floor area of 54m<sup>2</sup>
- Bus shelter B – total floor area of 69m<sup>2</sup>
- Pedestrian walkway canopy – total floor area of 31m<sup>2</sup>.

The final cost for the shelters was \$1,867,218.70 (excluding GST).

RedWolf was engaged to carry out the CCTV works as part of a larger contract with Greater Wellington to deliver CCTV services across the network.

Dzine Signs are Metlink's signage manufacturer, installation and maintenance supplier across the public transport network and were involved in providing signage for the bus hub. The total cost for signage was \$119,340.91 (excluding GST). This included:

- Construction and installation of four beacon signs
- Construction and installation of a custom cube sign
- Construction and installation of a flat cube sign
- Construction and installation of a subway gantry sign
- Installation of electric signage

**c. Costs associated with the plants on the shelter roofs, including installation and ongoing maintenance**

The overall cost for the installation of both living roofs was \$88,807.50 (GST inclusive), including the plants and the watering system.

The annual cost for maintenance for both living roofs is \$6,900.00 (GST inclusive).

**2. Documentation or correspondence outlining the decision-making process for the project, including:**

**a. Meeting minutes, memos, or reports discussing the budget and project scope**

Please see a copy of the status reports in **Attachment 1**, which track the project budget and scope over the course of the project. Please note, out of scope information has been redacted from this attachment.

**b. Any cost-benefit analysis or evaluations conducted prior to approving the project**

No cost benefit analysis or evaluations were conducted prior to approving the project; therefore we are refusing this part of your request under section 17(g)(i) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) on the grounds that the information requested is not held by the local authority and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that the information is held by another local authority or a department or Minister of the Crown or organisation.

**c. Rationale for the design and selection of the materials and features (e.g., plants on the roof)**

The option of including living roofs on the new bus shelters at the Paraparaumu Transport Hub was proposed by Greater Wellington to KCDC in 2022, as we were working on a similar partnership project with Victoria University of Wellington to design and build a bus shelter with a living roof.

Both parties were enthusiastic about the inclusion of living roofs to the bus shelter designs, particularly as it aligned with KCDC's vision for the civic improvements to the Paraparaumu town centre and Public Transport Hub. These concept designs were therefore supported by KCDC as being an integral part of the overall hub project.

Materials for the shelters were recommended by contractor DesignBrand and approved by Greater Wellington based on longevity and ease of maintenance.

### **3. Information about procurement and contracts related to the project, including**

#### **a. The procurement process used to select contractors, designers, and consultants**

There was no procurement processes required for this project as we utilised existing master agreements with the following suppliers:

- Shelter manufacture, supply and installation – DesignBrand
- CCTV supply – Redwolf
- Signage requirements – Dzine Signs

#### **c. Any declared conflicts of interest or relationships between council staff and contractors or consultants**

There were no declared conflicts of interest or relationships between council staff and contractors or consultants. Therefore, we are refusing this part of your request under section 17(g)(i) of the Act, on the grounds that the information requested is not held by the local authority and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that the information is held by another local authority or a department or Minister of the Crown or organisation.

### **4. Any public consultation or community engagement conducted for this project, including:**

#### **a. Feedback received from residents or stakeholders.**

#### **b. Changes made to the project based on public input.**

As project owners, KCDC were responsible for deciding how their communities were to be involved in the design process, and how any feedback would impact on iterative designs.

Metlink's Community Engagement team was only involved in the promotion of the new infrastructure and the associated bus services timetable changes on the Kāpiti Coast that went 'live' the same day the Hub opened. Please see **Attachment 2** for a copy of the full community engagement plan for the project.

The objectives were to raise awareness of the improvements and to remind the community of the services available to them. There was a focus on sharing information and supporting the elderly and disability cohorts.

Greater Wellington consulted with KCDC who confirmed that they did not consult with the public on the bus shelters, therefore we are refusing your request for feedback received from residents or stakeholders and changes made to the project based on public input under section 17(g)(i) of the Act, on the grounds that the information requested is not held by the local authority and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that the information is held by another local authority or a department or Minister of the Crown or organisation.

**5. Any assessments or audits regarding the project's costs, including:**

- a. Investigations or reviews into why the project cost \$2.5 million.**
- b. Any findings or recommendations for improving cost management in future projects.**

Please see **Attachment 1** for the monthly status reports which tracked cost escalations and progress across this project and **Attachment 3** for the project close report, which includes lessons learned from this process.

**Information to be released**

Regarding your request for copies of contracts or agreements for the parties involved, our decision is to release the contracts and Memorandum of Understanding with KCDC. We intend to provide you with this information by 09 April 2025.

Commercial information in these documents will be redacted under section 7(2)(b)(ii) of the Act on the grounds that the withholding of information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

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 appropriate. 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, appearing to read 'sugar', followed by a small dash.

**Samantha Gain**

Kaiwhakahaere Matua Waka-ā-atea | Group Manager Metlink