

11 July 2025

File Ref: OIAPR-1274023063-39872

By email: [REDACTED]@newsroom.co.nz

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Request for information 2025-189

I refer to your request for information dated 17 June 2025, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 17 June 2025. You have requested the following:

“All resource consent applications made to enable dairy farming – whether that’s converting farmland to dairy, intensifying an existing dairy farm, or expanding a dairy farm’s area. Please provide the application and associated documents, including an AEE. State when the application was lodged, if it was publicly notified (if so, when), and when/if consent was approved. If your council uses another method of approving/monitoring dairy farms, such as effluent discharges, please provide information related to that method. (I’m happy to discuss if this is confusing.) The time period of my request is January 1 to today’s date”

Greater Wellington’s response follows:

On 25 June 2025 the following response was initially provided:

“GWRC has not received any resource consent applications relating to converting farmland to dairy, land use intensification of existing dairy farms, or expanding a dairy farm’s area. We have however received resource consent applications for the discharge of dairy effluent to land – a list of application received since 1 January is attached.

All (except two) applications are from existing dairy farms to continue discharging collected effluent (from the dairy shed platform) to land – they are essentially applying to renew existing consents. In two instances, the applications request changes to existing consents to increase the herd size and likely effluent quantity that is discharged to land.”

You responded on 26 June 2025 with the following:

“I’m not particularly interested in renewals, but is it possible for GWRC to provide the applications for the two seeking an increase”

Attached with this response are the following two applications seeking an increase in herd size:

WAR230133	Te Maire Stream Limited	Application withdrawn
WAR250103	Bushy Park Dairy Limited	Application still being processed

We have withheld some personal identifying information in the attachments under section 7(2)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) in order to protect the privacy of natural persons.

We have considered whether the public interest in the requested information outweighs Greater Wellington’s need to withhold certain aspects of the requested information. As a result, we do not consider that the public interest outweighs Greater Wellington’s reason for withholding parts of the document under the grounds identified above.

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 Act.

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



Lian Butcher
Kaiwhakahaere Matua Rōpū Taiao | Group Manager Environment