

7 August 2023

File Ref: OIAPR-1274023063-3972

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Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

### **Request for information 2023-189**

I refer to your request for information dated 17 July 2023 which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 17 July 2023. You have requested the following:

*‘[REDACTED] copies of all reports and minutes held by your local body relating to any analysis conducted or proposed of the relative benefits and disadvantages, including economic, environmental and social considerations, within the past 10 years, of your local body investment in or development of exotic plantations versus indigenous forests.’*

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

In response to your request, eleven items have been identified and have been included with this response in full. The information includes reports, excel spreadsheets, presentations, and published research papers.

No meeting minutes were identified in preparing this response; therefore, we are refusing this part of your request under section 17(e) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 on the basis that the document alleged to contain the information does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

When refusing a request under section 17(e) of the Act we are required to consider consulting the requester before making our decision. In this instance, we do not believe that consulting you would change the outcome of our decision.

The following information is attached as per your request:

- **Attachment 1:** Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Conservation Planting and Farm Plans: a discussion document, Landcare Research, 2016
- **Attachment 2:** A Forest Framework for the Wellington Region, Groundtruth, 2019
- **Attachment 3:** Recloaking Papatuanuku - Technical Restoration Guide, Groundtruth & PLaCE Consultants, 2020
- **Attachment 4:** Excel spreadsheet showing regional carbon emissions reduction scenarios, 2023
- **Attachment 5:** Presentation to Councillors, carbon emissions projections, 2023
- **Attachment 6:** Excel spreadsheet showing Long Term Plan Prioritisation scoring it amongst other possible climate change actions, 2023

As agreed by phone conversation on 19 July 2023, some additional information has been included from various researchers external to Greater Wellington where the topic has some alignment to your request and Greater Wellington have had some involvement with the research, either through financial or in-kind support. A list of the attachments where this is the case is provided below.

- **Attachment 7:** Transformative silvopastoral systems with kanuka, Thomas H. Mackay-Smith, Lucy Burkitt, Ignacio F. López and Janet Reid, 2021
- **Attachment 8:** Presentation on “The effects of kānuka (*Kunzea* spp.) as a silvopastoral tree on pasture condition and water, sediment and nutrient losses”, Thomas H. Mackay-Smith, 2021
- **Attachment 9:** A Framework for Reviewing Silvopastoralism: A New Zealand Hill Country Case Study, Thomas H. Mackay-Smith, Lucy Burkitt, Ignacio F. López and Janet Reid, 2021
- **Attachment 10:** The impact of a kanuka silvopastoral system on surface runoff and sediment and nutrient losses in New Zealand hill country, Thomas H. Mackay-Smith, Lucy Burkitt, Ignacio F. López and Janet Reid, 2022
- **Attachment 11:** Presentation on Quantifying the effect of trees on landslide erosion at farm scale, Raphael Spiekermann, 2021.

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



Lian Butcher  
Kaiwhakahaere Matua Taiao | Group Manager Environment

PROACTIVE RELEASE