

03 October 2023

File Ref: OIAPR-1274023063-23634

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

### **Request for information 2023-232**

I refer to your request for information dated 5 September 2023, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 5 September 2023. You have requested the following:

*"I am writing to make a request under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.*

*It concerns maintenance of the Porirua Stream. I am aware that the Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) is responsible for clearing debris or blockages in the stream, downstream from the arrestor near Churton Park.*

*Wellington City Council (WCC) is the responsible agency upstream of the arrestor. Unless the blockage relates to Stebbings Dam, which is the responsibility of GWRC.*

*Another exception would be when a blockage impacts a water line, in which case Wellington Water would be involved.*

*I know from talking to councillors and members of the community that this division of responsibility has sometimes been a source of confusion. It has not always been clear, even to council officers, who is responsible for what.*

*In light of this, I wanted to request the following information.*

*The number of incidents relating to debris or blockages in the stream cleared by the GWRC, broken down year-by-year, for each of the past five years.*

*Any email correspondence relating either to blockages or debris in the stream - including correspondence that was forwarded on from a different agency, or needed to be redirected to a different agency - dating back to the beginning of 2021."*

On Thursday 21 September 2023, you agreed to refine your request for information to:

*"correspondence about blockages or debris that include one or multiple other agencies (WCC, PCC, Wellington Water)"*

**Greater Wellington's response follows:**

**Attachment 1** contains the record of blockages and debris cleared from the Porirua Stream per year over the last five years. The dates of proactive inspections have also been included.

We will be providing you with email correspondence about blockages or debris that include one or multiple other agencies. This includes associated emails around work between these organisations relating to stream maintenance.

Some of this email correspondence will be withheld 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, including that of deceased 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 correspondence. As a result, we do not consider that the public interest outweighs Greater Wellington's reason for withholding parts of the document under the ground identified above.

This correspondence is still being collated for release and will be sent to you no later than 10 October 2023.

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