

13 September 2022

File Ref: OIAP-7-25351

By email: [REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Request for information 2022-128

I refer to your request for information dated 16 August, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 16 August. You have requested the following:

“Further to your email last Thursday attaching a copy of the minutes from a meeting in 2004, the Makara Ohariu Community Board seeks the following information which arises from those minutes

1 Was a checklist ever developed, and if so can the Board please have a copy – (4.2 inspections – as per minute)

2 The letter our Chairperson received on the 4 August states that the Greater Wellington Regional Council completed inspections up until 2019. As a matter of record, can we have copies of all inspections for the five years prior to 2019, and the inspections completed in 2019, i.e. 2013-2018

3 Copies of completed checklists were to be supplied to the Community Board within ten working days of their completion. When was the last time a copy was sent to the Community Board and to whom was it sent – (4.2 inspections as per minute).”

Greater Wellington’s response follows:

Attached is a 2004 letter to the Community Board, containing the inspection ‘checklist’ (**Attachment 1**)

The records we have identified are as follows and attached to this letter:

- April 2015 email to Christine Grace recording the outcome of an inspection (**Attachment 2**)
- April 2016 record of inspection as per the 2004 “checklist” (**Attachment 3**)

For inspections in 2013, 2014, and 2017-2022, it is necessary to refuse your request under section 17(e) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) on the ground that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

Before refusing your request under section 17(e) of the Act, we are required to consider consulting you. In this instance, we do not consider that consulting you would change the outcome of our decision.

To clarify, Greater Wellington is responsible for keeping the stream mouth open when the Community Board makes a formal request and certain triggers are met. We are not aware of any formal requests for some years. However, staff have, on average, completed twice yearly stream mouth inspections informally.

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 possible. Our response to your request will be published shortly on Greater Wellington's website with your personal information removed.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Wayne O'Donnell
Kaiwhakahaere Matua Whaitua | General Manager Catchment Management Group

File No: N/01/20/01
11 August 2004

Makara/Ohariu Community Board
c/o Fiona Dunlop
Democratic Services
Wellington City Council
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Wellington

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142 Wakefield Street
Wellington
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Greater Wellington is the promotional
name of the Wellington Regional Council

Dear Community Board Members

Makara Stream Mouth Cutting and Makara and Ohariu Stream inspections

Following the 16 October 2003 meeting of the Makara/Ohariu Community Board, and inspection of the Makara and Ohariu Streams on 8 December 2003, a further meeting was held between representatives of Flood Protection (Steve Murphy and Sharyn Westlake) and the Makara/Ohariu Community Board (Neville Beach and Jack O'Leary) on 19 May 2004. The items discussed in this meeting, and actions taken are summarised in the following sections.

1.1 Gauge Board Placement

The properties that are first inundated by floodwater in a flood event when the Makara Stream mouth is closed have been identified and levels from these houses used to set trigger levels on a gauge board at the stream mouth. The gauge board is colour coded as follows:

Green – no action to be taken

Yellow – monitor water levels and the status of the mouth (i.e. whether closed or open)

Red – if the stream mouth is closed, then the procedure below will be initiated to cut the mouth

The gauge board is scheduled for placement during the week beginning 16 August 2004.

1.2 Mouth Cutting Procedure

On receipt of advice from authorised member(s) of the Makara/Ohariu Community Board that the 'red' alarm level has been reached and that the stream mouth is closed, Greater Wellington will arrange for a Contractor to cut the Makara Stream mouth. Greater Wellington is setting up a 'first call' arrangement with a local Contractor to carry out the mouth cutting at a fixed rate, which should be in place by September 2004.

GW personnel to be contacted to initiate opening the mouth are Jeff Evans Tel: 027 422 2338 or the Duty Flood Manager Tel: 025 490 935.

Note that opening the Makara Stream mouth is permitted activity under the Regional Coastal Plan.

1.3 Inspections

Inspections of the Makara and Ohariu Streams would be carried out prior to winter (April) and after winter (September) by Community Board representative(s) and the Area Engineer Wellington (Jeff Evans) and/or the Operations Support Engineer (Steve Murphy).

The purpose of the inspections will be to identify areas of concern in regard to the main watercourses of the area. The inspections will generally cover the stream reaches from the Makara Hall to the beach, and along the Takarau Gorge to where the stream is away from the road, south of the Ohariu Road/ Takarau Gorge Road junction. A draft checklist to record any concerns arising from the inspection is attached, for your comments and feedback. A plan identifying the areas proposed for the inspection is also attached.

Following the inspection, a copy of the completed checklist would be supplied to the Community Board within 10 working days.

We would like to schedule the first inspection on 21 September 2004. Could you please contact Steve Murphy (Tel: 801 1046 or Email Steve.Murphy@gw.govt.nz) to confirm the suitability of this date and arrangements for the inspection?

1.4 Post Inspection Follow-up

Any matters that are considered the responsibility of GW will be noted on the checklist. The Area Engineer will either action these items directly or forward a copy of the checklist to the responsible Council Department for action.

The Makara/Ohariu Community Board shall be responsible for following up concerns that are the responsibility of any other authority, organisation or individual.

Yours sincerely

Sharyn Westlake
Engineer

Direct dial: 04 801 1043
sharyn.westlake@gw.govt.nz

Makara/Ohariu Streams Inspection

Present:

Date of Inspection:

Area 1: Makara Stream/North Makara Stream from Makara Hall to Makara Beach

(Circle One)

General condition of watercourse Good Works Req'd Major Works Req'd

Issue	Location	Responsibility <i>GWRC/WCC</i> <i>Resident/Other</i>	Completion/Delegation	
			Date	Signed

Area 2: Ohariu Stream along Takarau Gorge Road

(Circle One)

General condition of watercourse Good Works Req'd Major Works Req'd

Issue	Location	Responsibility <i>GWRC/WCC</i> <i>Resident/Other</i>	Completion/Delegation	
			Date	Signed

From: [Jeff Evans](#)
To: gracecp410@gmail.com
Cc: [Jeff Angus](#); [Mike Jensen](#); [Colin Munn](#)
Subject: Makara Stream Mouth
Date: Tuesday, 7 April 2015 12:30:27 pm

Hi Christine,

We inspected the mouth again this morning and can confirm that we will be arranging a cut to alleviate the increased flood levels upstream, due to the current blockage of the mouth, we will monitor the tides and arrange cutting as soon as they are suitable.

Cheers

Jeff Evans | Section Leader, Operations Delivery, Flood Protection
GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL
Te Pane Matua Taiao
Mabey Road, Lower Hutt | PO Box 11646, Manners St, Wellington 6142
T: 04 567 6609 | M: 027 4422 338
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PROACTIVE RELEASE

Makara/Ohariu Streams Inspection

Present: **JEFF EVANS, MIKE JOSEFO** Date of Inspection: **11/04/2016**
CHRISTAOE CIRACE (CHAIR MAKARA COMMUNITY BOARD)

Area 1: Makara Stream/North Makara Stream from Makara Hall to Makara Beach

General condition of watercourse **Good** (Circle One) Works Req'd Major Works Req'd

Issue	Location	Responsibility GWRC/WCC Resident/Other	Completion/Delegation	
			Date	Signed
Makara Stream Mouth	Makara Beach	GWRC	11/4/16	

Area 2: Ohariu Stream along Takarau Gorge Road

General condition of watercourse **Good** (Circle One) Works Req'd Major Works Req'd

Issue	Location	Responsibility GWRC/WCC Resident/Other	Completion/Delegation	
			Date	Signed