

OIR: 2324/709

16 November 2023

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

**Request for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) (the LGOIMA)**

Thank you for your email of **20 October 2023** requesting the following information:

***Question 1: Given the new planning rules what projected population and dwelling numbers for 2028, 2033 and 2053, should underpin planning decisions for Paekākāriki?***

We propose that the population forecast numbers produced by Sense Partners, used by Kapiti Coast District Council, are the most reliable data to inform planning and investment decisions. The methodology used by Sense Partners identifies forecast growth at a district level, and then uses a range of factors, including current District Plan settings to determine where that population growth is forecast to occur across the district. Constraints on the availability of land for residential development and nature of infrastructure available to support intensification have been key factors that have historically shaped the nature and extent of future growth forecast in the Paekākāriki area.

The most recent 2023 Sense Partners forecast was undertaken before the Plan Change 2 Intensification was completed. Future population forecasts will consider the impact of any national and regional changes affecting district growth, alongside the recent intensification changes made to Operative District Plan, and other relevant factors for the area.

The 2023 forecasts for smaller unit areas, including Paekākāriki, is only available for the short (2023 - 2026), medium (2026 - 2033) and long-term (2033 – 2053) periods.

The 2023 population forecasts for Paekākāriki estimate the population will decrease from 1,797 in 2023 to 1,794 by 2026, and then increase to 1,795 by 2033, and 1,891

*Please note that any information provided in response to your request may be published on the Council website, with your personal details removed.*

by 2053 (a net increase of 94 people from 2023 to 2053). An additional 56 dwellings are forecast across this 2023 – 2053 period, with 4 additional dwellings between 2023 to 2026, 12 additional dwellings between 2026 to 2033 and 40 additional dwellings between 2033 to 2053.

***Second, identify the scale of investment likely to be necessary to expand the capacity of three waters infrastructure.***

While you have not requested any information on this matter, you may find the following documents of interest:

- [Three-Waters Assessment \(Aurecon, 2022\)](#) this is the report you have cited in your information request; for completeness, this report was included as Appendix 4 to the "Kapiti Coast Urban Development Intensification Assessment", which was itself Appendix L to the section 32 report for Plan Change 2.
- [Paekākāriki, Peka Peka and Te Horo Wastewater Servicing Assessment \(Aecom, 2022\)](#): this report was included as Appendix Q to the Section 32 report for Plan Change 2.

***Question 2: Water. How does current piped water usage in Paekākāriki compare with the assessed maximum yield of the catchment area and what is the capacity of the current treatment and storage systems?***

The current water usage in Paekākāriki ranges from about 400 – 700 cubic meters per day. The existing Consented Water Take has a Maximum Abstraction of 2,160 m<sup>3</sup>. The Paekākāriki reservoir has storage of 1,120 cubic meters. The treatment plant capacity is limited by the Water Take Consent. Follow the link below for further information:

<https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/our-district/the-kapiti-coast/population-and-demographics/#senseforecasts>

***Question 3: Water. What is the likely cost of increasing the capacity of the current water system to meet the projected growth in population and dwellings?***

The capacity of the water system should be sufficient, although there may be a need to upgrade pipelines to meet fire-flow / pressures dependant on where the developments occur. The requirement of network is not assessed, as it is based on the concept plan for each development.

Therefore, the cost is yet to be worked out as it is subjected to each development being added to the network.

On this basis, I must decline this part of your request as the documents alleged to contain the information requested does not exist, or despite reasonable efforts to locate them, they cannot be found, section 17(e) of the LGOIMA refers.

***Question 4: Water. What is the potential of rooftop water collection and of tapping a wider geographical catchment?***

Currently, all new dwellings must utilise rainwater storage for toilet flushing and outdoor use. Also, depending on the ground conditions, Council may require new dwellings to install rainwater tanks to attenuate (collect the rain surge and release at a rate the stormwater network can tolerate) stormwater. The current requirements are a minimum 10,000 litre tank per dwelling for toilet flushing and outdoor use and if needed, around 5,000 litres to attenuate the stormwater. For more intensive developments with less outdoor area, developers are seeking to reduce the size of the tanks via the consenting process.

***Question 5: Sewage. Do you accept the Aurecon assessment that intensification is likely to require a shift from septic tanks to a reticulated sewerage system?***

Shift is ideal but based on the AECOM assessment, it's not financially feasible for both council and the rate payers. May be feasible if substantially developer funded.

***Question 6: Sewage. If so, what are the likely costs of a localised gravity connection network and of the two main treatment options (a) a new treatment plant and (b) a major pump station and transmission main to a treatment plant elsewhere in the district?***

Previous report (2022) by AECOM suggests the cost could range from \$67M to \$83M, with a range of cost fluctuation at -30% to +40%.

You have the right to request the Ombudsman to review this decision. Complaints can be sent by email to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz), by fax to (04) 471 2254, or by post to The Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Ngā mihi,



**Sean Mallon**

Group Manager Infrastructure Services  
Te Kaihautū Ratonga Pakiaka