

OIR: 2223/509

14 April 2023

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

Thank you for your email of 3 April 2023 requesting the following information, in relation to our previous response to you under OIR ref: 2223-455.

***Response #5 is not correct and Standards do apply.***

***KCDC has allowed a saddled connection to a Culvert that is not only outside their standards but will be found to be dangerous.***

***The SW connection which should be with a manhole (a standard) is to be serviced by accessing 4 metres up the existing culvert. This is dangerous and not acceptable practice. I suggest that you refer this to Work Safe to obtain consent from them as to its suitability.***

***Workers must comply with "working in confined spaces" and the note on the design states "access up the pipeline" ensures workers are put into a dangerous situation.***

***I have had many year's experience with drainage going back to the early 1970's but to ensure I am correct I have discussed this with very experienced drain layers and Sub division Engineers and all agree that my conclusions are correct.***

***The question I want confirmed. "For maintenance purposes KCDC allows Stormwater pipes to be accessed via 4 metres up another pipe line which is not considered a Confined Space".***

***This question may need to be carefully considered and the design reviewed. There are a number of examples of workers dying using similar method of access.***

***My concerns do need to be addressed.***

We note your concerns. Obviously, standards are important and need to be met [unless otherwise approved]. Although there are many reasons why a manhole may have been appropriate at this location, a saddle connection is what was approved. At the time of approval, consideration was given to its future maintenance. It was considered that access, via manhole MH23/02 or the outlet, for jetting the pipe was adequate.

Supporting documentation provided by the developer [or their representatives] does not negate Council's responsibility in terms of health and safety or the restrictions associated with working in confined spaces. We would not consider any sort of manual man entry into the pipeline for maintenance purposes.

Ngā mihi



**Sean Mallon**

Group Manager Infrastructure Services  
Te Kaihautū Ratonga Pakiaka