

OIR: 2526/90

9 September 2025

[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 **26 August 2025** requesting the following information:

Can I ask what is happening at the "pop-up" area on the main road in Waikanae. Originally this space...the old bloom furniture shop was bought for some "strategic use". It was then announced it would be used for "pop-up" shops and was duly flattened, levelled, fenced, tarmac-ed, painted. Initially the shipping containers were to be used for the "shops" and there was also going to be food trucks alongside it. To date, it seems to have had very little use and always appears empty, food trucks also appear to have given up. Is it a conscious decision to stop the food trucks, which arguable were quite well supported. This site alongside the work done to it and the associated costs if containers etc will have seen a considerable outlay in terms of money spent, could I also ask if this expenditure was worth the outlay with rates rising at the rate they are?

In September 2023, Council acquired the property at 56-62 Main Road, Waikanae as a strategic property purchase. At the time of purchase, our assessment identified issues with the building on the site, with safety concerns as a key issue, and it was determined the building should be demolished.

To make the most of the site in the short-term, agreement was reached that the site would be utilised as a 'pop-up' zone that offered additional capacity for business, community groups, and other interested parties for short-term use and events. It was also designed to enable multiple uses of the pop-up concept, and we anticipated that over time it would create some contingency space for emergency management and recovery purposes if needed. We have also recently been in discussion with Te Whatu Ora about their interest in the use of the pop-up set up to enable additional health space for needed service.

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

The Pop-up officially opened on Saturday 29 March 2025 and Table 1 provides a list of tenants that have occupied the site since it opened.

Table 1: list of tenants in three-month period since opening

Business Name	Purpose	Tenancy Term
Kāpiti Collab	Cooperative of local artists and small creative businesses that were collectively occupying a container.	3 months
Caravan Clothing	Retail clothing and accessories looking to test market as part of expansion of their Ōtaki shop.	1 month (2 containers)
Waikanae Flowers	Florist – testing opportunity to establish a florist in Waikanae.	1 month
Shed Project	Selling a variety of products make by the Shed Project to support the delivery of their community activities.	2 months – also part of the Kāpiti Collab)
Jaana & Karen	Retail – testing opportunity for crafts, clothing and homewares.	1 month
Two Worlds Food Ltd	The operation of food trucks.	2.5 months Note this lease was terminated by Council as the tenants were not meeting their contractual requirements.

Whilst good progress in establishment occurred, there have also been some challenges. For example, tenancy management and concerns raised by some of the local building owners about the competition the site posed for their businesses. Council staff have worked through these challenges and addressed issues raised. However, it was decided not to take any further bookings until this had been resolved.

With the recent approval to progress the Te Ara Whetū (Waikanae Library) build, Council have confirmed preference to utilise the pop-up space temporarily for this project and it will serve as the base for the main contractor of the Te Ara Whetū build. This decision has affordability and cost savings front of mind, and I can confirm that this step will support savings for the project (approx. \$70K) which ensures we make the best use of funding for the community.

We will revisit the need and use for the pop-up following the project's completion.

Ngā mihi,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kris Pervan', with a stylized, cursive script.

Kris Pervan

Group Manager Strategy and Growth
Te Kaihautū Rautaki me te Tupu