

7 September 2021

Request for Official Information responded to under the Local Government and Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) – reference: 2122-42

I refer to your information request we received on 16 August 2021 for the following:

I am emailing to express my very serious concern about the proposals in the Three Waters project, whereby all the Kapiti Coast Council water assets are to be confiscated without compensation and placed into an entity that a tribal elite have the ultimate control over and 50% ownership of, whilst the rest of us pay again for what a minority shall decide. Not only is this ridiculous, but will drive a resentment by the majority of the minority and result in a worrying racism in a Country where there is not really any racism in the first place. I am very concerned that this Government Driven policy is offering Council a bribe (as the funding offered has no application or basis) to agree to give up these assets.

This, if it is carried out, is being done on behalf of Ratepayers without Ratepayers it seems having any say in the matter. Its not what we voted any Councillor into Office for, nor was it in any Government Election Portfolio when this Labour Government came to power.

I am further concerned by the Central Government withdrawal of 10% of local road funding in the name of the Transport Agency, for this to fund more cycleways and non-core transport investments by Government. I'm not against this, as the Expressway development shows they are superb, but there just seems to be zero logic in this policy either.

I would like to see some proper consultation AND a public referendum associated with THE Three Waters Project AT LEAST.

The Council's response regarding your request as follows:

The reform of the Three Waters service delivery arrangement has featured on Central Governments (DIA) agenda since the Three Waters review began in 2017. The indications suggest that Government intends to move 3Waters services out of Councils into a water utility in the near future based on the simple principle to build the economy of scale. The Kāpiti Coast District Council, Infrastructure Group is focussing on its business planning to address the implications of 3Waters service delivery reforms. I would also like to mention that following the Government's announcement to inject \$2.5bn to overhaul the water infrastructure, (<https://www.dia.govt.nz/Three-Waters-Reform-Programme>).

The Council officers are working through the details with a view to provide a Council response within the eight weeks response time provided. If you need further information, please visit the DIA website link. [Better water is better for everyone - Three Waters Reform Programme.](#)

It is expected that the Government (DIA) will provide a nationwide consultation to seek community views after the water services Bill is endorsed in the parliament. I understand that there will be a mechanism to ensure a strong community say in how the assets and services will be run and how planning will be managed,

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Thank you for your concerns and comments noted above regarding local road funding.

Yours sincerely



Sean Mallon

Group Manager Infrastructure Services
Te Kaihautū Ratonga Pakiaka