

OIR2223/402

18 November 2022



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

Thank you for your email of 25 October 2022 requesting the following information:

***Regarding the Waikanae Library Community Advisory Group please let me have:***

- 1. copies of the minutes of any meetings held since meeting 2 on 18 July.***
- 2. A copy of the Council and Community Board Briefing referred to in the Actions section of the Meeting 2 minutes.***

***In an earlier request I asked as follows:***

***An undated pamphlet issued by Council on the library redevelopment states that “building on what our community has already told us”...Presumably this was incorporated into a report to Council. Please let me have a copy of that report or any similar document.***

***That request was avoided in your letter of 25 August with the statement that there had been no reports to Council. However the request went further than that with its reference to any similar document. If Council officers undertook a survey the results must have been recorded and/or summarised somehow. How else could the pamphlet be prepared? Please let me have a copy of that report or whatever you wish to call it.***

There have been no further meetings of the community advisory group since July 2022, so we don't have any more minutes to share. On that basis I must decline this part of your request as the documents alleged to contain the information requested do not exist, despite reasonable efforts to locate them, they cannot be found, section 17(e) of the LGOIMA refers.

The data that informed the statement you refer to was gathered both formally and informally. Formal methods include through our consultation on the Long-term plan 2021-42 and via market research. We also carried out an online survey in late 2020 via our 'Have Your Say' online engagement platform (report attached). We received 29 contributions to the ideas board on this platform. Note the online campaign ran at the same time as the LTP consultation and the comments we received from the LTP consultation have been added to the online engagement page. This explains why some comments are duplicated.

As part of the LTP consultation, we developed cards to prompt people to think about what matters to them on a variety of topics. The future Waikanae Library was one of those topics. Here are the comments received from LTP consultation:

**Comment 1:** *the local Waikanae Library is very important for the community. It is a source of information for all, especially those who aren't mobile or can't use technology. The staff are always so friendly and helpful. Plenty of space and a pleasant aspect makes for an enjoyable visit.*

**Comment 2:** *reading material, Books, Books, & other reading material.*

**Comment 3:** *large space; sections of different book genres; variety of different books; genre, novel, picture, age, DVD, newspapers, computers, spaces of comfort and meeting, a place to go to learn, settle down, bond and chill out, a place to hold our art and heritage.*

**Comment 4:** *a place where people can meet up with their friends; keep books in people lifes (stet); not everybody has 'E' books.*

**Comment 5:** *Waikanae needs a much larger library as befits the population and the high % who are members of the library. Public use copiers are essential and also self-issuing machines. An information centre for use by local as well as visitors is also essential. A library should be the hub of the community and the present library situation is disgraceful and totally unacceptable.*

**Comment 6:** *Lots of good books including non-fiction & Te Ao Maori; sitting spaces; quiet; children's spaces; easy access; friendly helpful staff.*

**Comment 7:** *Easy accessibility; adequate floor space; an open and sunny social area; computers 0 bigger screen and in one corner; council member available at desk.*

The research aimed to identify themes and comments from our communities about their priorities for libraries both now and in the future (please refer to the attached documents).

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**

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Te Kaihautū Ratonga Pakiaka