

OIR: 2526/109

16 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 **29 August 2025** requesting the following information:

- 1. Purpose and public benefit. What is public benefit of building a sea wall on the reserve? The only beneficiaries appear to be two private residencies - one with a new exclusive boat ramp and one having their land converted from a de-facto public beach to a raised private platform. What is the purpose of the proposed wall?***

In November 2024 Council was approached by Ecoreef with an opportunity to trial their coastal protection structure at a location along the Kapiti coastline. The trial would enable Ecoreef, the Council and the community to assess the effectiveness of the ecoreef system under conditions which are characteristics of the Kapiti Coast.

The esplanade reserve at Arawa Street was identified as a section of undefended Council owned land which could be suitable for the trial.

The primary purpose of the proposed structure, should it proceed, is to enable a trial of the Ecoreef system under Kapiti Coast conditions and determine its effectiveness. The trial would provide an indication of the suitability of the system as an option for coastal protection in other areas of the district, whether the intention is that they are privately or publicly owned.

A secondary benefit would be provided by protecting the Council current public sewer located behind the proposed Ecoreef.

- 2. Precedent. Why would KCDC undertake to build a brand new seawall just to protect 2-3 private properties? This sets a significant precedent which could have major financial and liability implications in the future. For***

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

KCDC to take on an asset with a perpetual legacy for maintenance seems inappropriate at this time.

A final decision is yet to be made as to whether the Council and Ecoreef will proceed with the trial, and whether in fact it will even take place at this location. We are in the initial stages of understanding the financial and liability implications, including whether any future maintenance responsibilities and requirements would be required of Council, should the trial proceed.

3. Engineering, costs and liability. I understand that this will be built at 'no cost' to council and could be 'removed if unsuccessful'.

Immediate questions around longevity, performance measurement, settlement, failed units, erosion, reinforcement, long term viability need addressing.

Ecoreef have offered to supply and construct the structure at no cost to Council to recognise the benefits to all parties of trialling this system on the Kapiti Coast. Council staff are still obtaining further estimates for the 'secondary' costs associated with backfilling the structure to create a flat, useable area on the reserve land, landward of the proposed structure.

4. Commercially. Awarding contracts outside of due tender process is fraught with probity issues, has a procurement plan been prepared for this work? What alternatives have been considered? To cater for any future removal, what level of bond is the supplier providing to remove the wall if it fails and they are no longer in business?

A final decision has not yet been made on whether Council will proceed with the trial, and no contract is in place with any supplier. The issues raised above are still being considered and worked through prior to a final recommendation being progressed.

5. Environmental. As for the environmental impacts on large scale construction on the reserve and any long term effects on the local environment been considered. Concrete and reinforcement (steel or fibre?) debris from failed walls already litters our coast - what is the long term environmental management and mitigation plan for this proposal.

Should a decision be made to proceed with the trial, a resource consent will need to be obtained. Any application for resource consent would require an assessment of the environmental effects of the activity, including the construction effects and effects on the adjoining neighbours. A consent has not yet been sought, and no long-term environmental management and mitigation plan has been developed at this stage.

You have also asked KCDC and the Raumati Community Board to suspend any further work on this project until after the election and the new Community Board have had the opportunity to review the plan and decided if it should proceed or otherwise.

As discussed above, the project to trial the ecoreef coastal protection structure is still in the initial stages and a final decision has yet to been made on whether the trial shall proceed, at this or any other location.

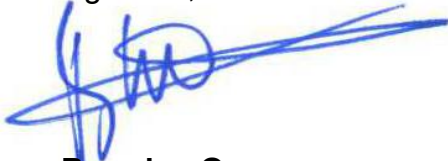
Initial designs have been provided by ecoreef, at no cost to Council, to show how the structure would fit within the Council owned esplanade reserve at Raumati Beach. Ecoreef has extended the offer to supply and construct the structure at no cost to Council. A number of discussions have occurred with the three immediately adjoining neighbours.

Scoping of the resource and building consent requirements has been undertaken, but no consents have been applied for. Further work needs to occur prior to a decision being made to enter into a contract with Ecoreef to supply and construct the structure.

In response to your request that Council suspend any further work on this project.....

This is a free trial offer by Ecoreef. The Community Board have been involved in this process to-date, however due to the upcoming elections and certain protocols around that, all work/communication with the Board has now ceased until after the elections. The final decision on progressing the proposal will be brought back to Council to consider.

Ngā mihi,



Brendan Owens

Group Manager Customer and Community
Kaiwhakahaere Rōpū - Kiritaki me te Hapori

From: [Mailbox - Information Request](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: 2526-109 Response to request under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987
Date: Wednesday, 17 September 2025 4:08:05 pm
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Kia ora [REDACTED]

The recommendation from the Raumati Community Board went to the Council meeting on 26 June 2025.

Here is the link to the minutes and the meeting video on our website:

<https://kapiticoast.resolve.red/web/Player.aspx?id=95&key=-1&mod=-1&mk=-1&nov=0>

Ngā mihi

Mailbox - Information Request
Kapiti Coast District Council
04 296 4700

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 17 September 2025 7:29 am
To: Mailbox - Information Request <informationrequest@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: 2526-109 Response to request under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

Many thanks for the prompt and complete response on this. I would appreciate one final piece of assistance - please can you provide the date of the Council Meeting that the original proposal from the Raumati Board for a sea wall was presented.

Ngā mihi

[REDACTED]

From: Mailbox - Information Request <informationrequest@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, September 16, 2025 5:03:27 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2526-109 Response to request under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Please find attached the response to your request of 29 August 2025.

Ngā mihi

Linda

Mailbox - Information Request

04 296 4700



www.kapiticoast.govt.nz

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