

OIR: 2223/587

10 July 2023

[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 emails of **12 June and 22 June 2023** requesting the following information:

- 1. *Why KCDC failed to deliver (at any time in the last 15 years) on the only action on it for the Peka Peka community in their 2008 Stormwater Strategy, namely, for "Peka Peka Undrained - no stormwater network but requires stormwater management in relation to settled areas"?***
- 2. *Why KCDC (Sean Mallon) has either ignored or outright refused requests by our Kawakahia Community Group (some 80+ flood affected properties) to partner with Council (in accordance with their 2008 Strategy) to:***
  - maintain an overview of receiving water quality and impacts of stormwater on freshwater and coastal systems;***
  - ensure input into analysis of risks and potential programmes;***
  - provide a mechanism for discussion of options and issues;***
  - ensure consideration of values and the wider community and tāngata whenua vision for the future."***

Funding for the delivery of Council activities and projects is set through the Long Term Plan (LTP) and it is this mechanism, and the community consultation that accompanies this document that sets Council priorities and associated funding levels.

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

The stormwater priorities set within the LTP agreed by Council are to focus on existing habitable dwelling flooding within the urban Kapiti catchments. This includes maintenance and operations. This does not currently extend to developing stormwater infrastructure located in the Peka Peka catchment area.

Table 2 of the Stormwater Strategy notes that Council will maintain an urban stormwater network to agreed standards. Those service level standards are set out in the strategy which note that we will ensure that residential habitable buildings are designed to be protected from a 1 in 100 year storm event and non-residential buildings to a 1 in 50 year level.

Council is open to a discussion around a change in levels of service via the 2024 Long Term Plan process, and we can include the issues raised by you in that process with regard to a proposed funding mechanism and investment in extending a revised stormwater strategy and associated actions for Peka Peka.

- 3. *So my question to my elected representatives is, that knowing of the stormwater flooding experienced by the 80+ properties in our community, along Paetawa Road and Rutherford Drive, have any of you advocated with Council (Sean Mallon), or canvassed our Community, about the development (and rating) of appropriate stormwater infrastructure for our Peka Peka Community in the forthcoming LTP?***

In the 2018 and 2021 Long Term Plan Council has identified and agreed 240 stormwater capital works projects in the stormwater rated areas. There are currently no projects listed for the Peka Peka Undrained area. If an increased level of service is agreed by Council as part of the LTP then future project would be added to the existing stormwater capital works program.

- 4. *When the window for submitting a request to the LTP for the development of a Peka Peka stormwater strategy for our Peka Peka community/catchment closes?***

In the first quarter of 2024 KCDC will be starting to engage with the community over the 2024 Long Term Plan. This will be notified in the media and via our social media platforms and on our website.

- 5. *Why has KCDC's GM Operations - with his first-hand and intimate knowledge of the severity and impacts of stormwater flooding to our Peka Peka community for at least the last 18 months (since Feb/March 2022) - why has he failed to initiate and engage in discussions with our flood threatened Peka Peka community around suitable stormwater infrastructure, associated works, and their rating implications?***

The impacts in the Peka Peka area [amongst other parts of the district] were over a period of very high rainfall and groundwater levels combined with blockages in a local watercourse.

During this time, highest annual rainfalls on record were observed at both Waikanae and Te Hapua rain gauges. As a result of the emergency works done to protect critical infrastructure in the area, Council believes that it has addressed the immediate risks to the local community.

Council has also submitted a global maintenance consent to the Regional Council which includes the provision to maintain this watercourse to ensure that we are mitigating these risks long term as best we can within the environmental constraints we are required to work under. Once we obtain this consent, Council will be able to undertake regular operational maintenance of the watercourse which will also assist in reducing flood risk in this area.

Ngā mihi



**Sean Mallon**

Group Manager Infrastructure Services  
Te Kaihautū Ratonga Pakiaka