

30 July 2021

Request for Official Information responded to under the Local Government and Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) – reference: 8563622 (OIR: 2122-011)

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

I am a user of this facility and I have just learnt of its proposed closure. Below I include part of the statement that is on the KCDC website. I have some questions about this proposal.

- 1. In the statement, it vaguely mentions 200 people commenting on the proposal (doesn't tell us what they said). I never ever heard about the proposal. If I had I would certainly have opposed it. When and how did this submission activity occur?***

The proposed closure was part of the draft Long-Term Plan 2021-41 (LTP) and as such the proposal was included in the LTP consultation document "Securing our Future". The proposed closure was captured in a 'change to levels of service' question, as closure impacts the level of service provided in Waikanae with regard to recycling drop off options.

Consultation documents are published under the heading 'have your say' on the Council website [Closed for feedback - Kāpiti Coast District Council \(kapiticoast.govt.nz\)](https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz). Consultation for the LTP was also widely published in the various local newspapers and on social media for several weeks during the consultation period which closed on 10 May 2021.

- 2. The statement says that the spend could be better used in providing other services, facilities and projects in the district.***

Please refer to the reply below under your question 3. Funding the large cost increase was not considered the most efficient use of rate payers money which has resulted in this money flowing back into the operational budgets that provide services and projects that are included in the delivery of the LTP work programme.

- 3. I am advised that the 'spend' amount is about \$123,000. In the big picture, I don't consider that a large amount of money. And how long has this facility been operating? Why is the operating cost suddenly a problem?***

The site was initially set up when the Waikanae landfill closed in the early 2000's - from 2008 onwards when kerbside recycling started, the recycling drop off was made available.

The cost to transport the recycling from Waikanae to the consolidation facility in Otaihanga increased by \$46,000 per year during the 2018 and 2019 years.

This was the result of lease to operate arrangement changes at the Ōtaki Transfer Station site which limited the options for economic transportation of recyclables.

In the scheme of the overall budgets managed by Council, this may not be a large budget, but that does not mean that efficient spending of rate payers' money should not be considered.

Given the steep increase in transport cost and the fact that the majority of Waikanae residents pay for and use kerbside recycling it was felt that there was no longer enough justification from an efficient expenditure perspective to continue this higher level of service for Waikanae.

4. *Where is the list of services etc that this money will go to?*

Please refer to our response in questions 2 and 3.

Yours sincerely



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Te Kaihautū Ratonga Pakiaka