

OIR: 2526/139

13 October 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 **28 September 2025** requesting the following information:

- 1. Why is there not an employed person to action all the work Future Landscapes Ltd is doing, action repairs/upgrades to be performed by appropriate staff or contractor, if necessary, check they have been completed as required.***

Council has a Parks and Outdoor Recreation Team responsible for assessing the condition of the districts' recreation assets on an ongoing basis and ensuring they remain fit for purpose and are safe. These ongoing condition assessments (made by qualified staff) help prioritise operational work, including identifying any routine and urgent maintenance and repairs that may be required.

Future Landscapes Ltd was engaged to provide an independent assessment, as is required every few years, to validate the overall condition and safety of recreation assets (and remaining usable life) to inform the capital asset renewals program.

The renewals program is funded through the Long-Term Plan (LTP) and although the LTP specifies which assets are being renewed in each financial year, the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Team will use an independent provider such as Future Landscapes Ltd for condition assessments to reevaluate the order of delivery based on necessity i.e. playground in worst condition and nearest end of life gets renewed first. Some assets simply age better than others based on many factors, and these don't always align with the original LTP forecasts.

The Parks and Active Recreation Team action required repairs that are identified during this assessment process, while simultaneously reviewing the reprioritised renewals and replacement to be approved in the Capital Works Program. Procurement of goods and services to deliver any of this work follows Council's

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

Procurement Policy, and the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Team maintains oversight of the project(s) from engagement through to completion and close-out.

The repairs themselves are carried out either by Council operations staff or by Contractors.

**2. *What do the current staff do in this department? Do they have the skills necessary for the works needing to be performed in this department?***

The Parks, Open Spaces and Environment Team maintains oversight of, and gives effect to, the District's Open Spaces Strategy. This Strategy identifies nine different categories of Open Space including sports fields, playgrounds, ecological and recreation corridors, reserves and cemeteries. There are highly qualified staff in place who hold the necessary skills and attributes to ensure quality levels of service are delivered across all Open Space categories.

**3. *I find the current 'have your say' on Parks and Reserves request from KCDC is pathetic as nothing will get done as asked due to the fixed thinking of staff and 'specialists' they engage. Why do residents need to pull up the KCDC for stupid actions when they were not necessary from the beginning?***

There are many factors that that need to be considered as part of any design process. There are often diverse community 'ideas' on what needs to be delivered. Staff and design consultants are well placed and very capable in pulling together common feedback themes and incorporating them into a final design that delivers according to legislative obligations, budget, purpose and ensure strategic alignment while taking in to account all community feedback submitted. Additional factors like the ongoing maintenance requirements also need to be considered in final designs.

In your request you have also referred to the Kaitawa Reserve Annual Inspection Report and ask:

***Has it ever been done before?***

Condition assessments of all Council play equipment are carried out by an external level 3 qualified assessor of play equipment who carries out inspections every three years.

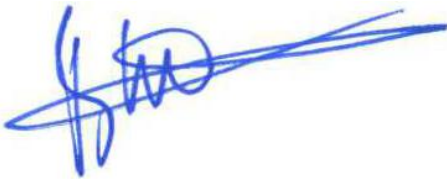
In any given year, all playgrounds will also be visited by staff who are qualified playground safety inspectors. These visits allow for routine observations to be made which may also pick up on defects. These observations will inform reactive repairs and maintenance required as part of councils' 'Business as Usual' services.

Finally, you go on to state that you:

***Look forward to a meeting at the park so residents can discuss constructively with KCDC what the park is needing. Ensure you ask the Facebook managers of our Kaitawa Community Group to place notices on this of meeting times. Ensure there is a week time one and a Saturday meeting so the residents who work Monday-Friday have a time to express their voices.***

All community engagements are carefully planned to ensure fit-for-purpose community input is obtained as required. The size, scale and duration of any consultation may be defined by legislation and/or is proportional with the purpose of the need to engage in the first place. In terms of meeting the residents at the park, there will be a Saturday opportunity advertised. Once the date is set, we will confirm through the normal channels along with a sign at the park. This will happen alongside direct engagement currently underway through Paraparaumu school so that the children can have an input in to the outcome too.

Ngā mihi,



**Brendan Owens**

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