

OIR: 2223/514

1 May 2023

[REDACTED]

Kia ora [REDACTED],

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

Thank you for your email of 31 March 2023 requesting the following information:

My name is [REDACTED], and I am [REDACTED] researching plural policing in New Zealand. Plural policing is a term that entails a view of policing that involves many actors, beyond the police.

The questions are the following:

1. What security-related services do you provide?

The Kāpiti Coast District Council (Council) is committed to the safety and wellbeing of our staff and community. While there is a crossover between security and safety, the Council's activities are typically focused on ensuring the physical and mental safety of our staff, including cyber security.

Where required, we work closely with NZ Police (Police) and other agencies, with a view to community wellbeing as described in the Local Government Act 2002.

Our approach to security is multi-layered, with our preference to reduce security risk through smart design and well-trained staff making good decisions conscious of security and safety.

Beyond that, from time to time the Council will engage security guards from a private provider. The security services contracted to Council are typically around ensuring the physical, mental and cyber wellbeing of Council staff and assets (security is not limited to physical aspects of communities).

We are currently reviewing our approach to security and safety, including the provision of services to the wider community in light of a change to the risk profile occurring over the past few years.

Cyber security is delivered through a combination of internal and contracted service provisions.

2. When did you first start providing security-related services?

Council has embraced the principles of CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) for several decades and has used security guards off and on for a similar time period. Council does not directly provide security-related services, usually this is procured through an external service provider.

3. How do you provide these services today?

Council does not directly provide physical security-related services. From time to time if physical security is required this is procured through a private provider.

4. Though council employees, such as Guardians? If so, how many?

No.

5. Through subcontracted private security companies? If so, how many?

In the last year we have used two different agencies off and on.

6. Through CCTV cameras? If so, how many?

Council has a CCTV network consisting of 145 cameras focussing on the protection of council-owned property and the health and safety of council staff. Police have remote access to 39 of those cameras where they cover areas like staff carparks or entrances to council buildings. Council does not currently provide general CCTV coverage of community areas.

7. Other? If so, what exactly and how many?

In 2017 a new approach was established for how Council invested in services that contribute to social outcomes in the community, including the development of a new funding model and the development of a programme of work focused on social outcomes for the community. This included our Social Investment approach where priorities for the funding, for not-for-profit organisations were determined by the community, and one of these priorities is community safety.

Through our current Social Investment funding a total of \$157,600 has been allocated to Greater Wellington Neighbourhood Support (GWNS) over three years to re-establish their presence within the district. A further \$25,000 was granted to GWNS in 2022 for community safety projects.

8. How do you liaise with the police?

There are a number of aspects to our liaison with Police. When there is an event or ongoing issue relevant to both agencies, Council will work in partnership with Police to try to resolve the matter. We hold relationship-based meetings at a senior level to discuss any issues or concerns, and we work in partnership with Police to report on the suitability of applicants applying for alcohol related licences. Furthermore, when developing local bylaws and plans that relate to people safety like a Speed Management Plan, Council consult with Police.

In the past the Council had a Memorandum of Understanding with the Police. This has now lapsed, but we have an ongoing relationship with them and will look to see if there is value in reinstating this in the near future.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mike Mendonça', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mike Mendonça

Acting Group Manager Place & Space
Te Kaihautū Takiwā me te Wāhi