

OIR: 2223/344

26 August 2022

[REDACTED]

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

Thank you for your email of 18 August 2022 requesting the following information:

***The optimum location for a new library in Waikanae – taking into account flow through to the Marae, parking and optimisation of foot traffic for retailers in the area.***

***The chosen site at that time did all of these things. My questions of you now are:***

- ***Why was the original decision ‘reworked’?***

There has not been a previous decision regarding the optimum location for a new Library and Service Centre. There had been some work completed to look at preferred locations and the advisory group at the time did agree on a preferred location. However, this was never a formal decision made by Council.

It is important that we investigate the best possible options for the location of the new Waikanae Library and Service Centre to meet the needs of our growing community and contribute to revitalising the town centre. All previous work has been considered as part of the process.

- ***What was the membership of the group who revisited the original decision?***

As mentioned above, there was no decision made previously. We are currently working with consultants Boffa Miskell to review the Waikanae Town Centre Framework Plan and consider the optimum site for the Library and Service Centre. We are also working with representatives of Te Ātiawa as our iwi partners.

- ***What is the perceived advantage of the site now being proposed?***

There is currently no proposed site for the new library and service centre as we are still working through the options.

- ***Where would the replacement ‘temporary library’ be sited during what will not be a rapid new build?***

As we don't yet have a proposed location for the new library and service centre, we have not considered options for a replacement temporary library. Council has just purchased the building housing our interim (pop-up) library. This means we can consider this site – along with other options – for the long-term location and the interim library can remain where it is for now.

Ngā mihi



**Janice McDougall**

Group Manager People and Partnerships  
Te Kaihautū, ngā Rangapū, Tāngata hoki