

OIR: 2324/720

28 November 2023

[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 on **31 October 2023** requesting the following information:

- 1. Firstly, could you please forward to me the portion of the CAP Chair's contract with the KCDC which sets out his terms of reference.***

We are not able to provide a portion of the CAP Chair's contract which sets out his terms of reference. The "terms of reference" for the CAP Chair are set out in the [Terms of Reference for the Takutai Kāpiti Coastal Advisory Panel](#) (see in particular paragraph 24).

On that basis, I must decline this part of your request as the documents alleged to contain the information requested does not exist, or despite reasonable efforts to locate them, they cannot be found, section 17(e) of the LGOIMA refers.

- 2. Secondly, I would like the minutes please for the meeting you held with Mr Bolger, in which you reminded him of his need to remain neutral when interacting with the residents of Kapiti.***

Minutes were not taken from the meeting you refer to.

On that basis I must decline this part of your request as the documents alleged to contain the information requested does not exist, or despite reasonable efforts to locate them, they cannot be found, section 17(e) of the LGOIMA refers.

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

3. And lastly, I am requesting a copy of Mayor Janet's written response to the Chairman of the Raumati Community Board, Bede Laracy, relating to his complaint made on 31st July.

Please find a copy of Mayor Janet's response to the Raumati Community Board Chair's complaint attached to this response.

Please note, the personal details of other parties has been withheld from this information. The decision to withhold this information is made under section 7(2)(a) of the Act which allows for Council to withhold information in order to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.

In Council's view the reasons for withholding these details are not outweighed by public interest considerations in section 7(1) favouring their release.

You have the right to request the Ombudsman to review this decision. Complaints can be sent by email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz, by fax to (04) 471 2254, or by post to The Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Ngā mihi,



Kris Pervan

Group Manager Strategy and Growth
Te Kaihautū Rautaki me te Tupu

From: [Mayor Janet Holborow](#)
To: [Community Board Member Bede Laracy](#)
Subject: Fwd: Takutai Kapiti in Raumatī
Date: Tuesday, 15 August 2023 2:17:40 pm
Attachments: [Letter of response - Coastal Advisory Panel \(CAP\).pdf](#)

Hi Bede

Further to your correspondence today, please find attached once more the response to your complaint about Jim Bolger.

Nāku iti nei, nā
Janet

Janet Holborow
Mayor

Kāpiti Coast District Council

Tel [04 296 4757](tel:042964757)

Mobile [027 296 1628](tel:0272961628)

-

www.kapiticoast.govt.nz

From: Amanda Yannetta <Amanda.Yannetta@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 2:04:19 PM
To: Mayor Janet Holborow <Janet.Holborow@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Darren Edwards <Darren.Edwards@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Cc: Julie Judge <Julie.Judge@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: Takutai Kapiti in Raumatī

Kia ora Janet

Following and attached is what was sent to Bede.

Thanks
Amanda

Amanda Yannetta
Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive
Te Kaiāwhina ki te Tumuaki

Kāpiti Coast District Council

Tel 04 296 4665

Mobile [REDACTED]

www.kapiticoast.govt.nz

From: Amanda Yannetta

Sent: Monday, August 14, 2023 10:47 AM

To: Community Board Member Bede Laracy <Bede.Laracy@kapiticoast.govt.nz>

Cc: Councillor Sophie Handford <Sophie.Handford@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Community Board Member Jonny Best <Jonny.Best@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Community Board Member Tarn Sheerin <Tarn.Sheerin@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Community Board Member Tim Sutton <Tim.Sutton@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Kris Pervan <Kris.Pervan@kapiticoast.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: Takutai Kapiti in Raumati

Mōrena Bede

You will have seen the email response I have just sent [REDACTED]

I just wanted to also provide the attached to your email below so all copied in have the same messaging.

Darren and the Mayor have prepared the attached in response to emails received about the CAP workshop.

Ngā mihi

Amanda

Amanda Yannetta

Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive
Te Kaiāwhina ki te Tumuaki

Kāpiti Coast District Council

Tel 04 296 4665

Mobile [REDACTED]

www.kapiticoast.govt.nz

From: Community Board Member Bede Laracy <Bede.Laracy@kapiticoast.govt.nz>

Sent: Thursday, August 3, 2023 1:29 PM

To: Kris Pervan <Kris.Pervan@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Mayor Janet Holborow <Janet.Holborow@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Darren Edwards <Darren.Edwards@kapiticoast.govt.nz>

Cc: Councillor Sophie Handford <Sophie.Handford@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Community Board Member Jonny Best <Jonny.Best@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Community Board Member Tarn Sheerin <Tarn.Sheerin@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Community Board Member Tim Sutton <Tim.Sutton@kapiticoast.govt.nz>

Subject: Re: Takutai Kapiti in Raumati

Thanks Kris

Look forward to developments.

Regards,

Bede

Bede Laracy
Chair - Raumati Community Board
0274473779

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From: Kris Pervan <Kris.Pervan@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, August 3, 2023 12:43:52 PM
To: Community Board Member Bede Laracy <Bede.Laracy@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Mayor Janet Holborow <Janet.Holborow@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Darren Edwards <Darren.Edwards@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Cc: Councillor Sophie Handford <Sophie.Handford@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Community Board Member Jonny Best <Jonny.Best@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Community Board Member Tarn Sheerin <Tarn.Sheerin@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Community Board Member Tim Sutton <Tim.Sutton@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Takutai Kapiti in Raumati

Thanks Bede for raising the points below. Given yours and others (Johnny etc) feedback, we are working through options for how we can ensure positive and engaging CAP workshops; and that the CAP Panel are best supported to do so.

Nga mihi, Kris

Kris Pervan
Group Manager Strategy & Growth
Te Kaihautū Rautaki me te Tupu

Kāpiti Coast District Council
Tel 04 296 4896
Mobile 027 555 5896

www.kapiticoast.govt.nz

From: Community Board Member Bede Laracy <Bede.Laracy@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2023 5:02 PM
To: Mayor Janet Holborow <Janet.Holborow@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Darren Edwards <Darren.Edwards@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Kris Pervan <Kris.Pervan@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Cc: Councillor Sophie Handford <Sophie.Handford@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Community Board Member Jonny Best <Jonny.Best@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Community Board Member Tarn Sheerin <Tarn.Sheerin@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Community Board Member Tim Sutton <Tim.Sutton@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Community Board Member Bede Laracy <Bede.Laracy@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: Takutai Kapiti in Raumati

Hi Janet, Darren, and Kris,

By now you will no doubt have been briefed on the Takutai Kapiti meeting in Raumati on Saturday.

We had around 200 people attend, and a good robust dialogue throughout.

Staff did a great job of assisting with the facilitation of the meeting and as a Board we were happy with the way things went.

However, I wish to raise a complaint regarding the conduct of the Chair, Sir Jim Bolger.

We view this matter as serious and we wish to see an outcome or resolution to our complaint.

The purpose of this meeting was for the Panel to listen, not to inform, and people were encouraged to share their views.

It's fair to say that we have a range of views on issues within the Raumati community, and there is no shortage of people willing to share those views.

The meeting on Saturday was no exception, and we heard very strong views including anti-climate change views, a total distrust of the Takutai process, and a call for the removal of the Chair.

These views are well outside the current orthodox.

Nevertheless, they are people's genuinely held views, and they have a right to hold them and a right to express them.

And it was entirely within the scope of the process for people to voice even their most extreme views at Saturday's meeting.

However, Jim Bolger clearly did not take the same view.

A speaker shared a view that suggested managed retreat was the default for the process.

Mr Bolger took the microphone to try and assure people that was not the case.

A number of us agree that his approach did more harm than good as it changed the tone of the meeting.

[REDACTED]

Mr Bolger started to move toward the speaker, and people became very concerned.

As I was standing close by I approached Mr Bolger, put my hand out, and asked him not to approach the speaker.

I then backed away and the speaker [REDACTED] addressed his conduct.

Mr Bolger then moved to the side of the table, and he had interactions with others who were seated.

One of them then called me over and asked that I stop him from standing over participants.

By that time Mr Bolger had moved away.

My concerns about Mr Bolger's conduct are shared by the Raumati Community Board members, as well as others I have spoken to since the meeting.

Where people have been invited into a process and asked to provide their views, the job of the panel is to listen to them.

Moving in on a person speaking an unfavourable view was a direct act of intimidation, and it was intended to ensure that the views were not aired.

We do not accept that such an action was justifiable.

We view the action as bullying, we do not condone the action at any level, and we wish to raise a formal complaint on that basis.

Going forward we have concerns about Mr Bolger's involvement in this process.

We understand that he is a man with vast experience in politics and he would generally have much to offer.

However, his experience works against him in this situation as someone with his experience should know better.

The fact that he chose to act as he did suggests that either he is so used to bullying people that he has normalised it, or he has reached the point whereby he can no longer uphold the standard of conduct that should reasonably be expected of a man of his stature and experience.

Either way, it is hard to have confidence that our people will be safe in any future process where he is present.

Speaking on my own conduct, having seen a video recording of the meeting, I am disappointed in my own response as it was not sufficiently firm given the situation.

We would like a clear response to this complaint.

We understand there is already a move from some sectors to remove Mr Bolger.

We have no part in that, and we raise this complaint purely on its own merits.

If we are to support the Takutai Kapiti process as a Board, we need to have trust and confidence in the safety of the people we were elected to represent.

We therefore leave it to KCDC and Takutai Kapiti to assure us that we can do so.

Regards,
Bede

Bede Laracy
Chair - Raumati Community Board
0274473779

The material in this email is confidential to the individual or entity named above, and may be protected by legal privilege. If you are not the intended recipient please do not copy, use or disclose any information included in this communication without Kāpiti Coast District Council's prior permission.

Thank you for raising your concern in relation to the recent Coastal Advisory Panel (CAP) workshop held at the Raumati Bowling Club. We have taken your concerns very seriously and carefully considered our actions in response.

The Coastal Advisory Panel (CAP) was established in November 2021. The make-up and role of the panel was co-designed by Council and a working group of iwi partners, stakeholders and GWRC staff. Seven members of the panel were appointed through a recruitment agency to form a representative group, with another six representatives to be appointed by iwi.

The purpose of the Takutai Kāpiti Coastal Advisory Panel (CAP) is to develop the Strategy for KCDC consideration. The CAP is the formal mechanisms through which wider community input and indigenous knowledge are used to develop a set of recommendations for coastal hazards adaptation for council's consideration.

Whilst these discussions can be extremely challenging with varying views and opinions it's important that we maintain a high level of respect allowing for open and honest debate.

We have met with the Chair and reminded him of the need to remain neutral. We have also made changes to the format and running of future workshops to enhance constructive dialogue and the well-being of attendees, panel members and staff. As a result of our discussions and the changes we've made, I'm confident that future meetings can be held constructively and positively. We will continue to monitor and assess the situation, and make changes as required.

Thank you again for raising your concerns. We need to know when problems arise, so your information is valuable to us as we navigate this process.

Yours sincerely,



Janet Holborow
MAYOR, KĀPITI COAST DISTRICT



Darren Edwards
CHIEF EXECUTIVE, KĀPITI COAST DISTRICT