

OIR: 2526/316

5 March 2026

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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 **1 March 2026** regarding the storm damage to trees at the Waimeha Domain and the plans for replacement planting. You have requested the following information:

- 1. An assessment of the number and species of trees lost or requiring removal as a result of the storm, and a realistic appraisal of the remaining life expectancy of the surviving macrocarpa.***

The total number of trees that were lost/consequently removed, as a result of the storm event of 16 February 2026 in Waimeha Domain was 9 Macrocarpa trees. An appraisal of the remaining macrocarpa trees life expectancy range on average between 15-40 years (Safe useful life expectancy).

- 2. Council's plans for replacement planting, including whether native species are being considered as the primary replacement, and the expected timeframe for new planting to be carried out.***

We hope to replace the trees that have been removed with suitable native trees in future planting seasons (typically April/September), however this is dependent on available budget and resources.

- 3. Whether Council intends to develop a longer-term planting plan for the Domain that addresses the eventual replacement of all the remaining macrocarpa with more suitable and resilient native species.***

Yes, the long-term plan will be to replace the Macrocarpa trees as required with suitable native tree species. This will be done in stages as the trees condition require their removal and replacement.

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

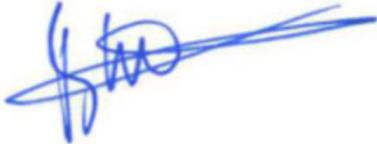
4. How the replanting programme will ensure continued shade and shelter for the children's playground and the dining benches during the transition period.

The staged approach to removal and replacement will allow for some larger trees to remain in place, providing shade while newly planted trees establish. If the shading is not sufficient other options such as shade sail installations may be explored.

5. Whether there are opportunities for community involvement in the replanting programme.

It is likely that replacement trees to be planted will be large grade specimen trees which will require specialist contractors and machinery. As such there will be little opportunity for community involvement in replanting.

Ngā mihi,



Brendan Owens

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