

Monday 22 April 2024

OIA IRO-645

Chris McCashin

fyi-request-26073-a916e520@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Chris,

Official information request regarding cost of leaks in Wellington (our ref: OIA IRO-645).

I refer to your official information request dated 12 March 2024 to Wellington City Council (the Council) for the following information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act). The Council transferred your request in full under [Section 12](#) of the Act to Wellington Water on 19 March 2024.

- *It was recently reported that the cost of leaks in Wellington has increased from \$1,500 to \$4,932 per leak since 2021.*
- *Are you able to provide a selection of invoices for the cost of these leaks and for them to include what the costs relate to. Ultimately I want invoices that outline the itemized costs to repair these leaks and compare these against an itemized invoice from 2021.*
- *Where have these costs increases come from? By way of an example relating to a couple of leaks I have been past that Wellington Water have been working on are as follows.*
- *100 metres of cones from the point of the leak down three different streets (suburban quiet street), 9 workers on site - 2 were working, six were standing around watching and one was sitting, temporary traffic lights and a traffic management vehicle. There was another example whereby there was a traffic management crew on a job in a dead end street?!*
- *Ultimately how much of the costs are the own doing of Wellington City Council - Living wage, over regulation for traffic management, cone hireage etc etc etc*
- *I am assuming Wellington City Council are asking these questions? Alternatively the overburden of compliance you put on these people have enabled them to game the system with nine workers on site?*
- *So please provide an itemized cost for these leaks across the city.*

The Act requires that we advise you of our decision on your request no later than 20 working days after the day we received your request. Unfortunately, it will not be possible to meet that time limit and we are therefore writing to notify you of an extension of the time to make our decision to **20 May 2024**. If a response is ready before this date, we will provide it to you.

This extension – which is being made in accordance with [Section 14\(1\)\(b\)](#) of the Act – is necessary because consultations required to decide on your request are such that a proper response cannot reasonably be made within the original time limit. I am still working with our subject experts to determine information in scope and therefore, make a decision on your request.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact the Business Services team by email to official.information@wellingtonwater.co.nz

Nāku noa, nā,



Liam Davies
Governance Coordinator
Business Services

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www.wellingtonwater.co.nz

Our water, our future.

Wellington Water is owned by the Hutt, Porirua, Upper Hutt and Wellington City Councils, South Wairarapa District Council and Greater Wellington Regional Council. We manage their drinking water, wastewater and stormwater services.