

## By email

23 August 2013

E/01/05/02

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Dear Mr Bodnar

### Request for information 2013/093

I refer to your request for information dated 26 July 2013, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) on 26 July 2013. You have requested the following information:

*“What investigation has been done into the safety of the Kaiwharawhara station overbridge?”*

*What actions are required to rehabilitate the overbridge?*

*Is rehabilitation expected to be undertaken? If so, when?*

*What measures have been taken to transfer affected rail passengers to alternate services?”*

Each of your requests is answered as follows:

#### ***What investigation has been done into the safety of the Kaiwharawhara station overbridge?***

An initial assessment of the station on 13 June 2013 revealed a significant amount of visual corrosion on the overbridge. As a result, the station was closed immediately due to safety concerns. Engineers have since carried out a thorough investigation of the overbridge, indicating a need for rehabilitation before it can be used by passengers again.

#### ***What actions are required to rehabilitate the overbridge?***

A full report on the future of the overbridge (attached) has now been completed. Please note, some information pertaining to costs has been withheld from the report under section 7(2)(i) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) in order to enable GWRC to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial negotiations. We have considered whether the public interest in the requested information outweighs GWRC’s need to withhold certain aspects

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of the requested documents. As a result, we do not consider that the public interest outweighs GWRC's reason for withholding parts of the documents under the grounds identified above.

***Is rehabilitation expected to be undertaken? If so, when?***

Council has yet to consider a report and make the necessary decisions in relation to the Kaiwharawhara station overbridge. A report on this matter will likely be considered by the Council following the October 2013 elections. A timeline on rehabilitation will not be available until after a decision has been made.

***What measures have been taken to transfer affected rail passengers to alternate services?***

No special arrangements have been made to transfer passengers to alternate transport options following the closure of Kaiwharawhara station. However, Kaiwharawhara is well served by a number of frequent Metlink bus routes, including the 43, 44, 45, 46, 52, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 83, and 211. Southbound rail passengers from the Hutt Valley can transfer at Petone station for the 83 route.

If you have any concerns with the decision(s) referred to in this letter, you have the right to request an investigation and review by the Ombudsman under section 27(3) of the Act.

Yours sincerely



**Leigh-Anne Buxton**  
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