

23 November 2020

Richard Murcott

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Kia Ora Mr Murcott

Spatial Plan Costs Analysis

Thank you for your request made under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act), received on 8 October 2020. You have requested the following information:

- An analysis that compares how the holistic approach (strategy of encouraging densification in areas with sufficient infrastructure to accommodate growth at a relatively low cost to Council) matches what is proposed under the draft spatial plan growth areas.

Wellington City Council (the Council) has **refused** your request under section 17(f) as the information does not exist. The council has not done and has not planned to do any analysis comparing the different proposals. While the Council does not have an analysis, we can provide you with some high-level comments.

The spatial plan provides a platform for the Council to invest in infrastructure needed to accommodate the level of growth forecast over the next 30 years. Population growth cannot be serviced by existing three waters infrastructure in particular.

The growth approach is focussed in and around suburban centres with amenities most capable of supporting growth. This was the growth approach most supported by the community when the Council engaged with the community in 2019. See below:

- https://planningforgrowth.wellington.govt.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0026/13598/Assesment-and-Evaluation-of-Wellingtons-Outer-Suburbs-Report-Introduction.pdf
- <https://planningforgrowth.wellington.govt.nz/your-views/consultations-and-engagements/growth-scenarios>

Other drivers of the growth approach include:

- The densification directions of the recently released [National Policy Statement on Urban development 2020](#)
- The councils' commitment in the [Te Atakura Strategy](#) for Wellington to be carbon neutral by 2050.
- Population growth in the order of 50K-80K people over the next 30 years.

We have a high level three waters analysis for the spatial plan undertaken by Wellington Water Limited. More detailed analysis of costs will follow the final spatial plan when the growth pattern and population distributions are confirmed.

- https://planningforgrowth.wellington.govt.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0014/13505/Addendum-Report_WCC-Spatial-Plan-Outer-Suburbs-March20-Final.pdf
- https://planningforgrowth.wellington.govt.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0016/13516/WCC-Spatial-Planning-Three-Waters-Project-Final-29-10-2019.pdf

Many types of infrastructure (eg Water, Sewerage, fibre, transport, energy) may need upgrading to provide the necessary capacity to serve the projected growth and council is only responsible for some forms. We are working with other providers of infrastructure such as the Ministry of Education, New Zealand Transport Agency, Kainga Ora and Wellington Electricity on the current and future capacity of their forms of infrastructure and how they can respond to the proposals in the spatial plan.

Right of review

If you are not satisfied with the Council's response, you may request the Office of the Ombudsman to investigate the Council's decision. Further information is available on the Ombudsman website, www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Thank you again for your request.

Kind regards



Asha Harry
Assurance Advisor