



11 November 2021

David Dhaya  
Via email: [fyi-request-17291-af8368cc@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-17291-af8368cc@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear David

**Official information request related to Council not installing a post to ensure safe driveway access**

I refer to your official information request dated 21 October 2021.

The information you have requested is enclosed. The questions you specified have been included as numbered headings in bold below, with our response following each heading.

**1. Does the council believe the solution is to allow drivers cutting the corners or to stop it?**

Porirua City Council (PCC) does not support poor/inconsiderate driving (i.e. not in accordance with the Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004).

**2. Does the council still believe that the fence should allow for drivers to continue cutting the corner?**

The suggestion to change the angle of the fence was offered to protect the fence from further damage. Any possible change to the fence would have to be made by Kainga Ora (as the property owner).

**3. And if so, how would it force them to do so slowly?**

Inconsiderate/poor driving is an individual's choice.

**4. How does catering for corner cutting prevent drivers cutting the corner?**

PCC has not catered for corner cutting. This is down to poor/inconsiderate driving.

**5. What solution can the council provide to prevent cutting the corner?**

As previously advised verbally, we will be writing to the residents in the cul de sac and ask them to refrain from driving over the berm and to encourage people visiting their homes to be more considerate. This communication will be copied to Kainga Ora (as the property owner).

**6. There is an existing lamppost on the opposite side of the entrance way - so if the post is considered a 'hazard' by the council then does the council consider the lamppost a hazard also?**

Whilst the streetlight column may be a hazard it is an expected piece of street infrastructure placed there to illuminate the street and footpath to keep people safe and, as such, is designed to be frangible to minimise its hazard risk. Furthermore, the size of this lamppost makes it less likely that it is inadvertently struck by poor/inconsiderate driving.

**7. And, if not, why not? and will they then install a post on the mentioned area?**

Please see response to number 6. A post will not be installed as you have requested.

**8. Can you tell me what is more of a hazard? A concrete post that would prevent the tendency to cut corners or the continuous practice of entering driveway at speed, without clear view, and incorrectly, increasing likelihood of colliding with fence again putting the power & telecommunications at risk?**

A concrete post is not frangible and is a significant hazard to any road user that may come into contact with it. Poor/inconsiderate driving is a matter for the Police (as a non-stationary vehicle matter). With regards to possible vulnerable power and telecommunication assets that is something that the resident and/or Kainga Ora, as the owner, would need to take up with the appropriate authority/s.

**9. How can the post present an additional hazard - it would be positioned on the berm section which is NOT part of the driveway or road?**

Please refer to the preceding responses (especially 6 and 8).

**10. Regarding the council's response 'to have a conversation with people who use the driveway and ask them to not cut the corner' - isn't that the same as asking speeding drivers not speed-without deterrents such as Police, speed cameras, speed bumps?**

The driveway you refer to supports only four (4) properties, including yours. It is a natural assumption that the majority of the vehicles using this driveway either live in one of the properties or know the residents. Quite often, a good solution for this type of issue is to communicate with all affected parties to see if they would refrain from this type of undesired behaviour.

As per stated in response 5, we will be writing to all residents in this small cul de sac asking them to operate vehicles in a more considered manner and to refrain from cutting across the berm when using the driveway.

We will also be referring your complaint to Kainga Ora as these properties, and the driveway, are owned by them.

**11. The council continues to maintain berms that are already maintained by residents instead of maintaining those that aren't. Is the Porirua City Council known for making common sense decision?**

As you are aware PCC only manages certain berms in the city. We make the decision about which berms are maintained on a case-by-case, common sense, basis.

With respect to your berm the vast majority of this berm is not considered to be easily maintained due to its steepness/difficulty and when this berm is being maintained by our specialist operators they do the entire berm so that it has been maintained to the same minimum level.

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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Tracey Steele at [tracey.steele@poriruacity.govt.nz](mailto:tracey.steele@poriruacity.govt.nz).

Ngā mihi



Wendy Walker  
**Chief Executive**  
**Kaiwhakahaere Matua**