

23 June 2022

Tony Randle  
fyi-request-19229-b70b56a1@requests.fyi.org.nz

REF: OIA-10040 #DoR

Dear Tony

**Request made under the Official Information Act 1982**

Thank you for your email of 29 April 2022 to Wellington City Council (WCC) requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*...1) Since July 2020, a copy of meeting documentation for all meetings between WCC and LGWM where the predicted population and housing growth for Wellington City was discussed including copies of any agendas, reports and/or presentations at these meetings.*

*2) Since July 2020, a copy of the correspondence between WCC and LGWM on the predicted population and housing growth for Wellington City including copies of any reports and/or other information was attached to or linked from these emails.*

*3) A copy of meeting documentation for all meetings between WCC and LGWM where the WCC Spatial Plan reports "Citywide Estimated Growth Distribution Figures September 2021" and/or "Citywide Estimated Growth Distribution Figures 25/09/2020" were discussed including copies of any agendas, reports and/or presentations at these meetings.*

*4) A copy of the correspondence between WCC and LGWM where the WCC Spatial Plan reports "Citywide Estimated Growth Distribution Figures September 2021" and/or "Citywide Estimated Growth Distribution Figures 25/09/2020" were attached or discussed including copies of any other reports and/or other information was attached to or linked from these emails.*

*5) A copy of meeting documentation for all meetings between WCC and LGWM where the LGWM "Urban Development Summary Report. October 2021" report was discussed including copies of any agendas, reports and/or presentations at these meetings.*

*6) A copy of the correspondence between WCC and LGWM where the LGWM "Urban Development Summary Report. October 2021" report was attached or discussed including copies of any reports and/or other information was attached to or linked from these emails...*

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency has responded to parts 2, 4 and 6 of your request on 1 June 2022. On the same day, you responded with the following:

*...I would like to better understand the nature of your efforts to identify some correspondence related to my request items 2, 4 and 6. Can you please provide a list of the email search terms used and the number of corresponding matching emails identified for each search?...*

The following table sets out the search terms used and number of emails identified under the email sweep conducted for your request. Please also note that only emails to/from WCC email addresses are included in the email sweep results.

<b>Question</b>	<b>Keywords Used</b>	<b>Email Sweep Results</b>
<i>2. Since July 2020, a copy of the correspondence between WCC and LGWM on the predicted population and housing growth for Wellington City including copies of any reports and/or other information was attached to or linked from these emails.</i>	"Wellington" AND 'population growth' AND/OR "housing growth"	1928 emails
<i>4. A copy of the correspondence between WCC and LGWM where the WCC Spatial Plan reports "Citywide Estimated Growth Distribution Figures September 2021" and/or "Citywide Estimated Growth Distribution Figures 25/09/2020" were attached or discussed including copies of any other reports and/or other information was attached to or linked from these emails.</i>	"Citywide Estimated Growth Distribution Figures"	12 emails
<i>6. A copy of the correspondence between WCC and LGWM where the LGWM "Urban Development Summary Report. October 2021" report was attached or discussed including copies of any reports and/or other information was attached to or linked from these emails</i>	"Urban Development Summary Report"	303 emails

To provide further context, our initial email sweep found over 2200 emails for all three questions and our system did not provide a breakdown for how many emails were found for each questions. Upon receiving your response, Waka Kotahi then performed three separate email sweeps, which are reflected in the table above.

In light of the above, Waka Kotahi will be reviewing our decision on part 4 of your request, which was refused under section 18(f) of the Act (information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research). Due to the low number of emails found during the second email sweep, we are working to recover these emails for further assessment to determine whether or not they fall within scope of the request. A response on these will be provided to you along with our response to parts 1, 3 and 5 (see below).

The purpose of this letter is to also advise you that a decision has been made on the remainder of your request (parts 1, 3 and 5) and this information will be provided to you without undue delay. Waka Kotahi anticipates being able to provide this to you on or before 11 July 2022.

During this time, around 7 documents that are in scope of your request will be finalised for release. When releasing these documents to you, certain information will be withheld under the provisions of the Act, including – but not limited to –

- Section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons.
- Section 9(2)(g)(i) – to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any department or organisation in the course of their duty.
- 9(2)(j) – to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).

I do note that Waka Kotahi extended the timeframe for making a decision on your request on 1 June 2022 and appreciate your ongoing patience while Waka Kotahi finalises the response. Unfortunately, a number of unforeseen circumstances, including key staff absences, has impacted our teams' resourcing. Please accept my apologies for the resulting delay.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

If you would like to discuss this reply with Waka Kotahi, please contact Ministerial Services by email to [official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely



**Josh Driscoll**  
Principal Advisor - Ministerial Services