Hon Mark Mitchell

Minister of Corrections Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery Minister of Police



REF: CR CORRE 029-2023-24

27 February 2024

Gary Whitehead *By email: fyi-request-25208-550dade0@requests.fyi.org.nz*

Dear Gary,

Thank you for your recent email following up on your previous correspondence from 16 December 2023.

The "statutory responsibility" I previously referenced is regarding the local authorities having statutory responsibilities for land use planning and management. The categorisation process you raised is also the responsibility of local authorities.

As noted in my previous correspondence, it is a matter for the Far North District Council to decide whether to take the categorisation approach and enter into a cost-share agreement with the Government. While I am unable to comment on the Council's decision-making process, I continue to encourage you to talk to the Council about your individual circumstances.

To date, no Northland councils have carried out any formal categorisation, although I understand some councils are still considering options.

Thank you for writing.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Mark Mitchell Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery