

FILE REF: CCL 24

01 June 2012

Samuel Fraser
Fyi-request-331-20338fd4@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Samuel

REQUEST UNDER THE “OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT”

I refer to your email request dated 30 May 2012, under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

In accordance with the terms of the Act:

- An organisation chart for Westland District Council is attached.
- The only correspondence regarding an amalgamation proposal from Mayor Tony Kokshoorn, Grey District Council is also attached.

Sincerely



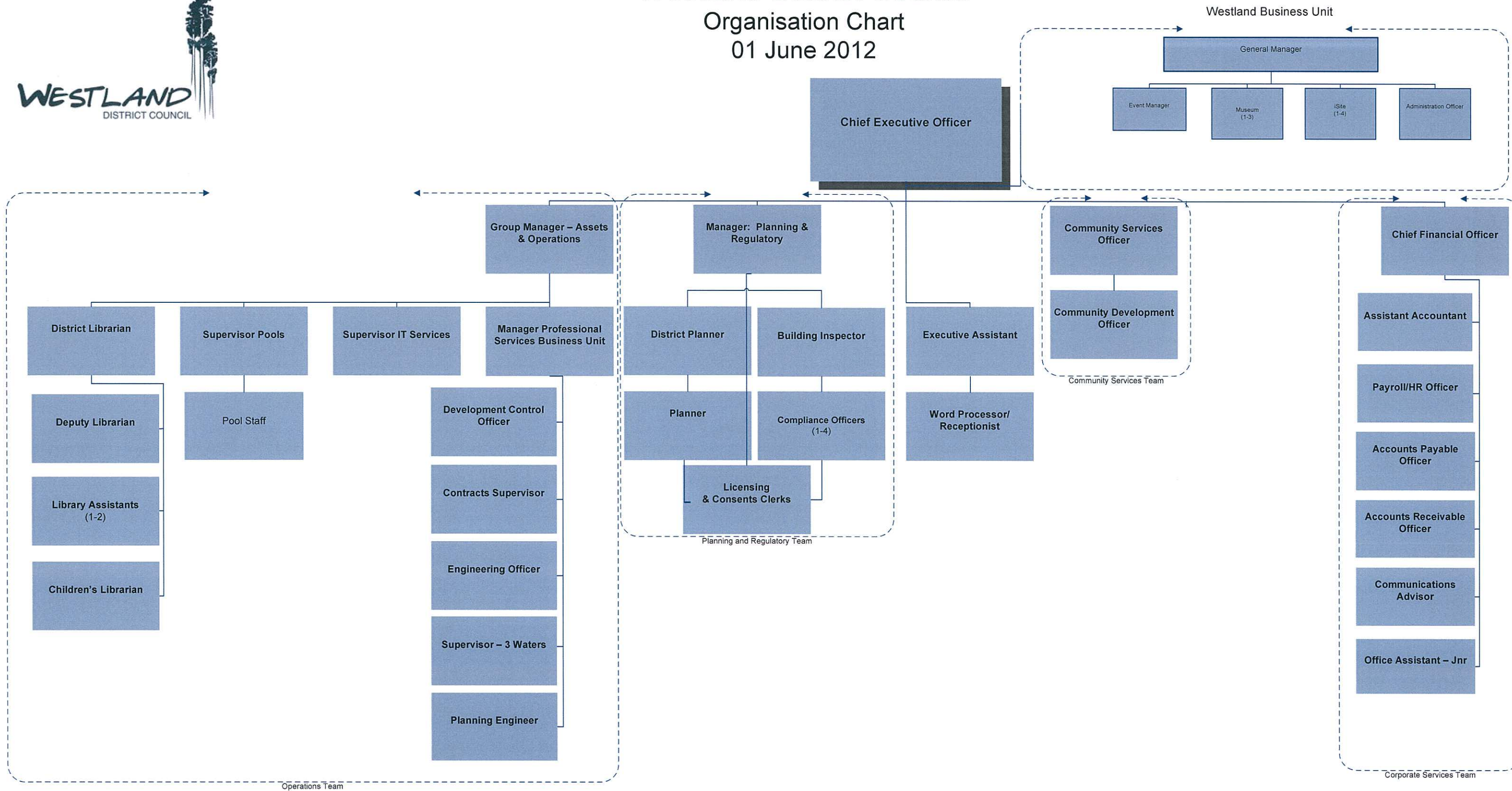
Robin Keeves
Chief Executive Officer

Attachments:

RFR/KM



Westland District Council Organisation Chart 01 June 2012



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
AF (Tony) Kokshoorn

CONFIDENTIAL

24 February 2012

Mayor Maureen Pugh
 Westland District Council
 Private Bag 704
HOKITKA 7842

CEO	HWM	MPR	MO	MAC	MF	MPA	GSO	ENG
✓	✓							

RECEIVED
 28 FEB 2012
 BY: _____

SCANNED

Dear Maureen

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ON THE WEST COAST INTO THE FUTURE

We have finalised our Draft Long Term Plan and I am more convinced than ever before that challenges facing local communities in the form of the cost of compliance with Drinking Water Standards, the cost of the Emissions Trading Scheme and the cost of bringing all buildings to an earthquake compliant level to name but a few, will make local governance as we know it near unaffordable over the medium to long term.

More recent statements by the Prime Minister show that local government is "ripe for reform". I expect the Auckland model of legislated amalgamations to be applied throughout the country. I do know for a fact that the Minister for Local Government is looking at opportunities for amalgamation on the West Coast. Having four local authorities for a total community of less than 35,000 people is difficult to justify amidst ever rising financial demands on our communities.

My view is that the Coast should follow the example set by Greater Wellington and develop a local solution that will deliver efficiencies that will translate into cost and other savings as a means of avoiding an external solution being forced upon us. My personal view is that three Unitary Councils have to be created but this is one of a number of potential options that we can look at. The purpose of this letter is not to debate the form the Governance structure should take. The purpose is rather to secure your involvement in an in-depth discussion on the issue at the next Mayors and Chair meeting and for that meeting to perhaps set in place an action plan to develop a local solution. The key here is that we determine our own destiny as a means of avoiding a solution being forced upon us.

On that basis, I ask that this issue be placed on the next agenda.

Best regards



TONY KOKSHOORN
 Grey District Mayor