

16 April 2026

Donna (on behalf of Clampett Trust)

By email: fyi-request-34126-464bd3d7@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Donna,

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT 1987 (LGOIMA)
REQUEST (HORIZONS REF: 279379)**

I refer to your request for official information dated 17 March 2026.

Please see the below responses.

1. *Copies of all policies, procedures, or guidelines governing the receipt, assessment, investigation and resolution of Code of Conduct complaints relating to staff, senior management, council-controlled organisation officers and governance officials.*

The information you have requested is **enclosed**.

When complaints are received by Horizons in relation to staff (of any level), these are considered in light of its Standards of Integrity & Conduct. Where further action is deemed necessary by Horizons, this will be determined in accordance with the Performance Management and Disciplinary Policy.

The conduct of governance officials (i.e., elected members) is governed by the Regional Council Code of Conduct. Elected members of the Council are not subject to standard staff disciplinary procedures, rather the complaints investigation process set out in the Regional Council Code of Conduct is used. Only other elected members may make complaints under this Code.

2. *Copies of any records relating to the receipt, assessment, consideration, or handling of the Code of Conduct complaints submitted on or about 20 January 2026 to 12 March 2026.*
3. *Copies of internal communications (including emails, memoranda, and correspondence) relating to the complaints [of 20 January 2026 and 12 March 2026] and their handling.*

These requests reference your complaint of 20 January 2026, and another complaint dated 12 March 2026. Part of the information you have requested is **enclosed**. Please note that we have redacted the details of non-Horizons staff referenced in these documents under section 7(2)(a) of the LGOMIA as the redaction is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons. Some details have also been redacted under section 7(2)(g) as this is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege. We do not consider public interest in release of this information outweighs these reasons.

4. *Copies of communications between Manawatū-Whanganui Local Authority Shared Services (MW LASS) and Horizons Regional Council and/or any shareholder councils concerning the complaints and their handling.*

We are refusing this request pursuant to section 17(e) of the LGOIMA, as the information requested does not exist.

5. *Copies of any reports, briefings, or correspondence provided to councillors, council governance committees, or shareholder representatives regarding the complaints.*

We are refusing this request pursuant to section 17(e) of the LGOIMA, as the information requested does not exist.

6. *Any records identifying the outcome of the complaints, including any decisions made regarding investigation, dismissal, or further action.*

Part of the information you have requested is **enclosed**, which is Horizons' response to your complaint received 20 January 2026. As noted above, in reference to the 12 March 2026 complaint you refer to and its handling, the details of non-Horizons staff referenced in these documents have been withheld pursuant to section 7(2)(a) of the LGOIMA to protect their privacy.

We have declined the remainder of your request under section 7(2)(g), as withholding is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege, and any public interest in releasing the information does not outweigh that reason.

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 or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely,



Craig Grant
GROUP MANAGER CORPORATE & GOVERNANCE