



15 April 2026

26-OIAD-00878

Kevin Newlands
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Tēnā koe Kevin

Thank you for your email of 5 April 2026 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) of the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry):

“This is a formal request for information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA) regarding the wastewater pump station servicing the Goodman Drive / Ledger Avenue / Ledger Park area in Motueka.

Background and Community Concern

This pump station is over 30 plus years old and services approximately 80% of Motueka. Residents have experienced long-term issues including odour, contamination, and potential health effects of the smell from the gas. There is increasing concern that the system is no longer fit for purpose.

Population Growth Context

1996: 6,250 2024: 8,630 Increase: 2,380 people Projected (2024–2054): +1,670 people

Information Requested

- 1. Design and Capacity Original design capacity, intended population load, and current utilisation levels.*
- 2. Performance and Failures Full history of faults, overflows, discharge events, and emergency responses.*
- 3. Complaints and Community Reports All complaints received and actions taken by council.*
- 4. Environmental Monitoring Air quality (including hydrogen sulfide), soil, and water testing data.*
- 5. Public Health and Risk Health risk assessments and system failure risks.*
- 6. Infrastructure Planning Maintenance history, upgrades, and future planning to 2054.*
- 7. Financial Transparency Budget allocations and justification, including 9.9% rates increase.*

Infrastructure Relocation and Equity

Clarification on relocation or upgrades in other areas (e.g., Tudor Run / Staple Street), prioritisation criteria, and why similar action has not occurred in Motueka.

Regulatory Compliance

Compliance with environmental consents, breaches, audits, and reporting.

Community Impact Statement

There is strong concern regarding long-term environmental exposure and declining quality of life. The community seeks assurance that health and environmental wellbeing are being prioritised.

Expectation

We request transparency and clear action plans to address infrastructure limitations, protect health, and support future growth.”

As the Ministry does not hold the requested information, and Tasman District Council (the Council) is best placed to respond to your request, in these circumstances, we are required by section 14(b)(i) of the Act to transfer your request to the Council for response. You will hear further from the Council concerning your request.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of our decisions relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Brown', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lachlan Brown

Team Leader – Official Information and Proactive Release
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao