

18 May 2017

Mr Blake Bedford-Palmer

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By email: fyi-request-5793-88d0f969@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Blake

**Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (“LGOIMA”):
Request for Information**

I refer to your email dated 26/04/17 requesting information on mobile phone payment support for public transport. Your request has been referred to me to reply.

You ask if Environment Canterbury has looked into providing true mobile payment support to allow passengers to pay for their fare using mobile phones.

Environment Canterbury has not looked into the specific requirements of providing true mobile payment support, as such technologies are not able to be supported by our current ticketing system. However, we will be reviewing our ticketing system, including various payment technologies such as mobile payment, when the current system reaches end of life around 2020/2021.

As a public entity, asset investment lifecycles and the maturity of technologies are very important considerations influencing our decisions at the time of evaluation. We consider that mobile payment technology is relatively immature in its implementation in New Zealand. Environment Canterbury does not see itself as an early adopter of technology solutions, given that we are using public funds and that there is an inherent risk associated with this sort of developing technology.

You ask if Environment Canterbury would consider talking with Google about supporting Android Pay.

As the current ticketing system will not support Android Pay, a discussion with Google may not represent value for either party at this point in time. Environment Canterbury will certainly consider talking with Google closer to the time of replacement of the current ticketing system.

You will be aware that if you are not satisfied with this response you are able to refer this matter to the Office of the Ombudsman under s27 (3) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Please be advised that we now put LGOIMA responses that are in the public interest onto our website. No personal details of the requester are given, but we do summarise the essence of the request alongside the response.

Should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact Anna Paris in the first instance anna.paris@ecan.govt.nz or 033653828.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don Rule', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Don Rule
Chief Operating Officer