

Monday 15 May 2023

OIA IRO-396

Name: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]@stuff.co.nz

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Official information request regarding Houghton Bay Landfill Complaints.

Thank you for your official information request dated Friday 14 April 2023. You requested records of complaints made about leachate discharges at Houghton Bay, how we responded to those, and any further information about how the discharges will be dealt with going forward.

The Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) requires that we advise you of our decision no later than 20 working days after the day we received your request. Unfortunately, we cannot meet the timeframe to provide you with all information you've requested and must therefore extend the time to make our decision, in accordance with [Section 14\(1\)\(a\)](#) to Wednesday 14 June 2023.

Please see in the Appendix details of a complaint we received. In accordance with [Section 17\(e\)](#), we are unable to provide any additional information on the complaint as it does not exist. We also note that complaints in relation to this issue are not normally made directly to Wellington Water.

In addition, we have identified a significant number of emails that may be related to your request, and we need time to review this material. To provide you with a fulsome response, as well as an explanation for what is being done to mitigate leachate discharges going forward, we are requiring more time.

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.

Ngā mihi

[REDACTED]
Team Lead, Communications and Engagement

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Appendix

Work Details

Address	Resolution L.	Coun.	Water Type	complaint_type	Summary of Complaint	current_status_	touch_points	Day of Date Lo.	Day of Date Close.	Days ..	
Houghton Bay	Other	WCC	Stormwater	other - Storm..	complaint regarding orange stormwater that leeches into Houghton Bay.	Null	Null	23 March 2021	21 April 2021	N/A	Closed Complaints
Houghton Bay and..	Other	WCC	Stormwater	Null	Customer cmoplaint re. foul smelign stormwater that leeches into Hought..	Null	Null	23 March 2021	7 July 2021	N/A	Closed Complaints

Friday 16 June 2023

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Name: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]@stuff.co.nz

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Official information request regarding Houghton Bay Landfill Complaints.

Thank you for your official information request dated Friday 14 April 2023. You requested records of complaints made about leachate discharges at Houghton Bay, how we responded to those, and any further information about how the discharges will be dealt with going forward.

On Monday 15 May we responded to your request in part and extended the time to make our decision. We have considered your request in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) and determined that we are unable to grant you the remaining information.

In accordance with [Section 17\(f\)](#) of the Act, we are declining your request for all complaints made to us directly or passed on from other local authorities. The reason for this decision is due to the significant number of emails, 672, which would require considerable time to search through and determine which ones contain complaints.

You have also requested further information about the how discharges at Houghton Bay will be dealt with going forward. We have interpreted this request as meaning leachate discharges from the closed landfill, and we do not hold this information.

To assist you with your query, the closed landfill is managed by Wellington City Council's (WCC) Landfill Team. The stormwater network is managed by Wellington Water Ltd on behalf of WCC. Ultimately prioritisation, funding and approval to proceed on any measures to mitigate the impact of the leachate discharges, even where there is an interaction with the stormwater network, remains a decision for WCC.

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.

Ngā mihi,

[REDACTED]
Group Manager, Network Strategy & Planning

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