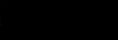


Reference Number: 2026/1374

29 April 2026



Tēnā Koe I Dear 

Thank you for your email dated 1 April 2026 requesting information on the flags displayed on Main Road, Kuku under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA). Please see below a response to each part of your request.

Details of any Complaints in respect of the flags

Please find details of complaints received by Council in relation to the flags in Kuku, this information includes Council Officer responses to each. In the attached, information identifying persons and their contact details has been withheld to protect their privacy. This is in accordance with section 7(a) of LGOIMA.

Any advice received by Council to or from

Please find this information attached documented in the Summary and Notes sections of the attachment.

Details of action seeking compliance with the bylaws?

Please find this information attached, specifically in the notes section of the attachment.

Any communication with NZTA

Please find a copy of an email sent to NZTA forwarding a complaint received by Council about the flags in Kuku.

Details of any legal advice or proceedings

Council hold no information on file in relation to legal advice or proceedings regarding the flags in Kuku.

You are entitled to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Horowhenua District Council publishes responses to Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) requests that we consider to be of wider public interest, or which relate to a subject that has been widely requested. To protect your privacy, we will not generally publish personal information about you, or information that identifies you. We will publish the LGOIMA response along with a summary of the request on our website. Requests and responses may be paraphrased.

If you would like to discuss this decision or any of the information provided as part of this request, please contact Brent Harvey (Group Manager Community Experience and Services) on brenth@horowhenua.govt.nz, or LGOIMAOfficer@horowhenua.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi | Best regards



Monique Davidson
Chief Executive

Dates	ID	Category	Customer	Summary	Closed	Outcome	Notes
15/11/2025	269725/2025	Customer & Regulatory - Compliance - General Enquiries	Anonymous Anonymous	From: [REDACTED] Sent: Saturday, 15 November 2025 3:38 pm To: Customer Services - Public <CustomerServices@horowhenua.govt.nz> Subject: Flags on SH1 Kuku Is council doing anything in regards to road safety of these flags lining the state highway 1 Kuku . Hazard distraction and dangerous . Someone will die in a crash pertaining to the flags either via distraction or having one blow off the pole or the flag comes loose and covers a windscreen or fulling in the path of vehicle . Thanks	19/11/2025	Complete	I have emailed the customer advising we have no rules to enforce the removal of the flags [REDACTED]
26/10/2025	268580/2025	Referral to external agency - Matters relating to State Highways (South of Kimberley Road junction)	Anonymous Anonymous	Email - From: [REDACTED] Sent: Sunday, 26 October 2025 5:15 am To: Customer Services - Public <CustomerServices@horowhenua.govt.nz> Subject: Road safety To whom My concern is the safety issue of flags erect against the fences boarding SH1 Kuku - Manukau - Horowhenua -These flags are very high safety issue to drivers due to driver distraction and potential of causing major accidents in that stretch of the state highway . Thanks	28/10/2025	Completed	
4/09/2025	265956/2025	Customer & Regulatory - Compliance - General Enquiries	[REDACTED]	Hi team [REDACTED] came back again today as she is finding the flags along SH1 at Kuku very dangerous driving and NZTA keep telling her as below it is Council issue [REDACTED] - Can we please respond to [REDACTED] From: NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi info@reply.nzta.govt.nz Date: Thu, 4 Sept 2025, 11:40 am Subject: Re: 39700756 To: [REDACTED] Kia ora [REDACTED] This is a matter for your local council as the flags are located on private property. Any enquiries or complaints relating to these flags need to be directed to your local council, not NZTA. Ng mihi [REDACTED] NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi From: [REDACTED] Sent: Wednesday, September 3, 2025 1:08 PM To: info@reply.nzta.govt.nz Subject: Re: 39700756 Hi [REDACTED] I received a phone call from a man this morning. He said it was nothing to do with them, and that I should speak to the council. I went into the council and they have told me that this applies to NZTA. Can you please let me know who the responsible of these flags lies with. Thank you. [REDACTED] On Tue, Sep 2, 2025 at 12:35 PM NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi info@reply.nzta.govt.nz wrote: Kia ora [REDACTED]. Thanks for your email. I have logged your feedback with the NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) Manawatu Regional Office as this falls under their responsibilities. NZTA engages with contractors for a variety of road maintenance tasks. If required, your enquiry will be passed onto the appropriate contractor for response. Please use the reference number 39700756 if enquiring about this matter at a later date. Note: For any urgent matters, please call our priority State Highway phone number - 0800 4 HIGHWAYS (0800 44 44 49). Ng mihi [REDACTED] NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi	16/09/2025	Accepted	Contacted [REDACTED] and explained there may be a couple things we could look at. Under the RMA the flags may possibly be deemed a nuisance and under the district plan depending on their location there may be setback rules. I advised that we will look into this and undertake a site visit and contact her back with our findings. I advised that if the flags are not deemed a nuisance and there is no set back breaches under the district plan then unfortunately there is nothing we can do. [REDACTED] understands and was thankful that we are looking into this. [REDACTED]
28/01/2026	273286/2026	Customer & Regulatory - Compliance - General Enquiries	Anonymous Anonymous	Hi team this is saved in CM9 as it has a photo attached - D26/11651 From: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Sent: Wednesday, 28 January 2026 10:37 am To: Customer Services - Public <CustomerServices@horowhenua.govt.nz> Subject: CM: Enquiry Regarding Flags Displayed Along SH1 South of Ohau To whom it may concern I am writing to enquire about the number of flags currently displayed along State Highway 1 when travelling south from Ohau. Could you please advise whether these flags have been installed with the appropriate Horowhenua District Council permission, and if so, what approvals are required for the placement and ongoing display of flags in this location? I am particularly interested in understanding which permissions apply where flags are visible from, or located adjacent to, a state highway and public land. Of particular note is the following image which clearly shows flags being flown on an unused public sign. As a regular user of this route, I find the scale and concentration of the flags to be visually intrusive and, at times, somewhat intimidating. The display significantly detracts from the appearance of the area and raises concerns about whether it aligns with Council policies, safety considerations, and guidelines for structures or displays visible from public roads. I would appreciate clarification on: [REDACTED] Whether Council approval has been granted for these flags [REDACTED] What criteria and processes apply to approving such displays [REDACTED] Which authority is responsible for monitoring and enforcing compliance in this area Thank you for your time and assistance. I look forward to your response. Regards. [REDACTED]	3/02/2026	Accepted	Spoke with customer. CM9 created - Refer to notes [REDACTED] 03/02/2026)Tēnā koe [REDACTED]. Thank you for your email outlining your concerns regarding the flags displayed south of Ōhau along State Highway 1. At this stage, we note that the Public Places Bylaw 2024 does not apply where flags are located on private property. That said, we appreciate you taking the time to raise this matter. Your concerns have been acknowledged, and we are currently investigating the complaint to [REDACTED] determine whether any other relevant legislation or processes may apply. We will ensure the matter is referred to the appropriate area for further consideration and will be in touch should any additional information be required. Thank you again for bringing this to our attention. Ngā mihi Kind Regards [REDACTED]

From: enquiries@horowhenua.govt.nz <enquiries@horowhenua.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 28 October 2025 10:09 am
To: customer@wta.nzta.govt.nz
Subject: New CRM Task 268580/2025 - Referral to external agency - Matters relating to State Highways (South of Kimberley Road junction)

The following task has been assigned to you. Please review the details below.

Request Details

Request Number:268580/2025
Category:Referral to external agency - Matters relating to State Highways (South of Kimberley Road junction)
Precis:SH1 Kuku - Manakau

Description of Request: Email - From: [REDACTED] Sent: Sunday, 26 October 2025 5:15 am To: Customer Services - Public Subject: Road safty To whom My concern is the safety issue of flags erect against the fences boarding SH1 Kuku - Manukau - Horowhenua -These flags are very high safety issue to drivers due to driver distraction and potential of causing major accidents in that stretch of the state highway . Thanks

Location Details

Property Address:
Street Name:

Customer Details

Name:Anonymous Anonymous
Address:Horowhenua District Council Private Bag 4002 Levin 5540
Home Phone:
Work Phone:
Mobile Phone:

Task Details

Task to Complete:Referred External Contractor
Task Due Date:02/11/2025
Priority?:No

Link to Task:[Click here to review task details.](#)