

LGOIMA reference: 2021/785 and 2021/786

26 October 2021

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Response - Official Information Request

I refer to your request for information received on 27 and 28 September 2021. Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) and I provide the following information.

Is there any race connotations in any of the three water reforms where one race could gain monetary or otherwise advantage over any other person or race in NZ?

Is there any “Maori” connotation to any new legislation or ownership that could occur under three waters programme or intention?

If there is “any” racism or maorification involved in water or any impact greater than we have now, I strongly recommend hdc to vote against three waters govt proposal.

Whilst Council is not able to specifically answer your questions as Three Waters Reforms is being led by the Department of Internal Affairs, we can provide the following information and links to reforms information.

There is the view of the Government that the current situation is not sustainable; that there has been major under investment by Councils over many years which is putting the future of good supply and management of 3 waters at risk. This under investment is so large (\$125-\$185 bn) that Councils will not be able to catch up in the future and that this is the only way to do that, by having these economies of scale.

Horowhenua District Council is currently gaining an understanding of the issues and what it will mean for our community. No position has been taken as yet.

Our Council agree with the overarching purpose of the Three Waters Reform Programme, which is to ensure New Zealand’s three waters; our drinking water, wastewater and stormwater services and infrastructure are planned, maintained and delivered so that they are affordable and fit for purpose. It has been a prerogative of our Council for many years.

As part of the Government’s proposal, they have worked with Council’s around New Zealand to collate the necessary data to build a clear understanding of three waters services in their districts.

You can view Horowhenua District Council's dashboard on the Department of Internal Affairs website - <https://www.dia.govt.nz/Three-Waters-Reform-RfI#latest-update> once in the dashboard, skip forward to page 5 and enter Horowhenua District Council in the search bar.

Visit www.dia.govt.nz/Three-Waters-Reform-Programme for Government's latest three waters reform information.

Visit www.Horowhenua.govt.nz/3watersreform for Horowhenua District Council's summary of the Three Waters Reform Programme.

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 have any queries regarding this information, please contact the LGOIMA Officer on 06 366 0999 or email - LGOIMAOfficer@horowhenua.govt.nz

Yours sincerely,



Lisa Slade
Executive Sponsor - LGOIMA