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Helen Oram
Environment & Sustainability
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Our reference: DIV/20/6828

Dear [REDACTED]

Request for Information – Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

We refer to your request dated 24 August 2020 for information regarding the provision by Council of water supply in Shaftesbury Grove to support its sale of land there for residential development at 12 and part 20 Shaftesbury Grove, Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt.

Your request has been processed according to the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the "Act").

Your request for information has been granted, and we respond to your specific questions below:

Q1. What action has Council taken to provide for the anticipated housing development to have suitable water supply?

A1. Council and Wellington Water have been working with the developer ("You") and your consultant to identify potential solutions for providing water supply for developments of various numbers of houses since your purchase of the land from Urban Plus Limited in 2017.

Q1.1 What asset planning for a new reservoir has taken place?

A1.1 Several reports have been commissioned by Council, Urban Plus Limited and you to determine options and costs of various options. These options have been reviewed by Wellington Water for suitability. You have been advised of and provided with these reports and Wellington Waters view as to suitability of the options presented.

Q1.2 What funding provision in the LTP etc. has been made?

A1.2 As previously advised to you, Council currently has a long standing provision of \$300,000 in its LTP/Annual Plan for a booster pump that had previously been identified as a future solution to improve water supply levels of service to existing households in the area. There is no provision in the LTP for a reservoir, nor has Wellington Water included any funding in its 10 year budgets for a new reservoir.

Q2. Is the booster pump station a still a viable option?

A2. Potentially, to improve water supply levels of service to existing households in the area and to supply water to small scale additional development, or as an interim solution to larger development to get it started.

Q1.3 If not, when did Council confirm this?

A1.3 Council has received advice from Wellington Water that a booster pump is not a suitable water solution for developments of the scale proposed. This advice has been provided to you by Council officers and Wellington Water staff. By way of example Gary Craig emailed Colin McElwain of Cuttriss Consultants, acting for you, on 25 July 2018 stating "*I think we, Wellington Water and Council have made our position quite clear. We would not agree to a pump station being constructed at any time to support an 80 to 90 lot subdivision as envisaged in your email of 12 July below on the Shaftesbury land.*" This was copied to you.

Q1.4 If not, how is the alternative solutions being progressed?

A1.4 Council has indicated to you that the money, \$300,000 it has currently allocated in its LTP/AP for a booster pump to address water supply levels of service to existing householders in the area, along with an additional \$400,000, a total of \$700,000 (effectively the current estimated cost of a booster pump) could be contributed towards a water supply solution that also services your proposed new development.

Pursuant to section 18 of the Act we confirm that you have the right to make a written complaint to the Ombudsman in accordance with section 27(3) of the Act if you are not satisfied with our response regarding information withheld.

If you require any more assistance, please contact me. My contact details are at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely



Helen Oram

DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY