

3 May 2021

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Tēnā koe ██████████

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

We refer to your official information request dated 6 April 2021 for:

The Cross Valley Connections PBC sensitivity tests the presented BCR by changing a number of parameters including traffic growth. The lowest traffic growth figure tested is 1.1%. HCC has recently endorsed advice from He Pou a Rangi to Central Government which presents a path to 2035 with zero growth in household vkt.

Has the BCR been tested with a 0% (or negative) traffic growth scenario? If so can I please be provided with this work including the resultant BCR. If not can I please be informed whether there is (and be presented with) any plan to undertake this work.

The PBC also notes the necessity of engaging KiwiRail regarding impacts on their network. Can I please be informed whether initial engagement has been undertaken and if so be provided with all communications and material relevant to this engagement. Finally, can I please be provided the most up to date work plan for progressing the CVC programme of work.

Our Response

The BCR has not been tested under a 0% traffic growth scenario and there is no intention to do so at this stage. The CCC are envisioning growth in household VKT to be zero by 2035. Therefore, the CCC does allow for some growth up until this point. As a result, we do not think that this sensitivity test would result in a significant difference to what has been reported.

We have not engaged with KiwiRail on the detail of the proposed route as we do not want to unnecessarily confuse the situation before more information has been gathered. There are a number of decisions still to be made that will potentially change the context of the conversation with KiwiRail. However, they are aware of the project and we did talk to them about the existing lifeline of some of their structures – specifically the Ava Rail Bridge

The work plan to complete the business case process is dependent on the outcome of the Programme Business Case assessment currently being undertaken by Waka Kotahi. However,

we have funds budgeted for this activity over the next two years. We are declining this part of your request under section 17(e) of the LGOIMA as the information does not exist.

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.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) may be published on the Council's website.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Gloag', written in a cursive style.

John Gloag
Head of Transport
City and Community Services