

16 September 2020

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dave Dews
Environment and Sustainability
021686749
Dave.dews@huttcity.govt.nz
Our reference:DIV/20/6736

Dear [REDACTED]

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

We refer to your official information request dated Wednesday 19 August 2020 that pertains to the search, in 2020 to date, for locations to meet the cleanfill requirements of Lower Hutt

The information you have requested is set out below:

I have attached two previous responses (to both Councillor Brown and Gabriel Tupou) outlining the anticipated process for identifying a future site. Importantly however, HCC has not yet made a decision about whether it wishes to continue providing this service once the facility at 130 Coast Road closes in 2022. This decision needs to be made before we start identifying specific locations.

I previously expected to present a discussion document to HCC's Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) in August 2020 to seek this initial decision. Due to the number of cleanfill-related enquiries received over the past several months however, I have been unable to advance this discussion as quickly as I would like. I am now aiming to present a paper to CLT in late-September. If CLT decides that the continued provision of a cleanfill is desirable, then I will commence the search for potentially suitable sites. In principle I expect this process will broadly involve:

1. CLT provides confirmation that HCC wish to proceed with a site selection process;
2. Identification of minimum criteria for a suitable site. These criteria will then be used to populate a longlist of potential sites using GIS technology. My current expectations are that this initial list will capture all sites that could feasibly lend themselves to cleanfill operations and will include sites meeting the following criteria:
 - a. HCC owned;
 - b. Within the city's administrative boundaries; and
 - c. With a minimum site area of 1 ha.
3. HCC staff will then review this initial longlist and eliminate sites considered to have fatal flaws (e.g. regional parks, residential sites, lack of road access etc.). This will formulate a shortlist of prospective sites;
4. At this point we expect to undertake community consultation to seek the views of HCC residents. This would provide the opportunity to ask questions, express concerns, raise alternative sites or otherwise discuss the proposal with HCC staff;
5. The shortlisted sites will then be ranked against scoring criteria to identify a preferred site(s) for further consideration;
6. At this stage HCC would undertake necessary site investigations and obtain the necessary approvals to establish a cleanfill on the site. Depending on the location of the prospective site this may require a second round of targeted consultation with nearby landowners / occupiers;

7. Once the approvals have been obtained, HCC would look to undertake any site improvements necessary for the site to function. This could involve upgrading accessways, erosion and sediment controls or ground works; and
8. Once improvements are made the site would then be ready for operation. The expectation is that this work would be completed prior to the 19 June 2022 to allow for a seamless transition for contractors operating within HCC.

I trust that this adequately addresses your enquiry and I am happy to continue discussions through future CLG meetings.

If you have any issues with our response or wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Dave Dews, Solid Waste Manager on 021686749.

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.

Yours sincerely



Dave Dews

SOLID WASTE MANAGER

Encl Response given to Councillor Brown
 Response given to Gabriel Tupou

Draft response for Review

Good afternoon Councillor Brown,

The Wainuiomata Cleanfill will cease operations no later than the 19 June 2022. This date is specified within the consent issued by HCC (RM190050) and aligns with the assurances made to members of the Wainuiomata Community throughout the re consenting process in late-2019.

In preparation for this closure we are currently preparing a discussion document for the consideration of in the first instance by the executive leadership team. Following this review by the ELT a briefing paper will be prepared for Council consideration. This discussion document will outline how cleanfill facilities fit into the waste stream, how the cleanfill aligns with HCC's other commitments and obligations in the waste, sustainability and development space and the history surrounding cleanfill deposition within the district (including why HCC has previously made a decision to provide this type of facility. This discussion document will be used to inform a decision about whether Council wish to continue providing a cleanfill facility(s) following the closure of the Wainuiomata site in 2022.

The discussion paper will cover the following;

- HCC obligations and commitments in respect of legislation , regional initiatives and Council's strategic direction
- The benefits and costs of running a cleanfill facility
- A brief history of clean filling in the Hutt Valley
- High level assessment if Council owns a suitable site(s) for a cleanfill operation
- What are the alternatives (for example greater recycling of demolition waste or beneficial use of cleanfill materials)
- Likely costs / returns to Council

We expect would to have the discussion document prepared by August.

Good afternoon Gabriel,

As you will be aware, the Wainuiomata Cleanfill will cease operations no later than the 19 June 2022. This date is specified within the consent issued by HCC (RM190050) and aligns with the assurances made to members of the Wainuiomata Community throughout the re-consenting process in late-2019.

In preparation for this closure we are currently preparing a discussion document for the consideration of HCC's executive leadership team. Following this review by the ELT a briefing paper will be prepared for Council consideration. This discussion document will outline how cleanfill facilities fit into the waste stream, how the provision of a cleanfill aligns with HCC's other commitments and obligations in the waste, sustainability and development space, and the history surrounding cleanfill deposition within the district (including why HCC has previously made a decision to provide this type of facility). This discussion document will be used to inform a decision about whether Council wish to continue providing a cleanfill facility(s) following the closure of the Wainuiomata site in 2022.

The discussion paper will cover the following;

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We expect to have the discussion document prepared by August. If Council does wish to continue providing a cleanfill facility in the long-term there will then be a subsequent site selection and community consultation process, with opportunities for interested persons to have their say. We would be happy to keep the Wainuiomata Community Board updated in this regard.