

9 April 2021

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

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

We refer to your official information request dated 30 March 2021 for informal or formal complaints made about HCC employees.

We don't have complete records of informal and formal complaints during the periods you've requested. Due to the low number of records we have, we won't be able to provide you with the details you have requested due to privacy reasons.

We can provide an answer to your question regarding general actions HCC has taken over the aforementioned time periods to mitigate any culture of bullying within the organisation.

Any reports of bullying and harassment are taken seriously and handled in accordance with council's Prevention of Harassment, Bullying and Discrimination Policy. Promotion and education in relation to this Policy is undertaken periodically, and in recent years this has been aligned with the promotion of the Pink Shirt Day campaign. All staff are also required to read and accept council's Code of Conduct at the commencement of their employment with HCC and as part of our Wellbeing Policy, staff have access to an Employee Assistance Programme should they require access to a confidential counselling service.

If you have any further questions please get in touch.

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.

Yours sincerely



Euan Kyle
Corporate Information Manager