

From: [Information Management Team](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Avalon Park [#635B4Q]
Date: Friday, 24 September 2021 9:58:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

We refer to your information request dated 13 September.

Thanks for your enquiry regarding Avalon Park. You also asked a similar question of the Mayors office and this feedback will be in reply to that enquiry also.

Hutt City Council acknowledges its responsibility to take a lead role within Lower Hutt in the revitalisation and active protection of the Māori language (Te Reo), being the indigenous language, and an official language, of Aotearoa New Zealand. Council is committed to increased use of Te Reo and tikanga Māori in our workspaces and the public places we manage, as a key element in strengthening our partnership with Māori and in delivering effective services for all.

Signage for this park was refreshed in late 2020, and reflects this approach. The main park sign still displays the name Avalon Park. A sub-sign at this park incorporates and acknowledges both the English (Avalon) and Maori (Motutawa) names associated with the park. Motutawa Pa was previously located in the grounds of Avalon Park. Bilingualism does not imply that Motutawa is a direct translation of Avalon. This is the original name for this area and it is therefore important that Council acknowledges the history and traditions of this area in its totality.

In relation to the Naming Policy, this comes into effect when a name is first given, or changed – not when a bilingual name is added. I can advise that officers reviewed the policy to confirm that the sign replacement and wording changes were of an operational nature and did not constitute an official ‘name change’.

The Naming Policy is currently under review and we will seek to align this with the guide for best practice produced by Te Puni Kōkiri and Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori in terms of increasing and improving bilingual signage.

Nāku noa, nā

Kate Ostapowicz

Senior Advisor, Official Information

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-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 13 September 2021 9:12 AM
To: "Contact" <Contact@huttcity.govt.nz>

Cc: "Simon Edwards" <simon.edwards@huttcity.govt.nz>, "Chris Milne" <chris.milne@huttcity.govt.nz>

Subject: Avalon Park

Good morning,

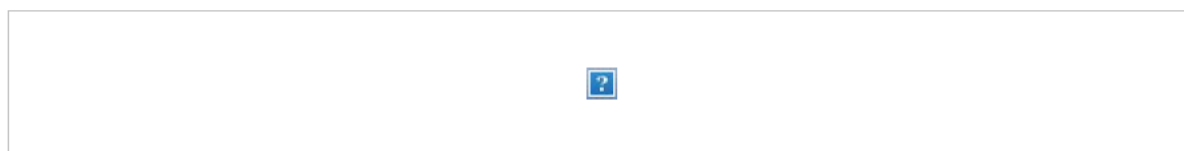
Please refer to the attached photo.

Can you please advise me when the Council consulted to change the name of Avalon Park. Under the Council's naming policy that is a decision that must be made by Elected Members. Given the city wide significance of Avalon Park, I would expect that a comprehensive city wide consultation would have been undertaken.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

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