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**From:** Information Management Team  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 2 May 2023 4:03 pm  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Ceinwen Curtis  
**Subject:** LGOIMA request: Sovereign citizens  
**Attachments:** 202301300934.pdf

Kia ora Amy

## **Request for Information pursuant to the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA)**

Thank you for your correspondence of 30 March 2023, in which you have requested information about 'Sovereign Citizen' ideals being referred to as justification for non-payment of rates and other payments to Hutt City Council. Your request has been considered under the LGOIMA.

Hutt City Council has seen Sovereign Citizen ideals (and similar approaches) being mentioned on occasion by its citizens, particularly in relation to payment of parking infringement fines. Our Rates Team does not recall any incidents. We have been unable to locate records of the term 'Sovereign Citizen' being used by our customers, so accordingly we are unable to provide the specific information you have requested.

We have attached one record, this relating to a dog control matter. Some information has been withheld from this record under section 7(2)(a) of the LGOIMA, to protect the privacy of individuals.

Hutt City Council's approach to managing these situations is to continue with the enforcement action. Anecdotally, the teams report no increase in cases noticed by Hutt City Council, nor have there been records of physical threats received.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this letter may be published on the Council's website.

Kind regards, Susan

**Susan Sales**

Ringa Āwhina Tāhūhū ki Te Koromatua | Senior Advisor

Te Kaunihera o Te Awa Kairangi | Hutt City Council, [30 Laings Road](#), Private Bag 31912, Lower Hutt 5040, New Zealand  
Paetukutuku: [www.huttcity.govt.nz](http://www.huttcity.govt.nz)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 30 March 2023 2:45 pm  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Media request: Sovereign citizens

Kia ora,

I am a Stuff reporter looking into "sovereign citizens" (people who claim they are not subject to New Zealand laws). I am aware that at least one council has reported an increasing number of issues with/correspondence from this group.

I would like to see all correspondence received by your council staff and elected members from "sovereign citizens" since January 2020. This is including but not limited to LGOIMAs, emails, letters.

If the above documentation doesn't cover this:

- how many ratepayers have refused to pay rates or abide by other council processes based on sovereign citizen ideals? What action have you taken regarding this?
- Please include any threats to your staff or elected members from sovereign citizens. How many of these have been referred to police?

I understand if for privacy reasons names and details are redacted.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards

Amy

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**Amy Ridout**

Reporter

s7(2)(a)



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26<sup>th</sup> January 2023  
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s7(2)(a)

Lower Hutt 5019

To, Pieter Mans  
Animal Services  
21 Meachen Street  
Seaview  
Lower Hutt 5010

Dear Pieter Mans,

Today, the 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023 we received notice by unnamed writer to contact, which we do not understand.

To clarify the situation would Pieter Mans kindly respond to the following questions within 14 days; With the stipulation that your non-response will be acknowledged as tacit acceptance and admission  
HRC 8.48.

Question 1---Are you Pieter Mans an agent of the Crown?

Question 2---Are you Pieter Mans sworn to uphold statute?

Question 3---Are you Pieter Mans sworn to uphold the crimes act 1961?

Question 4---Are you Pieter Mans in breach of s.240 crimes act 1961?

Question 5---Should this not be treated as resolved/discharged under s.40 contract and commercial law act 2017 or paid in full tetel?

DISTRICT COURT

26 JAN 2023

HUTT VALLEY

Released under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act

DISTRICT COURT

26 JAN 2023

HUTT VALLEY

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NOTICE

We believe that this is a fraudulent claim for unjust enrichment as there does not appear to be a sworn affidavit to substantiate the claim/charge, or a plaintiff willing to take the stand to testify to the veracity of the accused claim/charge.

Any further attempt by Pieter Mans to extort money will require a letter signed by Pieter Mans in his private capacity under his own full commercial liability in order for us to address full accountability and seek legal recourse under the fair trading act 1986 s.21(c) and s.23.

In the interim, this is a Cease-and-desist order until this matter is finalised with the stipulation that any further contact will invoke the fees contained in our schedule (see attached).

s7(2)(a)

Principal

Released under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act

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Fee Schedule: For the services to be rendered, the facilities furnished and expenses assumed by the pursuant to this Agreement, the Fund ( for and behalf of each portfolio or class of shares thereof, as applicable) shall pay to the Trust Estate Beneficiary compensation as specified in schedule.

Released under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act