



17 March 2026

Jonathan Clifford

s7(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Jonathan,

Request for Information – Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA) 1987

We refer to your official information request dated 21 February 2026, seeking information on whether Council has issued exemptions to NZTA that allow safety cameras to be parked in locations that would otherwise be unlawful and the process for granting any such exemptions. Specifically, you requested:

- 1. Has Hutt City Council issued any exemptions to NZTA to park safety cameras in a way that would be normally deemed unlawful? Eg berms etc*
- 2. Have they issued any exemptions at all?*
- 3. If so what was the process and does it include vote from sitting councillors?*

Answer:

Council has not issued any exemptions to the NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) to allow safety camera vehicles to park in locations that would otherwise be unlawful. Accordingly, we are refusing this part of your request under section 17(g) of the LGOIMA because the information is not held.

For completeness, we note the general legal position that applies to the examples you mentioned. The [Land Transport \(Road User\) Rule 2004](#) prohibits a driver from driving a motor vehicle on a lawn, garden or other cultivation adjacent to, or forming part of, a road, which is usually how a vehicle would

access a grass berm. Parking on berms and road margins is also covered by clause 6.2 of the Rule, which provides that a driver must not stop or park on the roadway if they are able to stop or park on the road margin without damaging any ornamental grass plots, shrubs or flower beds on that margin. This means that vehicles may stop or park on a road margin, including a grass berm, provided that doing so does not damage planted or cultivated areas and the vehicle is otherwise parked safely and lawfully.

Council's Traffic Bylaw 2017 adopts the same approach as the national rule. The bylaw restricts parking on berms, verges, kerbs, lawns, gardens or other cultivation where this would cause, or be likely to cause, damage, or where it would obstruct traffic, pedestrians or visibility for drivers entering or exiting the roadway. These rules operate alongside the general requirement to park with due care and consideration.

In response to your question about process, there has been no instance where a process has been applied for an exemption for NZTA safety camera parking. As the activity you described is already permitted under the Land Transport Rule and reflected in Council's bylaw where no damage occurs and the vehicle is otherwise parked safely, no exemption would generally be required in these circumstances. As no exemption is required, no process exists for elected member votes or decision-making about this activity.

If a request for a parking or stopping change were made in the future, Council's Traffic Bylaw sets out how Council may regulate parking and stopping through formal resolutions, for example to create or restrict parking spaces or reserved or no-stopping areas. Such resolutions are decided at Council meetings. Day-to-day operational permissions and parking enforcement are managed under officer delegations and the existing provisions of the Road User Rule and the Traffic Bylaw.

We also note that NZTA now operates the national safety camera network, including mobile cameras in SUVs and trailers. Placement and operation of those cameras occur across both state highways and local roads, and NZTA's public guidance describes the programme at a national level.

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: [Office of the Ombudsman - Complaints](#), or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response to your information request may be published on Hutt City Council's website: [Proactive releases - Hutt City Council](#).

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebekah van der Splinter'.

Rebekah van der Splinter

Senior Advisor, Official Information and Privacy