



2 February 2024

Jean Dorrell



Dear Jean Dorrell

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

We refer to your official information request dated 9 December 2023 for Plan 56 costs for WSP and Boffa Miskell. We will answer each of your questions in turn.

*1. Total cost paid (excl GST)*

The total costs for WSP were \$26,340. This covered costs for providing historic heritage advice on wind effects, both in the preparation of the initial proposal plan change and as part of the plan change hearing.

The total costs for Boffa Miskell were \$160,543.42. This covered: preparing the summary of decisions requested; providing planning advice relating to historic heritage, natural hazards and residential zones for the plan change hearing; and preparing a document that specified the independent hearing panel's recommendations for each decision required by submitters.

*2. Whether the work was peer reviewed? If so:*

- a) Who completed peer review*
- b) How much were they paid? (if external to HCC)*
- c) Provide a copy of peer review report.*

There was no peer review of the work of WSP or Boffa Miskell. The work of Boffa Miskell was in collaboration with planning experts of the Council, which would have been reviewed, but in an informal, unstructured way.



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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response to your information request may be published on Hutt City Council's website. Please refer to the following link: [www.huttcity.govt.nz/council/contactus/make-an-official-information-act-request/proactive-releases](http://www.huttcity.govt.nz/council/contactus/make-an-official-information-act-request/proactive-releases)

Yours sincerely

Philip Rossiter

Senior Advisor, Official Information and Privacy