



12 January 2026

Suzanne Levy

s7(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Suzanne,

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

We refer to your official information request dated 25 November 2025, seeking information on swimming pool changing room and shower policies. Specifically, you requested:

I would like information about policies regarding single-sex changing and shower facilities at the swimming pools under Hutt City Council management. I am a Lower Hutt resident and a user of these facilities.

- 1. Do you provide changing rooms / showers that are exclusively single-sex?*
- 2. Do you provide changing rooms that are mixed-sex?*
- 3. Which facilities do you allow trans-identifying males to use?*
- 4. What does your changing room signage say across the various facilities?*
- 5. If you provide single-sex facilities, what options are there for people who do not wish to use the facility that matches their sex? (this is obviously similar to question 3)*

Answer:

Council operates a number of aquatic facilities that are used by a wide range of people within the community. These facilities are shared public spaces and are intended to meet the needs of everyone in our community.

All Council-operated aquatic facilities provide communal single-sex (male and female) changing rooms/shower areas. In addition to these spaces, most sites also provide alternative options such as family/whānau and accessible changing rooms, for people who do not wish to use the communal single-sex spaces. These facilities are available for anyone to utilise, including those who require or prefer additional privacy, or those that have accessibility or other needs.

Council does not have any specific policy that prescribes which changing or showering facilities must be used by particular groups, including trans-identifying people. Changing and showering facilities at Council sites are labelled to indicate the type of space available, such as male, female, family/whānau, or accessible changing rooms.

For completeness, the types of changing facilities available at Council-operated pool sites are as follows:

- **Stokes Valley Pool** – male and female changing rooms, and three family or accessible changing rooms.
- **Te Ngāengae Pool** – male and female changing rooms, and multiple family or accessible options.
- **Huia Pool** – male and female changing rooms, and multiple family or accessible options.
- **Wainuiomata Pool** – male and female changing rooms, and an accessible changing room.
- **Eastbourne Pool** – male and female changing rooms, and an accessible changing room.
- **McKenzie Baths** – male and female changing rooms only.

Council manages its facilities as shared public amenities. General expectations relating to respectful conduct apply to all users of Council facilities. Matters relating to safety and/or conduct are addressed in accordance with Council's standard operational practices.

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 'R van der Splinter', written in a cursive style.

Rebekah van der Splinter

Senior Advisor, Official Information and Privacy