



05 March 2025

Daniel Chrisp

s7(2)(a)

Dear Daniel

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

We refer to your official information request dated 14 February 2025 for:

“...Documents relating to the Upper Hutt Akatarawa Cemetery Development including

- 1. the most recent versions of the project plan as well as the first original version.*
- 2. all procurement documents relating to the awarding of the contract including names of other companies that tendered for the contract.*
- 3. names of any industry experts whether individuals, organisations or consultants that have peer reviewed or advised on any aspect of the project.*
- 4. copies of the first concept plan and the most recent concept or design plan (whether draft or final copies), preferably including details such as hectares originally available for development and latest estimated hectares available.*
- 5. the 2024 casket interment rate at Akatarawa cemetery, split into new plots sold (including for pre purchase) and 2nd interments. Please exclude baby burials. Please also provide a breakdown of how any were Lower Hutt Residents.*
- 6. all detailed calculations relating to how the councils have determined how many years of capacity is left at the existing cemetery.*
- 7. documents relating to any work to investigate how to extend the existing capacity at the existing Akatarawa Cemetery land through CAPEX development.”*

Answer:

Whilst Hutt Valley residents are interred at Akatarawa cemetery, the cemetery is in Upper Hutt and is managed by Upper Hutt City Council (UHCC). The Akatarawa cemetery project is similarly being managed by them. Although, Hutt City Council can access the information from UHCC, we don't hold the information ourselves as the joint cemetery is in the jurisdiction of Upper Hutt. Therefore, information on all questions will be held by UHCC/ Akatarawa Cemetery project.

In terms of question 6, UHCC will be able to provide the details for capacity at Akatarawa cemetery. However, although we don't have detailed calculations in years, our records show that we have approximately 1300 second/additional body burials for monumental and general burial areas remaining at Taita cemetery. Please note that all body burial plots have been sold, so the number listed above is for all plots that have already been purchased. There is no additional capacity at Taita cemetery for new general burial plots.

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 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

Yours sincerely

Lakna Siriwardena

Legal Operations Advisor