

30 June 2023

Alan Waller

§ 7(2)(a)

Susan Sales
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Our reference: LGOIMA

Dear Alan

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

We refer to your official information request dated 14 June 2023 for the following in relation to consultation on the 2023/23 annual plan:

1. *How many submitters in total were received.*
2. *In reference to the question below, (a) how many submitters answered this question and (b) how many submitters did not agree to increase the budget for the Eastern Bays cycleway.*

We're proposing to increase the budget for Tupua Horo Nuku (Eastern Bays Shared Path) to meet increasing costs, so we continue our work to improve the resilience of the Eastern Bays and coastal road, and provide a safe shared path for our community.

This project started in 2022, with work on two bays already underway. However, the cost to deliver the remaining four bays of Tupua Horo Nuku has increased significantly.

The main reasons for these cost increases include:

- *Additional requirements as part of the resource consent process*
- *Other cost pressures that are impacting many of our projects: increasing costs of labour and construction materials, impacts on supply chain*

The project has assumed funding from Crown Infrastructure Partners and Waka Kotahi. This will increase our 2023-24 budget by \$4.7 million. The total project cost, net of assumed co-funding, will be \$24.5 million.

3. *In reference to the question below, (a) how many submitters in total were received for this question and (b) How many submitters did not agree with this proposal.*

Do you agree that given the increased cost pressures on our work as well as the current economic climate, a rates increase of 9.9% (after growth) is reasonable?

The information you have requested is provided below. We have answered each question separately as it relates to both survey responses and written submissions received.

1. 124 individual survey responses were received, and 21 written submissions.

2. Responses to the consultation question on Tupua Horo Nuku (Eastern Bays Shared Path):
 - (a) 120 individual survey responses were received to this question, of which 54 individuals expressed that they do not agree with the budget increase for this project.
 - (b) Three written responses were received, of which 1 person expressed that they do not agree with the budget increase for this project.

3. Responses to the consultation question on whether respondents felt that a rates rise of 9.9% (after growth) is reasonable:
 - (a) 119 individual survey responses to this question, of which 57 individuals expressed that they do not agree.
 - (b) Seven written submissions, of which seven people expressed that they do not agree.

Please note that this response to your information request and your name may be published on Hutt City Council's website, on the following link: www.huttcity.govt.nz/council/contact-us/make-an-official-information-act-request/proactive-releases

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 or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Susan Sales

Senior Advisor Official Information and Privacy