



29 August 2025

Nicola Bray

s7(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Nicola,

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

We refer to your official information request dated 4 August 2025, asking for:

In regard to the application for an easement for WWL over Hautana Square, I wonder if you could provide me with a copy of the report or application furnished to HCC by WWL, seeking approval for a well and necessitating an easement. Also, a copy of the easement if it currently exists, and recent (2025) correspondence such as emails etc between HCC and WWL, relating to the well.

On our acknowledgement of your LGOIMA request, you clarified the following:

I wish you to treat my LGOIMA with urgency as the closing date for Hautana Square easement submissions has been set by HCC itself as 29 August.

I am specifically interested in any recent report(s) or recommendations provided to HCC from Wellington water or its contractors or any other body concerning siting a well on Hautana Square. It/they will be within the last 3 or so months. It should not be hard to find. It/they will possibly be addressed to Parks and Reserves HCC but may have had more general distribution. Plus any correspondence or emails relating to any such report and the need for an easement for the well.

Answer:

Thank you for your continued interest and engagement on this matter. Before responding to your request, we would like to provide some important context.

The advertisement that appeared on Council's *Have Your Say* webpage and in the Hutt News, was published earlier than intended due to an internal oversight. The listing displayed incorrect information about an easement proposed over Hautana Square for 'gas services' for Wellington Water Limited (WWL). We acknowledge that this may have caused confusion, and the notice was withdrawn as soon as the error was identified.

In relation to your request, Council has not received any formal report or application from WWL seeking approval for a well or an easement over Hautana Square. We also do not hold any reports or recommendations from WWL, its contractors, or any other body concerning the siting of a well in this location within the last three months. No easement currently exists.

WWL is still assessing potential sites for a water bore and has not submitted a formal application to Council for either a lease or licence agreement. Council is the landowner in this instance, but not the project lead. Once WWL completes its assessments and submits an application, Council will follow the required statutory processes under the Reserves Act 1977, including public notification and Council approval.

We are releasing the attached letter dated 7 August 2025 from Council to WWL, which outlines the nature of the error and confirms the status of the project.

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: [How to make a complaint | Ombudsman New Zealand](#), or freephone 0800 802 602.

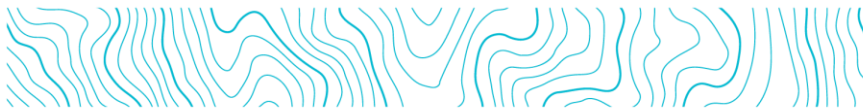
Please note that this response to your information request may be published on Hutt City Council's website: [Proactive releases | Hutt City Council](#).

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. van der Splinter', written in a cursive style.

Rebekah van der Splinter

Senior Advisor, Official Information and Privacy



To: Rory Milne
Senior Stakeholder Engagement Advisor
Wellington Waters
Rory milne@wellingtonwater.co.nz

In cc: Niall Chapman
Senior Project Manager/ Wellington Project Management Team Lead
Stantec
Niall.Chapman@stantec.com

7th of August 2025

Subject: *Land Use Arrangement for Potential Well Installation at Hautana Square*

Kia ora Rory,

Please be informed that we have cancelled the recently listed Reserves Act notice in Council's *Have Your Say* webpage and in the last edition of Hutt News in relation to various proposed activities over reserve land. The notice regarding Wellington Water's interest in a water bore installation was incorrectly and prematurely listed due to human error and thus was pulled as soon as we became aware of the error.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we will need to ensure your assessment on water bore site selection proceeds in accordance with both statutory requirements and the expectations of the community. As you will be aware, once we receive the full application from Wellington Water we will then proceed with the statutory obligations under the Reserves Act to publicly notify and receive Council approval. We anticipate that the next round of Council meetings will be in November.

Kind regards,

Stephan Titze

Parks Project Manager