
From: Information Requests
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 10:46 am
To: s7(2)(a)@stuff.co.nz
Subject: A response to your LGOIMA request: Insurance communications regarding property insurability (Macdonald)

Tēnā koe Nikki,

Thank you for your request of 29 April 2026.

In response to your request, Council does not hold any communications since 1 January 2025 between insurance companies and Council staff and or elected members regarding the current or future insurability of properties in the region.

Accordingly, your request is refused under section 17(e) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 on the basis that the information requested does not exist.

By way of context, decisions about the insurability of individual properties are generally matters for insurers and their clients, based on the specific characteristics of those properties such as location, age, construction, and claims history.

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.

Ngā mihi nui,

Rebekah van der Splinter
Senior Advisor, Official Information and Privacy

Hutt City Council, 30 Laings Road, Hutt Central, Lower Hutt 5010
P: 04 570 6666 | W: www.huttcity.govt.nz



From: Information Requests
Sent: Thursday, 30 April 2026 12:03 pm
To: s7(2)(a)@stuff.co.nz
Subject: Your LGOIMA request: Insurance communications regarding property insurability (Macdonald)

Tēnā koe Nikki,

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION - LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT 1987: ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF REQUEST

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your official information request dated 29 April 2026, for information on communications between insurance companies and Council relating to the current or future insurability of properties in the region.

We will endeavour to respond to your request as soon as possible, and no later than 20 working days from the date it was received. Based on this timeframe, you can expect a response by **27 May 2026**. If we are unable to respond by that date, we will notify you of an extension.

If the information you have requested is no longer required, we would appreciate you letting us know.

Please note that we may publish our response to your request, including your name, on Council's website if we consider there is a public interest in sharing the information provided to you. You can view published responses at: [Proactive releases | Hutt City Council](#).

Ngā mihi nui,

Rebekah van der Splinter

Senior Advisor, Official Information and Privacy

Hutt City Council, 30 Laings Road, Hutt Central, Lower Hutt 5010

P: 04 570 6666 | W: www.huttcity.govt.nz



From: Nikki Macdonald <[s7\(2\)\(a\)@stuff.co.nz](mailto:s7(2)(a)@stuff.co.nz)>

Sent: Wednesday, 29 April 2026 11:46 am

To: Nikki Macdonald <[s7\(2\)\(a\)@stuff.co.nz](mailto:s7(2)(a)@stuff.co.nz)>

Subject: LGOIMA about insurance coverage

You don't often get email from [s7\(2\)\(a\)@stuff.co.nz](mailto:s7(2)(a)@stuff.co.nz). [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi there

Can you please provide the following, under the LGOIMA:

Any communications since 1 January 2025, between insurance companies and council staff and/or councillors (including the mayor), regarding the current or future insurability of properties in the region.

In anticipation of a commercial sensitivity argument, I would argue that the public's right to know if their primary asset may no longer be able to be protected far outweighs any commercial considerations.

This is reinforced by the fact Buller District Council chose to share this information with its residents.

Please let me know if you have any issues with the scope or nature of this request.

Thanks very much

Nikki

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Nikki Macdonald

Senior writer

s7(2)(a)

10 Brandon Street,
Wellington 6011

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SUNDAY STAR TIMES

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