

28 June 20232

File Ref: OIAPR-1274023063-3530

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

### **Request for information 2023-142**

I refer to your request for information dated 1 June 2023, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 1 June 2023. You have requested the following:

*“Please advise the following, under the act, if information is available:*

- 1. The total number of homes or residential properties on slip-prone land in the region*
- 2. Locations within the region where these properties are, and which is the highest risk*
- 3. Information on the criteria used to determine any need for evacuation or voluntary relocation of residents.*
- 4. The total number of landslips threatening residential properties, from the years 2019 to 2023, categorised by year.”*

### **Greater Wellington’s response follows:**

Greater Wellington does not hold information on landslips threatening homes or residential properties, criteria used to determine any need for evacuation or voluntary relocation of residents, or the total number of landslips threatening properties, as requested above.

Therefore, we are refusing your request under section 17(g) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act), on the basis that the information requested is not held by Greater Wellington and we have no grounds for believing that the information is either —

- (i) held by another local authority or a department or Minister of the Crown or organisation; or
- (ii) connected more closely with the functions of another local authority, or a department or Minister of the Crown or organisation

If you have any concerns with the decision(s) referred to in this letter, you have the right to request an investigation and review by the Ombudsman under section 27(3) of the Act.

### **Additional information**

We do carry information on land that may be susceptible to failure during a large earthquake. This can be viewed online with our publicly facing web map viewer:

[https://mapping.gw.govt.nz/GW/GWpublicMap\\_Mobile/?webmap=fd376f8082924e6fa3246ef195fe2312](https://mapping.gw.govt.nz/GW/GWpublicMap_Mobile/?webmap=fd376f8082924e6fa3246ef195fe2312)

The mapping was undertaken for emergency management and lifelines utilities planning (*ie*, power, water, telecoms, critical infrastructure, roads) and only covers urban areas on the western side of the Wellington Region. It did not extend to the Wairarapa, except along the SH2 road corridor.

It provides general information on areas prone to slope failure but, it was not undertaken for the purposes of, or at a fine enough resolution that can be used for, district planning purposes and is not property specific. The difference between this map and landslide specific mapping is that, although the underlying geology is the same, the triggering mechanism is based on a large earthquake rather than a heavy rain event. Thus, it is unable to be used to calculate the number of houses on slip-prone land in the Region and we are unable to provide information on where the highest risk properties on an individual site basis.

There is some work underway to rectify this knowledge gap being undertaken by GNS Science as part of their SLIDE programme, information on which can be found here:

<https://www.gns.cri.nz/research-projects/slide-stability-of-land-in-dynamic-environments/>

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request will be published shortly on Greater Wellington's website with your personal information removed.

Nāku iti noa, nā



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