

14 March 2024

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Tēnā koe ██████████

Request for information 2024-017

I refer to your request for information dated 14 February 2024, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 14 February 2024. You have requested the following:

“Please supply the following information related to how the bulk water levy is calculated for each of the Long Term Plan periods 2018-2028, 2021-2031 and 2024-2034:

- 1. A schedule of operational and maintenance costs for each of the Long Term Plan periods along with actual costs where that expenditure has already occurred.*
- 2. A schedule of capital and renewal costs and work programmes for each of the Long Term Plan periods along with actual costs where that expenditure has already occurred.*
- 3. Any management, monitoring, reporting or overhead costs not included in either of the categories mentioned in 1. and 2. above.*
- 4. An explanation as to the variance between LTP bulk water charges and actual annual bulk water charges as levied.*
- 5. Executive summaries of Asset Management Plans for the GWRC assets used to produce and deliver bulk potable water to Upper Hutt City, Hutt City, Porirua City and Wellington City.*
- 6. Anticipated costs to meet the monitoring and reporting requirements of Taumata Arowai.*
- 7. A schedule and anticipated costs for any studies undertaken, or planned to be undertaken, in relation to the provision of additional sources of water to service the needs of Upper Hutt City, Hutt City, Porirua City and Wellington City to service growth.*

8. A schedule and anticipated costs for any studies undertaken, or planned to be undertaken, in relation to water demand management for the communities of Upper Hutt City, Hutt City, Porirua City and Wellington City.

9. An explanation as to how all the costs mentioned in items 1. to 7. above are integrated into the bulk water unit charges.”

Greater Wellington’s response follows:

Parts 1-4

1} A schedule of operational and maintenance costs for each of the Long Term Plan periods along with actual costs where that expenditure has already occurred.

- **Attachment 1** contains this information.

2} A schedule of capital and renewal costs and work programmes for each of the Long Term Plan periods along with actual costs where that expenditure has already occurred.

- **Attachment 1** contains this information.

3} Any management, monitoring, reporting or overhead costs not included in either of the categories mentioned in 1. and 2. above.

- All management, monitoring, reporting or overhead costs are included in **Attachment 1**.

4} An explanation as to the variance between LTP bulk water charges and actual annual bulk water charges as levied.

- In **Attachment 1**, we have provided explanations to the variance in each financial year column for each of the LTP’s.

Parts 5-8

5} Executive summaries of Asset Management Plans for the GWRC assets used to produce and deliver bulk potable water to Upper Hutt City, Hutt City, Porirua City and Wellington City; **and**

6} Anticipated costs to meet the monitoring and reporting requirements of Taumata Arowai; **and**

7} A schedule and anticipated costs for any studies undertaken, or planned to be undertaken, in relation to the provision of additional sources of water to service the needs of Upper Hutt City, Hutt City, Porirua City and Wellington City to service growth; **and**

8} A schedule and anticipated costs for any studies undertaken, or planned to be undertaken, in relation to water demand management for the communities of Upper Hutt City, Hutt City, Porirua City and Wellington City

We consulted Wellington Water Limited on **Parts 5-8** of your request, as the information requested is more closely connected to its functions. You will receive a response from Wellington Water Limited within statutory timeframes.

Part 9

9} An explanation as to how all the costs mentioned in items 1. to 7. above are integrated into the bulk water unit charges.

Greater Wellington's bulk water supply activity is funded by the bulk water levy, a levy on the metropolitan city councils supplied with water that is set and collected in accordance with the Wellington Region Water Board Act 1972. Each of the four metropolitan city councils is charged based on the previous year's proportionate consumption of bulk water supplied by Greater Wellington. Some adjustments are needed at the end of each financial year to reflect the amount of water actually consumed by each city. Accordingly, charges raised to the cities previously are revised and credits or invoices issued for the adjustments. The costs for the bulk water funding are the Wellington Water Limited operating costs and also includes Greater Wellington water costs of financing interest and debt repayment, rates, rent, power, overheads and insurance. This is presented in the Funding Impact Statements in the Annual Plan or Long Term Plan and used to calculate the levy.

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 Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

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

Alison Trustrum-Rainey
Kaiwhakahaere Matua, Pūtea me ngā Tūraru | Group Manager Finance and Risk