

12 March 2024

File Ref: OIAPR-1274023063-25693

[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Request for information 2024-032

I refer to your request for information dated 3 March 2024, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 3 March 2024. You have requested the following:

“Under the LGOIMA, I would like to please request the following:

- what is the current status of the purchase of new tri-mode trains for the Manawatu and Wairarapa lines?
- how many of the four-car sets are being purchased - is it still 18 as per the April 2023 announcement or have additional four-car sets been ordered or are planning to be ordered?
- what was the original total budget for the project broken down by the cost for the 18 tri-mode trains, and associated infrastructure improvements needed to support them as agreed in the April 2023 announcement?
- what is the current total budget for the project broken down by the cost for however many tri-mode trains are being ordered and associated infrastructure improvements needed to support them?”

Greater Wellington’s response follows:

What is the current status of the purchase of new tri-mode trains for the Manawatu and Wairarapa lines?

Procurement of the fleet is currently undergoing a two-stage process: (1) Expression of Interest (EOI) and (2) Request for Proposals (RFP).

The EOI has already been released to the international rolling stock market on 13 December 2023 and closed 21 February 2024. This is currently being evaluated, with the expectation that the RFP will be released to a short list of respondents mid-2024.

How many of the four-car sets are being purchased - is it still 18 as per the April 2023 announcement or have additional four-car sets been ordered or are planning to be ordered?

We are planning to order 18 four-car units as per the April 2023 announcement. However, there is an option for additional orders to be placed.

What was the original total budget for the project broken down by the cost for the 18 tri-mode trains, and associated infrastructure improvements needed to support them as agreed in the April 2023 announcement?

The complete scope of the LNIRIM Programme has a cost of \$874m. The breakdown of that cost is commercially sensitive as we are in the process of procuring the rolling stock.

We are therefore refusing this part of your request under section 7(2)(h) and 7(2)(i) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) to:

(h) enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities; or

(i) enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).

When refusing under this section we are required to consider the public interest in the release of the information. We have considered the public interest and believe that it does not outweigh our decision to withhold this information given the impact it could have on negotiations.

What is the current total budget for the project broken down by the cost for however many tri-mode trains are being ordered and associated infrastructure improvements needed to support them?

Please see the response to your question above.

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.

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



Samantha Gain

Kaiwhakahaere Matua Waka-ā-atea | Group Manager Metlink

PROACTIVE RELEASE