FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE



24 November 2025

Tēnā koe

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT 1987: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Thank you for your email requesting information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA). A decision has now been made on your request pursuant to section 13 of the LGOIMA, and to provide the information requested.

In your request, you asked for further information about the potential sale of 1a Muriwai Drive, specifically with the following questions.

- There is reference to iwi consultation about harbour board leasehold properties. Can I have more information about this process?
 - The Whakatāne District Council is currently undertaking a process to consider the future management of its harbour board properties. No decision has been made yet, and public consultation would be required before any changes could be made. As part of the work to inform the Council, staff have been instructed to engage with Ngāti Awa to understand its views. This process is ongoing and no formal feedback has yet been provided.
- What outcomes, if any have there been from the iwi consultation on these proposed disposal?
 - Staff have engaged with Ngai Tūhoe about the Hodges Road property. This has occurred through the General Manager Planning, Regulatory and Transport, who meets regularly with the Chief Executive of Te Uru Taumatua at scheduled meetings. Ngai Tūhoe's views have been sought and will be provided to the Council in the paper seeking its decision.
 - Staff met with the Chief Executive of Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa to discuss the process for consultation. Staff were advised that consultation regarding the properties being considered for potential disposal should be considered separately to any other discussions about Council owned property. Staff met separately with the Chief Executive of the Runanga to discuss

these properties and provide background information. We later received advice from the Rūnanga that the matter had been discussed at its board meeting. Following this meeting, it was indicated that staff should engage with each impacted hapū individually, and we were provided with a list of the appropriate hapū. Each hapū representative was contacted and asked if they would like to meet. All three have responded. Written information has been provided to each hapū (with the same information provided on each property to each impacted hapū) and to date one hapū has met staff and been shown the properties. One meeting is scheduled for later this week. To date no feedback has been provided from hapū regarding the properties, but this is expected over the coming weeks.

• When is the council likely to further consider this disposal process?

Staff had initially hoped that this matter would be considered at the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held on 4 December 2025. However it is likely that this will be delayed until the next Council meeting to allow further time for feedback from hapū. At that meeting, feedback from the community will be presented alongside feedback from hapū. The Council will then consider and instruct staff on which direction to take. No decision has been made at this time.

If you would like to discuss this matter with our Manager Strategic Property, would be happy to meet you. can be reached a what a what

If you are not satisfied with my response, you are entitled to request a review by the Ombudsman. Further information can be obtained from the following website www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note that this response may be published on our website. All personal information will be removed.

Nāku noa, nā

Steven Perdia
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

