FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE



13 August 2025



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

Thank you for your email dated 8 August 2025 requesting official information which we have processed 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 information about residential expansion, specifically:

- Where can I obtain the WDC plan for residential expansion?
- Can I visit WDC and request a copy?

The Council has recently completed, along with Kawerau and Ōpōtiki District Councils, and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, the Eastern Bay of Plenty Spatial Plan. This is 30-year plan outlining future growth areas both for residential housing and for commercial and industrial use. The next stage is to implement the Spatial Plan actions. Amongst those is the development of a Local Growth Strategy, which is underway. Its purpose is to further consider the appropriateness of the growth areas identified in the Spatial Plan and to develop a structure plan for the preferred option(s), identify infrastructure requirements and to assist with the timing of zoning changes and funding options. I have provided a link to the Eastern Bay of Plenty Spatial Plan for your information:

https://www.whakatane.govt.nz/documents/council-plans/eastern-bay-plenty-spatial-plan

In addition, I have included a link to the operative Whakatāne District Plan, which outlines the current planning framework for land development:

https://www.whakatane.govt.nz/documents/council-plans/operative-district-plan-2017

On this basis, you do not have to visit WDC to request a copy of these documents, but if you have any queries about these planning documents, please do not hesitate to contact the planning department in the first instance.

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