

10 December 2025

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

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 information about the Sullivan Lake budget, specifically, documentation compiled for the budget amount in the 2026 year in relation to partial remediation of Sullivan Lake, including:

- removal of lilies
- laying the new protective carpet
- installation of new bund

You asked that the documentation should include:

- quotes or financial analysis of the costs involved
- the planned methodology used to complete the above tasks that are included in the quotes/financial analysis
- timing of the project
- reasons for these tasks being undertaken and not others recommended in Hamill's report, which was adopted by the Whakatāne District Council.

I have attached the following documents relating to the establishment of a budget to implement recommendations of the "Sullivan Lake Water Quality, Ecology and Improvements Report":

- The Living Together Committee Meeting agenda for Friday 29 February 2024. Included in the agenda is a recommendation that the Living Together Committee receives the "Awatapu Lagoon, Sullivan Lake and Matatā Lagoon Recommended Environmental Improvements" report and notes that a decision regarding the funding required to carry out further maintenance and improvements to these water bodies will be made by the Council as part of the Long Term Plan 2024/34 budget and work programme process.

- An email from Keith Hamill summarising the Sullivan Lake and Awatapu Priority Interventions and Costings.
- The Ordinary Council Meeting Wednesday, 8 May agenda which includes Item 4.38 Sullivan Lake.
- The Minutes of the Whakatāne District Council Meeting held on 8 May 2024 which includes the Long Term Plan Deliberations Report/ Management Recommendations.

With regard to your request about what the documentation should include, please see my responses below:

- quotes or financial analysis of the costs involved.

There were no formal quotations obtained for the proposed works at the time the budgets were set. Estimates were provided by the author of the 'Sullivan Lake Water Quality, Ecology and Options for Improvement' report based on his previous experience (please see attached email).

- the planned methodology used to complete the above tasks that are included in the quotes/financial analysis.

The planned methodology was not included at the time the budgets were set.

- timing of the project

The timing of the project was dependent on the funding decision made by the Council as part of the Long Term Plan 2024/34 budget and the work programme process, and was subsequently included in 2025/26.

- reasons for these tasks being undertaken and not others recommended in Hamill's report, which was adopted by WDC.

A sub-set of priority interventions were selected from the 'Sullivan Lake Water Quality, Ecology and Options for Improvement' report following discussion with the author, and their potential benefits while maintaining affordability. Increasing flow augmentation was excluded as the Council is meeting the recommended flow requirements presently.

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