



Brian Warburton  
Via email: [fyi-request-17192-da650b19@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-17192-da650b19@requests.fyi.org.nz)

15 November 2021

Dear Brian

**Further request for information related to OIA 21-148 for officer contribution to the Proposed District Plan**

Dear Brian

I refer to your email dated 5 November 2021 requesting a copy of the audio and visual recording of the Zoom meeting of 5 October 2021 between Porirua City Council and GWRC staff and a copy of the legal opinion referred to in Mr McDonnell's email of 1 October 2021.

The information is being withheld under section 7(f) and 7(g) to maintain free and frank expression of opinions and legal professional privilege.

Porirua City Council receives legally privileged advice from Simpson Grierson on a range of matters related to the District Plan Review. Legal privilege is important as it allows Council to have free and frank discussions with our legal counsel.

The District Plan hearings are an open public process run by an independent hearings panel. This process provides a mechanism for submitters to discuss matters related to the Proposed District Plan, and where necessary challenge the professional views of Council officers.

We do not think it is appropriate to waive our legal privilege in relation to this advice as the outcomes are in the public arena (refer to [https://pdportal.porirua.govt.nz/hearings-information/hearing-stream-1/Council Right Of Reply - Torrey McDonnell - Hearing Stream 1](https://pdportal.porirua.govt.nz/hearings-information/hearing-stream-1/Council%20Right%20Of%20Reply%20-%20Torrey%20McDonnell%20-%20Hearing%20Stream%201)).

There was no visual and/or audio recording of the Zoom meeting of 5 October 2021 between Porirua City Council and GWRC staff.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of the decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Moana Wyatt at [moana.wyatt@porirua.govt.nz](mailto:moana.wyatt@porirua.govt.nz).

Ngā mihi

**Wendy Walker**  
Chief Executive  
Kaiwhakahaere Matua