

20 January 2022

David Haynes
Submitted via FYI website

By email: fyi-request-17725-957c8040@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear David

Customer Services
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200 Tuam Street
PO Box 345
Christchurch 8140
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**Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (“LGOIMA”):
Request for Information**

I refer to your email dated 2 December requesting information on donations received from the Rakaia Catchment Environmental Enhancement Fund, which was transferred from the Selwyn District Council.

Your request has been referred to me to reply.

On 20/09/21 Environment Canterbury received one grant of \$60,000 (incl GST) from the Rakaia Catchment Environmental Enhancement Society (RCEES) for the Rakaia Gorge Biodiversity Protection and Weed Control Project. The funding of \$60,000 is to cover the financial years of 20/21 and 21/22.

The intention of the project is to carry out a four-year intensive weed control project in the Rakaia Gorge area; in order to protect the currently at-risk significant indigenous biodiversity that is present in the gorge.

To date, none of the money has been spent, however has been allocated, by way of purchase orders, as follows:

- \$5,000 (incl GST) - Drone monitoring of the project
- \$55,000 (incl GST) Weed control of but not limited to cherry laurel, sycamore and cherry species across three privately owned properties in the Rakaia Gorge catchment

Finally, the Rakaia Catchment Environmental Enhancement Society have agreed to contribute a further \$30,000 per annum for the 22/23 and 23/24 financial years.

You will be aware that if you are not satisfied with this response you are able to refer this matter to the Office of the Ombudsman under s27 (3) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact Kerry Tangney in the first instance (kerryn.tangney@ecan.govt.nz or 03365 3828)

Yours sincerely,



Giles Southwell
Director Finance & Corporate Services