

Thursday 16 March 2023

OIA IRO-367

Name: Charles Finley

Email: fyi-request-21801-2133a56f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Kia ora Charles,

Official information request for capability of water supplier network.

Thank you for your official information request dated Saturday 11 February 2023, transferred to us by Wellington City Council on Thursday 16 February 2023.

We have considered your request in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and determined that we are able to grant your request in full.

The information you have requested is enclosed in the Appendix below.

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

Ngā mihi,

Mark Scott

Team Lead, Communications and Engagement

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Our water, our future.

Appendix

Question: Given the recent Stuff article on the number of high-pressure water leaks in Wellington – and the lack of capable suppliers – what efforts are being undertaken by WCC to improve the capability of the supplier market for these, and other in demand services? Is there any linkage on these plans with other procurement agencies in the region?

Alternative response

Our work requires specific skill attributes and there is a lack of suitably skilled and experienced staff in the marketplace.

To address this, we have introduced an Infrastructure Skill Centre Programme which has brought an additional 28 young workers into the water sector. The programme provides new entrants with the basic skills needed to kickstart their careers in the sector.

We have introduced new career pathways for our frontline staff and a new remuneration framework to match staff progression through their careers.

We continue to actively recruit where possible, and we are also leveraging the local subcontractor market to fill roles we have been unable to recruit. We have also reached out nationwide to attract further subcontractors to the region.