



8 May 2023

Josh McGuigan
Via email: fyi-request-22522-7ef1bdc6@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Josh

Official information request relating to the maintenance of street gutters.

I refer to your official information request dated 21 April 2023. The information you have requested is enclosed. The question you specified has been included in bold below, with our response following.

1. What is the councils current programme to maintain and prevent weed growth, soil build-up and general debris in the cities gutters?

Porirua City Council has several programmes and systems in place to target weed growth, soil build up and general debris in the city's gutters:

- **Weed spraying programme** – A weed spraying programme is carried out through the city twice a year. This includes spraying the weeds in the gutters. Our maintenance contractor has programmed the next weed spraying round to be delivered shortly. You can read more about our weed spraying programme on our [website](#).
- **Road sweeping programme** – A road sweeping programme is delivered across the city throughout the year. Our roads are currently programmed to be swept monthly, bi-monthly, or quarterly, depending on the classification of the road in question. You can look at that programme on our [website](#).
Please note, weeds that are well established in the gutter are not easily cleared by the road sweeper until they die off following the weed spraying round.
- **Service Requests** – Our maintenance contractor responds to service requests from residents and businesses to target areas of concern.

We acknowledge that there is currently a high level of weed growth in the gutters across the city and are working to resolve that as soon as possible. A warm wet winter and spring has meant that our maintenance programme has not kept up with the growth as it normally would.

We are currently reviewing our road vegetation contract to ensure it meets the needs of the city in the future and we are working with our maintenance contractor to hand-clean roadside gutters as required. As part of this review, we will look at the scheduled frequency of weed spraying and sweeping on our roads.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Moana Wyatt at official.information@porirua.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi

Wendy Walker
Chief Executive
Kaiwhakahaere Matua