

12 December 2024

File Ref: IRC-7497

John Cuthbert

fyi-request-29192-12173def@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Mr Cuthbert

Thank you for your email of 7 November 2024 to Te Kaunihera o Pōneke | Wellington City Council (the Council) requesting the following information:

- *Could you please supply documents relating to the development of the business case options present recently for the Begonia House at the Botanical Gardens, including reports relating to building survey(s), condition assessment and/or engineering assessments.*

Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA).

Please find attached, as Appendix 01 to my response, a table outlining all documents that being released to you. Some information is being withheld from the documents pursuant to section 7(2)(a) of the LGOIMA, to protect the privacy of natural persons, and section 7(2)(f)(ii) of the LGOIMA, to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of such members, employees, and persons from improper pressure or harassment.

As per section 7(1) of the LGOIMA, I do not consider that in the circumstances of this response, the withholding of this information is outweighed by the other considerations which render it desirable to in the public interest to make the information available.


You will note that some of the documents are noted as 'Option C – Do Minimum' and 'Option E – Preferred'. These two options are clarified below:

- Option C – Do Minimum is where renewals are undertaken where possible, and some assets are demolished and replaced with temporary buildings to ensure the continued operation of Begonia House in its current capacity.
- Option E – Preferred is where comprehensive site-wide renewals and upgrades are carried out, including new staff facilities, toilets, a glazing system, garden store, and services constructed away from the bank (behind the Begonia House) and a new retaining wall will be build.

You have the right, by way of complaint under section 28(1) of the LGOIMA, to request an investigation and review of the Council's decision to withhold information by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you require further information, please contact official.information@wcc.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



Danika Morris-Brown
Senior Advisor Official information
Wellington City Council