



Mountain to Sea

Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ngāmotu

NEW PLYMOUTH DISTRICT COUNCIL

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When replying please quote: 7665083

27 March 2018

Innovation Expert

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Dear Sir/Madam

LGOIMA REQUEST – FITZROY GOLF COURSE

Thank you for your LGOIMA request dated 26 February 2018.

- 1) Can you provide the protocols and policies within NPDC that relate to the submission of unsolicited ideas and their incorporation into the District Long Term Plan?**

New Plymouth District Council has no protocols or policies relating to the submission of unsolicited ideas and their incorporation into the Long Term Plan.

Individuals and organisations approach the Council with unsolicited ideas throughout the term of Council. The Council can then consider whether to make further considerations as part of the development of a draft Long Term Plan.

In addition, individuals and organisations make proposals to the Council through submissions to the draft Annual and Long Term Plans as part of the statutory consultation process. The Council considers each proposal on its merits as part of the deliberations on the relevant plan.

- 2) Does the Mayor or Councillors of NPDC have a unilateral right to submit ideas for public consultation in the Long Term Plan, or is any ratepayer entitled to do this?**

Ratepayers can raise matters for inclusion at any time, or as part of the formal consultation on a Long-Term Plan. It is the Mayor and Councillors role to jointly determine the matters that will be consulted on and determine inclusions in the final Long-Term Plan.

In addition, the Local Government Act 2002 (s41A (2)) states that *“the role of a mayor is to lead the development of the territorial authority’s plans (including the long-term plan and the annual plan), policies, and budgets for consideration by the members of the territorial authority”*.

- 3) **On what basis or advice did the Mayor include the proposed sale of reserve land currently leased to the Fitzroy Golf Club in the District Long Term Plan?**

Decisions relating to inclusion of proposed sale of reserve land as part of the 2018-2028 draft Long Term Plan were made by the full Council at their meeting on 21 December 2017.

- 4) **How was the proposed sale of the reserve land communicated with the public and the Fitzroy Golf Club?**

In August 2017 the Mayor and Acting Chief Executive had a discussion with the Fitzroy Golf Club President and Secretary regarding the proposal.

The Consultation Document is the primary method of communicating the draft 2018-2028 Long Term Plan to the public and seeking their views on the various components of the plan. The document will be available on the Council's website once approved by the Council.

- 4) **Has a business case for the proposed sale been developed? If so who was commissioned to undertake this work and how was it procured?**

Current estimates are based on a high level analysis and are subject to a full master plan and business case being developed for the site.

- 5) **Did the Mayor campaign on selling the reserve land during his mayoralty campaign or subsequently in public communications?**

Mayor Holdom was a member of the public during both election campaigns. The campaign details are not information that the Council holds.

- 6) **What advice has the council received regarding the ability for the Fitzroy Golf Club to renew its lease on the terms of its current lease?**

The Council has received legal advice regarding the lease with the Fitzroy Golf Club.

- 7) **What advice has the Mayor received from Council regarding the proposed sale of the reserve land?**

The mayor has been briefed verbally regarding the process to revoke the reserve status of the land to enable its sale.

- 8) **Does the Council have a conflicts of interest register for any Councillors, the Mayor or council staff who may personally benefit (themselves or organisations close to them) from the sale of the Reserve Land?**

New Plymouth District Council does not have a conflicts of interest register. A regular item appears on all Council and committee agendas and the Mayor and Councillors are asked to declare any conflicts of interest at each individual meeting.

- 9) **Please supply all documents and communications held by the NPDC relating to the proposed sale of reserve land currently occupied by the Fitzroy Golf Club.**

This part of the request will require substantial staff resources to search through a large quantity of information. The LGOIMA requires that we advise you of our decision on your request no later than 20 working days after the day we received your request. Unfortunately, it will not be possible to meet that time limit in relation to this question and we are therefore notifying you of an extension of the time to make our decision in relation to this question, to 13 April 2018.

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.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Governance Lead, Julie Straka on 759 5688 or julie.straka@npdc.govt.nz.

Yours faithfully



Craig Stevenson
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

