

By email

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Ben Hassall

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Dear Mr Hassall

Request for information OIA 2018-138

I refer to your request for information dated 23 July 2018, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) on 23 July 2018. You have requested the following information:

“Can I please have the reports from the PT Funding Review ? I would expect these reports to include the following:

- *The policy rationale used for PT funding*
- *The economic analysis of the economic benefits and distribution of benefits.*
- *The long list options considered under the PT Review including the policy criteria used for assessment and the long list option evaluation scores*
- *The long list options workshop attendees and any reports and presentations for this workshop*
- *The short list options considered under the PT Review including modelling and analysis of short list options; the assessment criteria used and the long list option evaluation scores*
- *Council and stakeholder engagement on short list options including the decision on what option to present for public consultation.”*

GWRC’s response follows:

GWRC has elected to provide you with information from the recent Revenue and Financing (R&F) Policy review that addressed public transport funding.

Context

We note that you based your request off of the methodology presented in the *PT Funding Review 2016 – Scope paper 1 December 2016* document. However, a few months after that

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paper was written GWRC initiated a wider review of its R&F Policy for the 2018-28 Long Term Plan. The PT Funding Review was discontinued as a separate review and incorporated into the wider R&F Policy review. This means that:

- There were no long and short lists of options as originally envisaged, and
- GWRC did not engage in pre-consultation.

Revenue and Financing Policy review

The content for the R&F Policy review was heavily influenced by section 101(3) of the Local Government Act 2002. The review process may be summarised as:

- Internal analysis of each activity, with a particular focus on the rate funding component of each activity
- A Working Group of Councillors and officers to consider broad options, and refine these.
- Council workshops considered those options, and the rates impacts across the region, using a progressively developed and refined rates model.
- Council adopted a proposed policy for consultation
- After community feedback, Council adopted a final policy.

Information released

The attached reports consist of presentations and discussion papers for the Working Group and Council workshops. Below are links to the Council decision reports, and to the consultation material:

- Report to Council (14 March 2018) to adopt the proposed R&F Policy:
 - <http://www.gw.govt.nz/committee-meetings-calendar/detail/7450>
- Council's consultation material is available at the following websites:
 - <http://www.gw.govt.nz/we-re-investing-in-our-region-greater-wellington-10-year-plan/>
 - <https://haveyoursay.gw.govt.nz/whatmatters>
- Agenda and Report of the Hearings Committee: <http://www.gw.govt.nz/committee-meetings-calendar/detail/7463>
- Report to Council (26 June 2018) to adopt the (final) R&F Policy:
 - <http://www.gw.govt.nz/committee-meetings-calendar/detail/7479>

If you have any concerns with the decision(s) referred to in this letter, you have the right to request an investigation and review by the Ombudsman under section 27(3) of the Act.

Yours sincerely



Dave Humm

General Manager, Corporate Services

Attachment 1: Presentation 28 July 2017 LTP Finance Working Group Workshop

Attachment 2: Discussion Paper Council Working Group 20 September 2017 Public Transport Review of Revenue Financing Policy

Attachment 3: Discussion Paper Council Working Group 18 to 19 October 2017 Revenue Financing Policy

Attachment 4: Discussion Paper Council Workshop 29 November 2017 Revenue Financing Policy

Attachment 5: Presentation Council Workshop 29 November 2017 Revenue Financing Policy

Attachment 6: Discussion Paper Council Workshop 13 December 2017 Revenue Financing Policy

Attachment 7: Presentation 8 February 2018 LTP Council Workshop