

18 December 2023

File Ref: OIAPR-1274023063-24669

[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Request for information 2023-301

I refer to your request for information dated 7 December 2023, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 8 December 2023. You have requested the following:

“On behalf of The Martinborough Star, I wish to access the results, relevant reports and commentary resulting from the aerial aquifer survey carried out by helicopter earlier in 2023. Any council staff recommendations arising from the material above is also sought by this request.”

Greater Wellington’s response follows:

The Ruamāhanga Airbourne Electomagnetic Survey (SkyTEM) was flown over the entire Ruamāhanga Valley and was completed on 3 March 2023. GNS Science Te Pū Ao is currently processing the huge amount of raw data collected during the survey. The processing, inversion, and interpretation of the data will take about two years.

Therefore, we are refusing your request under section 17(g) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) on the basis that the information requested is not held by Greater Wellington and we have no grounds for believing that the information is either held or connected with the functions, of another local authority, or a department, or Minister of the Crown or organization.

A 3D lithological model of the Ruamāhanga Valley will be available to the public in December 2024.

Additional information:

Please find attached the SkyTEM acquisition report (**Attachment 1**) which sets out a summary of the survey that was carried out over the Ruamāhanga Valley. GNS was contracted to oversee the survey as the technical expert. GNS provided a letter report recommending that we accept the SkyTEM report and deliverables (**Attachment 2**).

More information on the project can be found on our website here: <https://www.gw.govt.nz/environment/freshwater/learning-more-about-ruamahanga-valley-aquifers/>

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 Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request will be published shortly on Greater Wellington's website with your personal information removed.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Lian Butcher

Kaiwhakahaere Matua, Taiao | Group Manager Environment