

8 January 2024

File Ref: OIAPR-1274023063-24667

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Request for information 2023-303

I refer to your request for information dated 8 December 2023, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on the same day

You have requested the following:

“What factors were considered in determining that Awapuni could supply the root trainer grade and continue with quality, fair market price, and logistical requirements. Who made the decision to scope nurseries outside of the region and authorise [REDACTED] to carry it out. Does the regional council consider a Nursery situated in Palmerston North as local. All the information relating to that decision.”

Greater Wellington’s response follows:

In May 2022 Scott Ihaka (Team Leader Operations), [REDACTED] (Akura Nursery Officer) and [REDACTED] (Akura Nursery employee) met with [REDACTED] and yourself at Norfolk Road Nursery. It was stated that Akura Nursery were looking to localise the growing of native seedlings required for internal programmes. Akura required seedlings to be grown in tinus root trainers as the large-scale planting programme is set up to use this grade. [REDACTED] and yourself informed GW staff that Norfolk Road Nursery would not be able to grow in that grade but could offer RT28s and RT40s.

Following this meeting [REDACTED] contacted the following nurseries within the region: Wainuioru School Community Nursery, Piwakawa Plants, Pae Tu Mokai Nursery, Kohunui Marae Nursery and Clareville Nursery. None of these nurseries could meet the needs of Akura by supplying a tinus root trainer grade. Based on this information [REDACTED] was given permission by Scott to contact Awapuni Nursery to source a tinus root trainer grade. Although located in Palmerston North Awapuni Nursery is a more local nursery than one of our current suppliers. As Akura procures plants for our planting programmes a fair price is factored in.

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

PROACTIVE RELEASE