

4 September 2023

File Ref: OIAPR-1274023063-6739

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Request for information 2023-213

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

“This is a LGOIMA request.

Could I please get a copy of correspondence and reports related to the discovery of a mediterranean fan worm on a boat in the Seaview Marina in Dec 2022? The time frame should begin at the discovery of the worm in December 2022 and run until the most recent date for which information is available.

This should include information about:

- *the boat carrying the worm and how it was found,*
- *how long the worm had been in the Seaview Marina area before it was destroyed,*
- *the "likely spawning event' before it was contained,*
- *the possible risks it poses to biodiversity in Wellington,*
- *the substantial risk to marine farming in the Marlborough Sounds,*
- *the survey of the Seaview Marina by Biosecurity NZ*

All mentioned briefly in paragraph 12 of this council report but I would appreciate further detail.”

Greater Wellington's response follows:

Attached is all email correspondence regarding the *Sabella* discovery in Seaview Marina in late 2022, and the subsequent delimitation survey which was commissioned by Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI), Biosecurity New Zealand (BNZ) to assess the extent of the incursion (**Attachments 1-16**). Greater Wellington do not hold any further information. Should you require more detail, you may contact BNZ directly.

We are withholding personal identifying information, including the vessel name and berth number, from the attachments under section 7(2)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) in order to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.

We have considered whether the public interest in the requested information outweighs Greater Wellington's need to withhold certain aspects of the requested information. As a result, we do not consider that the public interest outweighs Greater Wellington's reason for withholding parts of the documents under the ground identified above.

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.

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
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