

13 November 2023

File Ref: OIAPR-1274023063-23960

[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Request for information 2023-260

I refer to your request for information dated 15 October 2023, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 15 October 2023. You have requested the following:

“When does responsibility sit with Greater Wellington if a noise complaint needs to be raised for excessive noise coming from a vehicle that is in a public space? PCC have previously advised that if the location is Porirua Station that this sits with you. If this is correct, what areas in Porirua would the responsibility sit with Greater Wellington?”

On 18 October 2023, you further requested:

“In addition to my original request can you please also advise the dates and times of any meetings the GWRC has had related to the Excessive Siren noise in the last 6 months and provide a copy of the meeting minutes.”

Greater Wellington’s response follows:

Greater Wellington is responsible for the management and maintenance of the Park and Ride area at Porirua train station. However, we are not an enforcement authority and do not police noise levels. We understand that Police should be contacted to deal with excessive noise coming from a vehicle that is in a public place. We actively take steps to alert Police of events such as this when we become aware of them. We encourage you to contact Police if you wish to raise a noise complaint.

Greater Wellington is aware of the issues relating to siren noise in Porirua. We met with Police and Porirua City Council (PCC), and a representative from the siren club - ‘Switch Hittaz’ - earlier in the year. Metlink, along with Police and PCC, have implemented a few initiatives to deter or mitigate the excessive noise.

Please refer to **Attachment 1** which contains an email summarising the approach from Police in managing the issue following the meeting held with Greater Wellington, Police, and PCC. Please note names, email addresses, and contact numbers of Police and PCC staff, as well as phone numbers and email addresses of our own staff have been withheld 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 document under the ground identified above.

This email (**Attachment 1**) is the only record of any meeting held between Greater Wellington, Police, and PCC.

Police have recently advised us that after the meeting referred to in the attached email chain, the suggested site of Broken Hill Road carpark for sirens battles was deemed unsuitable and the idea was not progressed any further.

Further information

The steps Greater Wellington have employed to address this issue includes monitoring CCTV via our Rail Monitoring Centre to escalate the situation to Police when we become aware of it, and we have installed a Public Address System into the Porirua Park and Ride Car Park so that the Rail Monitoring Centre can make announcements in the car park when they see undesired activities occurring, such as excessive noise.

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



Samantha Gain

Kaiwhakahaere Matua Waka-ā-atea | Group Manager Metlink

From: [Barry Fryer](#)
To: [Alice Brennan](#); [Mitchell Davis](#)
Subject: FW: Sirens Club-known as switch Hittaz
Date: Friday, 20 October 2023 10:19:03 am
Attachments: [image005.png](#)
[image006.jpg](#)
[image007.gif](#)
[image008.gif](#)
[image009.gif](#)

See below emails as the only record of the meeting we had with Police, PCC, GW and a representative of the Siren Club - 'Switch Hittaz'

Regards,

Barry Fryer

Manager, Rail Asset

Metlink

DD [REDACTED] | M [REDACTED]

100 Cuba St, Te Aro, Wellington 6011 | PO Box 11646, Manners St, Wellington 6142

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From: Barry Fryer

Sent: Friday, February 24, 2023 3:46 PM

To: [REDACTED]@police.govt.nz>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@police.govt.nz>; [REDACTED]@police.govt.nz>;
[REDACTED]@Police.Govt.NZ>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@police.govt.nz>; [REDACTED]@police.govt.nz>

Cc: [REDACTED]@porirua.govt.nz>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@porirua.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: Sirens Club-known as switch Hittaz

Hi,

Sorry for the slow response, but I think we should be saying that Porirua Rail Station Park & Ride is not an desired location – even before 9pm.

Gatherings within park & rides can create safety concerns for commuters, which is not an ideal outcome when we are trying to encourage mode shift on to Public Transport Services.

I would also note that we are experiencing an acerating rate of speakers being stolen from railway stations across the Metlink network. Trentham Station is the latest station to loose multiple speakers.

Regards,

Barry Fryer

Manager, Rail Asset

Metlink

DD [REDACTED] | M [REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@police.govt.nz>

Sent: Thursday, 16 February 2023 1:48 pm

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@police.govt.nz>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@police.govt.nz>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@Police.Govt.NZ>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@police.govt.nz>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@police.govt.nz>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@poriruacity.govt.nz>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@poriruacity.govt.nz>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gw.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: Sirens Club-known as switch Hittaz

Team

Is it fair to state the following after the meeting

- Broken Hill Road Carpark can be used for these siren clubs until 21:00hrs to allow them to set up and test their battles
- The Porirua Rail Carpark is not a good option after 21:00hrs
- Informing a PCC council contact notification person about up and coming gatherings
- Time frame for us to Engage/Educate-explore the options available (as above)-allow word to get around and continue discussions/contact with [REDACTED]

If this is the decision moving forward we will need to address the following

- Patrolling Broken Hill Road after hours-engage/enforce-Breaching bylaws
- Train station Carpark after 21:00hrs-Engage/enforce-Noise complaints/Trespassing
- Moving violations in relation to the speakers being set up externally/playing loud music-Zero Tolerance
- Data collecting and information sharing-Cars/Bicycles-who/what/when/where/why/how
- New trends/new groups

Await replies

Kind Regards

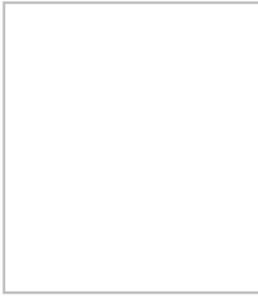
[REDACTED]
Kapiti-Mana Community Police Group | New Zealand Police
M [REDACTED] | E [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@police.govt.nz>
www.police.govt.nz

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PROACTIVE PLEASE