

Laura Bowman

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 19 November 2021 2:15 pm
To: Swim In The City - Wai Kaukau O Kirikiriroa
Cc: official information
Subject: FINAL RESPONSE: LGOIMA 21312 - [REDACTED] / Swim in the City - Information regarding the analysis of HCC meeting public demand for swimming facilities.

Kia Ora,

I refer to your information request below, Hamilton City Council is able to provide the following response.

The swimming needs of our city is something Hamilton City Council reviews in different ways. Through ongoing conversations, feedback, and some external research and analysis – as outlined in the report provided – we continuously look into what we are doing well and what we can do better. If there is a particular document or piece of information you are seeking, please let us know and we will do our best to provide it.

We believe the line you refer to in the Waikato Times article is: Helen Paki, city council's community services unit director, said staff continuously review demand for swimming spaces in the city. Analysis indicates the city is meeting demand.

This refers specifically to swimming space in the city. The reporter asked Helen Paki to respond to comments from Swim in the City about the Waikato Regional Aquatic Facilities Plan's (November 2017) recommendations to add another 20 lanes swimming lanes to Hamilton. Through a statement, Helen told the reporter our current analysis indicated that – considering partnership pools and future planning – Hamilton is meeting the demand for swimming space. While the article did not use Helen's full statement, hopefully this provides some context for you.

We understand that swimming demand will increase as our city grows, and Council will consider its options through the next Long-Term Plan (LTP), as is our usual process for large capital projects. In the meantime, we are focusing on enhancing existing facilities. We are covering the Lido Pool to increase leisure space for swimmers through winter (which will also free up lane space in the 50m pool) and we are supporting commercial initiatives and partnerships to increase options for lane swimmers.

We also continue to meet with important stakeholders and community groups, including Swim in the City, to discuss future provisions and our community's needs. An upcoming meeting you'll be aware of, between Council, Swim in the City, and Sport Waikato, is an example of this collaboration.

We hope this has helped to clear up some of the confusion. Please feel free to contact Helen Paki directly if you wish to discuss further.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Kind Regards,

-----Original Message-----

From: Swim In The City - Wai Kaukau O Kirikiriroa <fyi-request-17329-6be64bd3@requests.fyi.org.nz>
Sent: Sunday, 14 November 2021 8:55 am
To: official information <officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz>
Subject: [Mass email/Possible SPAM] Re: FINAL RESPONSE: LGOIMA 21312 - [REDACTED] Swim in the City - Information regarding the analysis of HCC meeting public demand for swimming facilities.

Dear official information,

Thank you for providing the report "Hamilton City Council – Aquatic Review (Planning Document) September 2021"

However, there must be some mistake. I asked for the "analysis that swimmers' needs are being met" as quoted by Helen Paki. The provided report does not supply an analysis of swimmers' needs nor analysis of whether those needs are being met.

Instead, the report provides details of the existence of swimming pools in the city, including public pools, school pools, and commercially operated swim school and gym pools.

It does not discuss whether or on what basis any of those pools are or are not available to the public. In fact, most of them have either no or very limited public availability.

There is no evidence or mention of any consultation with the public to determine whether or not their needs are being met.

While the record of consultation itemises a meeting with Swimming Waikato there is nothing in the report about that meeting and whether the needs of swimmers was discussed.

If HCC has, as publicly stated, an "analysis that swimmers' needs are being met", please provide it. If HCC does not have such an analysis, please state that.

Yours sincerely,

Swim In The City - Wai Kaukau O Kirikiriroa

-----Original Message-----

Kia Ora,

I refer to your information request below, Hamilton City Council is able to provide the following response.

Please see the attached Hamilton Aquatic Review Planning Document. Note – this is an iterative planning document, we are collecting data and will continue to do so to feed into our Asset Management planning (which will inform proposals to the 2024-34 LTP).

Regarding the quote you have referenced from the Waikato Times, while it was not a 'misquote', it did lack broader context. The comment was made as part of a much larger statement, which covered ways in which Council is investing into Waterworld and Gallagher to increase usage, covering the Lido through winter to create more leisure space, and supporting the development of a commercial pool in Rototuna while we plan for future provision as the city grows.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [1]<https://us-west-2.protection.sophos.com?d=ombudsman.parliament.nz&u=d3d3Lm9tYnVkc21hbi5wYXJsaWFtZW50Lm56&i=NWQzZmFiMDMyY2QxMTcxMTJhYjQ5MWMw&t=dDR2TEpod3MxUIJ0WU9Fb2hxdmlQV3NWNG50cnVQTzZLaVNck9CMEVCOD0=&h=ba6f61b4f60f4cf8b9105c356b5c4c8e> or freephone 0800 802 602.

Kind Regards,

Tatiyana | Official Information & Legal Support Advisor

Legal Services & Risk | People and Organisational Performance

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