

29 July 2022

s 9(2)(a)

Dear s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 22 May 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Question 1 - How many community engagement events/communications (in the form of meetings, letters, emails etc.) regarding social/emergency housing developments has Kāinga Ora/Housing New Zealand conducted in the Hibiscus Coast area in the past 5 years?

Question 2 - Can you provide a copy of the briefing (market research, reasons, community impacts, social values, environmental aspects etc.) to your decision makers regarding the proposed social housing development at 153 Bonair Crescent, Millwater?

Kāinga Ora has conducted two community engagement events in Silverdale. These events took place at our Weir Lane complex. The first event, held in 2019 was a welcome event for customers in the complex and surrounding neighbours. At this time, Kāinga Ora also conducted a survey among customers, to better understand their experiences. The second event, held in 2020 was a 'meet the neighbours' community gathering.

A third event organised in 2021 for 'Neighbours Day' was cancelled due to COVID-19 alert levels. Additionally, Taina Jones, Regional Director met with the Hibiscus Coast Local Board Chair in April 2021.

Please find attached a copy of the Business Case for 153 Bonair Crescent. I am withholding some portions of the document under section 9(2)(j), *withholding is necessary to enable the agency to carry on negotiations without prejudice or disadvantage.*

Many residents of Millwater have expressed feeling taken by surprise over the plans for 153 Bonair Crescent and upset that Kāinga Ora did not consult with the community sooner. As communicated in recent media, we agree that we should have engaged with residents much earlier than we did, and we acknowledge this.

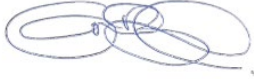
We want to start over and engage properly with this community. This engagement is now underway, including through our Social Pinpoint engagement tool on our website. We encourage you to visit this and have your say (Bonair | Social Pinpoint (kaingaora.govt.nz)).

In the interim, Kāinga Ora has suspended any decision about how we progress the site so that we can listen and understand the community's aspirations for the area.

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 <https://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz> or by freephone on 0800 802 602.

Please note that Kāinga Ora proactively releases our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request may be published, with your personal information removed, at: <https://kaingaora.govt.nz/publications/official-information-requests/>.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a trailing line.

Caroline Butterworth
Deputy Chief Executive – Auckland and Northland

A handwritten signature in blue ink, featuring a large, stylized initial 'P' followed by a few more strokes.

Patrick Dougherty
General Manager – Construction and Innovation