

4 October 2022

File Ref: OIAP-7-25963

By email: [REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

### **Request for information 2022-153**

I refer to your request for information dated 9 September 2022, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 9 September 2022. You have requested the following:

*“Was the photo included in this GWRC media release regarding the declined budget bid for tri-mode trains taken by or paid for by Greater Wellington Regional Council?”*

<https://wellington.scoop.co.nz/?p=144601>

#### **Greater Wellington’s response follows:**

The photo was taken by an officer in Greater Wellington’s Media Team.

The photo was originally distributed in a Greater Wellington media release from 19 May 2022 titled [“BUDGET ABSENCE OF NEW TRAINS SURPRISES AND DISAPPOINTS REGIONAL COUNCILS”](#).

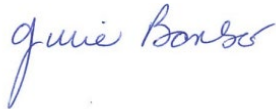
Greater Wellington had recently submitted a business case to the government for recommending a \$762 million dollar investment from the upcoming budget in a fleet of 22 four-car, tri-mode trains, and associated infrastructure.

Both councillors featuring in the photo (Cr Ponter and Cr Gaylor) were involved in this process, in their role as Council Chair (Cr Ponter) and as Chair of Greater Wellington’s Environment Committee (Cr Gaylor). Alongside Chair of Horizons Regional Council, Rachel Keedwell, they also penned last [November’s letter to the Minister on the same issue](#).

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie Barber".

Julie Barber

Kaiwhakahaere Matua Whakamāhorahora | Acting General Manager People and Customer Group

PROACTIVE RELEASE