

18 September 2023

s9(2)(a)



Thank you for your email to Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities, dated 14 August 2023, in which you requested the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- 1. Information regarding the research done for how these new houses will fill jobs that do not exist in Ohakune and not be dependent on government assistance such as the job seekers benefit.*
- 2. Why a development in Ohakune has been selected when at this time there is over 100 properties for sale in an area that only has 1000 residents and would lead to the possibility to increase the population by about 50%*
- 3. Please can you also advise about the selection of location in regard to the development in regard to being next to the carrot park and Snowmass which the houses are often empty for much of the year has there been actual meaningful engagement with the neighbouring areas as they are often unable to attend in community hall meetings and how you have managed this.*

On 23 August 2023, we advised you that we had transferred Parts 1 and 2 of your request, and the matters under Part 3 that relate to the selection of the Teitei Drive site for the proposed development, to Ruapehu District Council, as the information to which that part of your request relates, is more closely connected with the functions of that agency.

On 11 September 2023, we advised you that we had extended the time frame for a decision on your request to 18 September 2023, under section 15A(1)(b) of the Act, because the consultations necessary to make a decision on your request are such that a proper response could not reasonably be made within the original time limit.

I can advise you that several approaches have been used to engage with the community and non-resident property owners on the proposed development at Teitei Drive. Letters were initially sent to owners and residents of properties in the direct vicinity of Teitei Drive (including Snowmass Drive, Carex Way, Cordyline Place, Kanuka Way and Magnolia Way) in June 2023. This included a large number of property owners who live outside of Ohakune.

Invitations to face to face community outreach sessions held on 1 and 2 August 2023, and an online session on 3 August, were sent to the same addresses and also hand delivered to homes by council staff in July 2023. These events were also advertised in the Ruapehu Bulletin and on our Facebook page, and the Facebook invite was subsequently shared by our partners. Invites were emailed direct to those neighbours and residents who we already held contact details for. We have subsequently further engaged with the community at a community barbeque held on 30 and 31 August, which was well attended.

Since the announcement of the project people have been able to raise queries about the proposed development by emailing or phoning a Kāinga Ora representative, or by completing the online feedback survey available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/teiteidrive>.

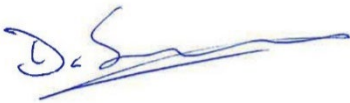
There is further information available on our website at <https://kaingaora.govt.nz/urban-development-and-public-housing/public-housing/public-housing-developments/manawatu-whanganui-region/teitei-drive/> including background information, Frequently Asked Questions, links to the Resource Consent documents, and other information. We will be adding further information to this page as the project progresses.

I trust you find this information helpful. Kāinga Ora and our development partners Ruapehu District Council and Ngāti Rangī are committed to keeping the community updated throughout the project. I encourage you to email us at communities@kaingaora.govt.nz if you have further questions.

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

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

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Soughtton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Daniel Soughtton
Deputy Chief Executive - Central