



Compiled Date	01/09/2022
File Number	22.23.07

## LGOIMA

When releasing responses to previous LGOIMA requests, names and contact details of individual requestors will be withheld to protect their privacy.

Information requested by the media, lobby groups, public sector organisations and MPs will always be published, while information specific to an individual or their property will not generally be published.

<b>Request from:</b>	Private Individual
<b>Information requested:</b>	Racecourse use with Kāinga Ora
<b>Response by:</b>	Simon Bastion, Chief Executive

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01 September 2022

Private Individual

Via Email:

Dear Private Individual

**Official information request for Racecourse use with Kāinga Ora**

I refer to your official information request dated 14 August 2022 for Racecourse use with Kāinga Ora.

You have asked for the following:

- 1) Why is WDC considering an agreement with Kainga Ora when any future social housing investments are so debt ridden and by Kainga Ora's own admission be unlikely to have most healthy home basics?**

The infrastructure acceleration fund is designed to support affordable housing development. In terms of Hokitika, this development of houses would have a sale process of no more than \$500k. There is no proposal for social housing at the racecourse and there will be no Kainga Ora properties provided. Council will be looking to provide its own pensioner housing on site through Destination Westland should the bid be successful.

- 2) With Kainga Ora drowning in debt and WDC also highly debt ridden isn't this extremely unhealthy alliance that could lead to the Westland ratepayer collecting the bill?**

As above, there is no proposal for social housing. The Infrastructure Acceleration Fund, (IAF), if WDC are successful, would generate a significant contribution to putting in roading street lighting and water infrastructure, including drainage of the racecourse.

- 3) With Election 2023 looming and a possibility of change in Government which will undoubtedly mean more fiscal prudence, with Kainga Ora projects and developments likely to be either shelved or reduced – wouldn't it be fiscally prudent for WDC to park this whole process until after the election?**

As above, there is no proposal for Social Housing at the racecourse. Any agreement with Kainga Ora would be to support infrastructure at the racecourse on the part of the racecourse which has been zoned for housing development in the District Plan for a number of years. At present the work being undertaken is limited to geotechnical surveys and a feasibility analysis.

- 4) Why has WDC even entered into this without community consultation?**

There is no proposal for a social housing development and consequently there will be no Kainga Ora customers at the racecourse. There is no development designed and no development scheme to consult upon. If geotechnical analysis and consequently

financial feasibility means that development is unfeasible there will be no agreement with Kainga Ora to help fund infrastructure.

- 5) **Does the future for Hokitika look like Whatatane where Kainga Ora announces the building of a 60 apartment complex for completion in 2025 whilst only streets away a Kainga Ora property has stood unusable for nearly a year due to methamphetamine contamination and a subsequent fire, or Manukau where a 126 storey apartment complex is to be build, is this WDC's view of Hokitika in the future?**

There is no proposal for social housing development and consequently there will be no Kainga Ora customers at the racecourse.

There is no charge in supplying this information to you.

**Council has adopted a Proactive Release Policy and accordingly may publish LGOIMA responses on the Council Website at <https://www.westlanddc.govt.nz/lgoima-responses>.**

The collection and use of personal information by the Westland District Council is regulated by the Privacy Act 2020. Westland District Council's Privacy Statement is available on our website [here](#)

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Mary-anne Bell, Senior Administration Officer at [LGOIMA@westlanddc.govt.nz](mailto:LGOIMA@westlanddc.govt.nz), 03 756 9091.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Simon Bastion** | Chief Executive

SB/MB