

Reference Number: 2024/1133

12 September 2024

[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

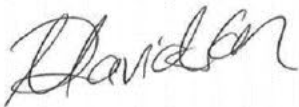
Thank you for email of 4 September 2024 requesting under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA), information relating to the speed humps near schools. Attached is a letter addressed to both Mayor Wanden and myself, from MP Tim Costley.

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

Horowhenua District Council publishes responses to Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) requests that we consider to be of wider public interest, or which relate to a subject that has been widely requested. To protect your privacy, we will not generally publish personal information about you, or information that identifies you. We will publish the LGOIMA response along with a summary of the request on our website. Requests and responses may be paraphrased.

If you would like to discuss this decision or any of the information provided as part of this request, please contact Jacinta Straker (Group Manager Organisation Performance) on jacintas@horowhenua.govt.nz, or LGOIMAOfficer@horowhenua.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi



Monique Davidson
Chief Executive



Tim Costley
MP for Ōtaki

Levin Office Cnr Bath St/Oxford St
Paraparaumu Office Cnr Te Roto Dr/Kapiti Rd
tim.costleyp@parliament.govt.nz

His Worship Bernie Wanden
Mayor of Horowhenua

Monique Davidson
CE Horowhenua District Council

17 June 2024

TAITOKO SCHOOL PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

Tēnā kōrua Mayor Bernie and Monique,

I am writing to share with you the concerns I've heard from the leadership at Taitoko School about road safety.

I met with Renee Taipari (Principal) and Jasmine Craig (Presiding Member) on Friday. Taitoko is an amazing school doing great things for our young people, especially some who have challenging circumstances and a tougher starter in life. I was so impressed by the school, the students, and the incredible things happening there.

Renee shared with me how they have no pedestrian crossing outside their school. They must be one of the only, if not the only, Levin school not to have one. They run a crossing point on the corner of Kinross and Balmoral, an awkward position already, but there is no raised platform to 'calm' traffic, and when the crossing point isn't manned by staff and students there is no marked safe area to cross.

I'm writing on their behalf to see if Council can install a marked crossing point in the first instance, and a raised platform in the second. I'm hopeful that with new funding from Government for road maintenance, this might alleviate some pressure on your roading budget and allow for things like this. In the first instance, simply painting a crossing on, with associated signage, would be a simple but effective first step.

Our Government is also finalising our Government Policy Statement which will require variable speed limits outside schools. This, along with the \$1.9bn for road maintenance, will all contribute to safer roads outside our schools.

I am aware that it is only with Council's strong work that we can deliver this, and I and the Taitoko team would be so grateful for your consideration of this.

Ngā mihi,

MP for Ōtaki



From: [Monique Davidson](#)
To: [Tim Costley](#); [Mayor Bernie Wanden](#)
Cc: [Daniel Haigh](#); [James Wallace](#)
Subject: RE: Taitoko School Crossing
Date: Friday, 21 June 2024 8:09:20 pm
Attachments: [image002.jpg](#)

Tēnā Koe Tim,

Thank you for your letter dated 17 June 2024, it is heartening to see you taking an active role in such important issues like this and I appreciate you raising these concerns with us.

I have passed on your suggestion of a painted pedestrian crossing as an interim measure at Taitoko School, which our land transport team is considering. Our engineers have indicated some potential safety concerns with a painted pedestrian crossing specifically, but are investigating options for a lower cost, and easily implementable improvements in the meantime.

Council's land transport team have also advised me that a road safety improvement project is being planned for Taitoko School, the design of which will likely include a raised safety platform, in line with your suggestion.

This project is contingent on funding support from the National Land Transport Fund. We are expecting to learn the outcome of our funding bid for this work in September.

Unfortunately we do not share your confidence in securing the funding we require to complete this critical work. Although we acknowledge and support the Government's increase in funding for road maintenance, this increased maintenance funding cannot be used for dedicated safety improvement work, this increase is targeted at work which prevents potholes. While maintaining transport assets is important, preventing potholes does not make roads outside schools safer.

Over the last three years, Council have delivered 4 school safety improvement projects covering 5 schools. These projects have been planned in close consultation with the schools and we've received excellent feedback. We're confident that we've improved road safety significantly with this work, and we are eager to complete three more similar projects, including Taitoko School. With significantly less overall funding available across the country for safety improvement work, we are very concerned that these schools will be left behind.

The Draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport has eliminated the funding category which was previously used for delivering these safety improvement projects. Funding applications can be made to a separate general local road improvement funding category, but a corresponding increase in this category has not been included.

Council has provided feedback on the Draft Government Policy Statement which describes our concerns in more detail, however we would be extremely grateful for if you are able to provide any support that could lead to Council securing funding to continue delivering this safety improvement work. We would also be eager to take you through our indicative funding scenarios you can see the hear about the shortfall in funding we are likely to have and the impacts on this.

If you are available, I would appreciate an opportunity to discuss this issue with you in more detail. I could arrange for a meeting at one of the schools where we have delivered a similar project where we could inspect the results of this investment directly.

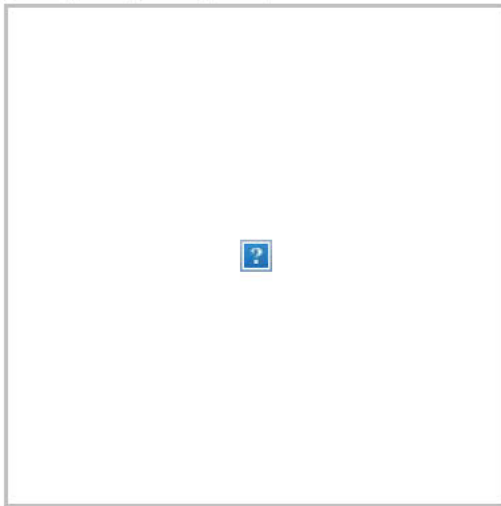
Ngā mihi nui,

Monique

Monique Davidson
Chief Executive | Tumuaki

Waea Mahi | (06) 366 0999

126 Oxford Street, Levin
Private Bag 4002, Levin 5540



From: Tim Costley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, 17 June 2024 6:23 pm
To: Monique Davidson <[REDACTED]> Mayor Bernie Wanden
<[REDACTED]>
Subject: Taitoko School Crossing

Dear Mayor Bernie and Monique,

Please find subject letter attached following a visit to the school last Friday.

Kind regards,

Tim

signature_452134613

