

To:
Dawn Baxendale
CEO Christchurch City Council
53 Hereford St,
Christchurch City

July 8, 2021

From:
Andrea Davis on behalf of Coastal Community Residents United
99 Nayland St.
Sumner, Christchurch

Subject: Our OIA request for minutes of The Coastal Hazards Working Group

Dear Dawn Baxendale,

We applaud the leadership and responsibility taken on by The Coastal Hazards Working Group. These Councillors are appreciated for their time spent moving forward on a very difficult problem. Early public engagement when it comes to Sea Level Rise is showing to be successful for greater resilience in these uncertain times. (Case Study; OECD report, 2019, Responding to Rising Seas; OECD Country Approaches to Tackling Risks, p.7) see attached.

As a community group with a focus on Sea Level Rise we would like to start engaging with your Coastal Hazard Working Group and hear more from the Coast Hazards Adaption Planning Programme; CHAPP. We have recently made a request through the Official Information Act for the Coastal Hazards Working Group minutes. Ideally, we would prefer a member of the Coastal Hazards Working Group, to engage with us and explain the minutes currently on record.

As it turns out, the Status of CHWG in their Terms of Reference, may mean withholding minutes is not appropriate for this type of group.

Status:

The Coastal Hazards Working Group does not have the status of a Committee, and the Council's Standing Orders accordingly do not apply to its meetings.

Coastal Hazards in the form of rising sea levels, extreme rain events and storm water management is a shared problem for every person on the planet. We are all in this together, and in many ways the uncertainty can only be accepted as normal, once we agree to share the responsibility of the problem.

Regardless of the Status of CHWG, and our past request for information, we propose that you and other leaders at the CCC, adopt the approach to engage early with residents and stakeholders on coastal hazard issues.

As a group we can help the CCC disseminate accurate information, watchdog what the media reports as true and accurate, and basically we can back the CCC once we find the common ground we are all seeking.

On behalf of the Coastal Community Residents United CCRU
Sincerely,



Andrea Davis

It is our shared future, our shared responsibility, and our shared solutions.