

21 November 2022

File Ref: OIAP-7-26615

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

### Request for information 2022-216

I refer to your request for information dated 16 October 2022, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 16 October 2022.

As advised in our email to you on 16 November 2022, we apologise that an administrative oversight meant your request was not logged in our system until 16 November 2022. We thank you for your patience in awaiting our response.

You have requested the following:

*Under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) I am requesting voting data at the individual voter level for the 2022 Wellington Regional Council election.*

*Ideally I would like the data as 'raw' ie before removal of voting replication, voter errors, etc.*

*Please supply a csv delimited file or files, probably compressed (zipped), ordered as in the following example*

<i>voter id*</i>	<i>candidate id**</i>	<i>rank</i>
1	482	5
1	484	1
1	485	3
1	487	2
1	498	4
1	490	6
1	491	7
2	481	2
2	484	1

2	488	3
3	480	4
3	482	1
3	485	5
3	487	2
3	490	3

etc

*\*unique to an individual voter;  
the voter id that is on each voting form  
or a simple sequential number viz (voter)1, voter(2) ... voter(last), as used in the above  
example.*

*\*\* have used the numbers from the voting form.*

**Greater Wellington's response follows:**

Greater Wellington is withholding all information within the scope of your request under section 6(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, as the making available of the information in question would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law. Our decision is made on the basis that the release of the voting data requested would be inconsistent with the responsibility of Greater Wellington's Electoral Officer to maintain the security and secrecy of the election under section 74 of the Local Electoral Act 2001.

We understand that the Department of Internal Affairs has work underway on potential legislative changes that would enable certain voting information to be made available for research purposes. You may wish to contact the department in relation to its work on this matter.

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



Luke Troy  
Kaiwhakahaere Matua Rautaki | General Manager Strategy