

20 September 2023



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Our reference: LGOIMA

Dear Chelsea

Request for Information – Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA)

Thank you for your correspondence of 25 August 2023, in which you request information relating to the use of vehicles on beaches.

Our responses to your specific questions are provided below:

Do you have any rules, regulations or bylaws restricting or prohibiting the use of vehicles on beaches in your territory? If yes, please provide a web link to this document/information.

Section 18 of the Hutt City Council Traffic Bylaw 2017 specifies the rules relating to vehicles on beaches. A link to this document is available on the Hutt City Council website, as follows.

https://hccpublicdocs.azurewebsites.net/api/download/5486d44d9b3b43fcaddadfa0abeb1e29/C_M9-WE/c02b885e9762a04f2a8e06cc9844512858

Section 18 of the Traffic Bylaw relates only to vehicles parking on beaches. It does not enable Hutt City Council to enforce incidents of vehicles driving on beaches (New Zealand Police enforces these incidents).

Do you have any public information and/or guidance on your council website in regard to vehicles on beaches? If yes, please provide a web link to this information.

As per answer to the previous question.

If you do have rules, regulations or a bylaw restricting or prohibiting the use of vehicles on beaches in your territory:

o Do you attribute any funding/resource to it?

o Do you have any staff whose job (or part of their job) is to enforce the regulations?

o Has your council issued any enforcement notices/fines due to breaches to the regulations?

Hutt City Council's Parking Services team has the license to enforce stationery offences, where vehicles are parked on the beach. Parking Services can issue infringements to any vehicles breaching the Traffic Bylaw without granted permission, however we advise that we have no record of issuing an infringement notice to any vehicle for parking on the beaches.

I advise that vehicle access to coastal beach areas in our territory is generally inhibited by the presence of obstacles (such as building structures, seawalls, sandbanks or seaside rocks). In other cases, the adjoining road is separated from the beach by either distance or by height. These factors severely reduce the options for vehicles to access beaches in our territory.

If you do not have any rules, regulations or bylaws restricting or prohibiting the use of vehicles on beaches in your territory, is this an issue your council has identified and plan to address in the future (i.e. with an upcoming bylaw etc)?

Not applicable.

Regardless of whether you have any rules, regulations or bylaws restricting or prohibiting the use of vehicles on beaches in your territory, please provide the number of public concerns or complaints that have been received/reported to you concerning the use of vehicles on beaches in your territory for the past five years (broken down by year please).

Hutt City Council has no record of any complaints having been received for vehicles parking on beaches, and no infringement notices have been issued for this activity.

Please note that this response to your information request, including your name, may be published on the Council's website.

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

Kind regards



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