

OIR: 2324/830

21 March 2024

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████████████████████

Tēnā koe ██████

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

Thank you for your email of **1 March 2024** requesting the following information:

I am requesting copies of all communication/documentation including emails, minutes to meetings from KCDC pertaining to their involvement and leading the decision to cancel the 2024 primary interschool swimming sports.

The decision to cancel the 2024 event was made in consultation with the sports representatives from each of our Kāpiti primary schools at the end of last year.

The Kāpiti School Sports Programme delivers over 20 events per year for our region, and we aim to make each event as inclusive and as enjoyable as possible. Each event is measured to ensure it meets with the required outcomes of the Kāpiti School Sports Programme. The interschool swimming sport numbers have been declining and we were seeing attendees who were already well catered for through regional swim clubs in Kāpiti.

Please find attached e-mail correspondence and minutes from the coordinator meeting from Kapiti Coast District Council pertaining to the cancellation of the 2024 Primary Interschool Swimming Sport.

However, due to the recent overwhelming public feedback we, the representatives of the Kāpiti school sports programme, have now made the decision to proceed with the '2024 Kāpiti Interschool Swimming Sports' and the new date will be 2 May 2024 at Coastlands Aquatic Centre.

Please note that any information provided in response to your request may be published on the Council website, with your personal details removed.

This event will be run in conjunction with the Raptors Swimming Club, and we hope to encourage more Tamariki to attend and enjoy a day in the pool.

Ngā mihi,



Sonja Williams

Acting Group Manager Customer and Community
Kaiwhakahaere Rōpū - Kiritaki me te Hapori

From: Steve Millar <Steve.Millar@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Sent time: 03/04/2024 07:35:55 AM
To: Rebecca Rolls [REDACTED]; Amanda Yannetta [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: KCDC leading the decision to cancel school swimming sports

Hi team,

This needs some editing in my view.

“The decision was made for 2024 to focus on assisting the schools in the development of robust swimming programmes to allow all Tamariki to feel confident in the water. Our new Learn to Swim Coordinator has been busy working closely with our primary schools to offer on-site swimming instructors or to enhance our current swimming programs within our 3 aquatic facilities”

1. it reads as if Aquatics was part of the decision process.
2. I'm not aware of any specific change our Learn to Swim Coordinator is undertaking,

My experience with the swim clubs and parents is that we should be accurate and specific so I'd like to clarify what action is being taken by Kay (Learn to Swim Coordinator) before including it in a response.

Thanks
Steve

Steve Millar
Aquatic Facilities Manager
Te Kaiwhakahaere Wāhi Puna Wai

Kāpiti Coast District Council
Tel 04 296 4818
Mobile 027 555 6818

www.kapiticoast.govt.nz

From: Rebecca Rolls [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 1, 2024 11:28 AM
To: Amanda Yannetta [REDACTED]; Steve Millar <Steve.Millar@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: KCDC leading the decision to cancel school swimming sports

Hi All

As discussed, here is the council reply:

Thank you for your recent email and expression of concern regarding the cancellation of the Kāpiti interschool swimming sports event this year.

The decision to cancel the 2024 event was not made lightly and was done in consultation with the sports representatives from each of our Kāpiti primary schools at the end of last year.

As a region we have seen the number of attendees at this event decrease considerably over the last few years and the majority of attendees were already well catered for across the fabulous swimming clubs.

The Kāpiti School Sports Programme delivers over 20 events per year for our region and we aim to make each event as inclusive and as enjoyable as possible. Each event is measured to ensure it meets with the brief of sport for all and we just haven't been seeing this at the swimming event in the past few years.

The decision was made for 2024 to focus on assisting the schools in the development of robust swimming programmes to allow all Tamariki to feel confident in the water. Our new Learn to Swim Coordinator has been busy working closely with our primary schools to offer on-site swimming instructors or to enhance our current swimming programmes within our 3 aquatic facilities. We are hoping this will then increase the number of confident swimmers we have here in Kāpiti and it will also help to ensure successful swimming events from 2025 onwards.

To summarise, there is a 'method to our madness' and we are taking this year out to rebalance the swimming programmes within schools and to increase the number of Tamariki who are confident in the water.

We will be back next year!

Thanks
Rebecca

From: Amanda Yannetta [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 1, 2024 8:40 AM



From: [Redacted]

Sent: Thursday, February 29, 2024 3:53 PM

To: Sonja Williams <Sonja.Williams@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Darren Edwards <Darren.Edwards@kapiticoast.govt.nz>

Subject: KCDC leading the decision to cancel school swimming sports

Good afternoon,

I've been told by Craig Vidulich, Principal of Kakakapanui School that KCDC was the leader in the decision to cancel the primary interschool swimming competition permanently. This decision has now lead to all the local primary schools cancelling their swimming sports.

Can you please provide an explanation as to why the council think you have the right to cancel such a valuable event for children? In 2023 there were 90 preventable drownings, 26 at beaches and 11 in swimming pools.

I would also like you to outline the consultation process you conducted with participants, parents and children, before this appalling decision was made.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,



From: Amanda Yannetta [REDACTED]
Sent time: 03/01/2024 11:34:47 AM
To: Rebecca Rolls [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: KCDC leading the decision to cancel school swimming sports

Thanks so much!!!

Amanda Yannetta
Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive
Te Kaiāwhina ki te Tumuaki

Kāpiti Coast District Council

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

www.kapiticoast.govt.nz

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To: Steve Millar <Steve.Millar@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Cc: Rebecca Rolls [REDACTED]
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Thans Steve, I did wonder about that.

[REDACTED] would you be able to provide me a couple of bullet points that I can form into a response to [REDACTED]
I'm picking there is a version of something doing the rounds so it would be nice to be able to cut that off at the pass.

I'm contemplating forwarding the response to Craig also to clarify the situation (but also mindful his words might have been misconstrued)

[REDACTED]

Cheers

AY

Amanda Yannetta
Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive

Te Kaiāwhina ki te Tumuaki

Kāpiti Coast District Council

www.kapiticoast.govt.nz

From: Steve Millar <Steve.Millar@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, February 29, 2024 5:41 PM
To: Amanda Yannetta [REDACTED]
Cc: Rebecca Rolls [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: KCDC leading the decision to cancel school swimming sports

Hi Amanda,
We (Aquatics) don't organize the school swimming sports, just provide the venue on request.
I'm aware that it was at risk as it's struggled to attract numbers, essentially only swim club kids that are already well catered for turning up.

[REDACTED] (cc'd) is leading in this space, she can answer your questions. I know that [REDACTED] is now working with our Learn to Swim Coordinator to see what additional support we can offer.

Cheers Steve

Steve Millar
Aquatic Facilities Manager
Te Kaiwhakahaere Wāhi Puna Wai

Kāpiti Coast District Council
Tel 04 296 4818
Mobile 027 555 6818

www.kapiticoast.govt.nz

From: Amanda Yannetta [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 29, 2024 4:48 PM
To: Steve Millar <Steve.Millar@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: KCDC leading the decision to cancel school swimming sports

Hey Steve

Do you know anything about this?

Thanks!
Amanda

Amanda Yannetta
Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive
Te Kaiāwhina ki te Tumuaki

Kāpiti Coast District Council
[REDACTED]
www.kapiticoast.govt.nz

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 29, 2024 3:53 PM
To: Sonja Williams <Sonja.Williams@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Darren Edwards <Darren.Edwards@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Subject: KCDC leading the decision to cancel school swimming sports

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Can you please provide an explanation as to why the council think you have the right to cancel such a valuable event for

children? In 2023 there were 90 preventable drownings, 26 at beaches and 11 in swimming pools.

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Regards,
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From: Amanda Yannetta [REDACTED]
Sent time: 03/01/2024 10:31:51 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: KCDC leading the decision to cancel school swimming sports

Mōrena [REDACTED]

I'm just writing to confirm receipt of your email and let you know we are talking with our Aquatic team about this and will come back to you soon with a response to your queries.

Kind regards
Amanda

Amanda Yannetta
Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive
Te Kaiāwhina ki te Tumuaki

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

From: Amanda Yannetta [REDACTED]
Sent time: 03/01/2024 08:40:28 AM
To: Steve Millar <Steve.Millar@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Cc: Rebecca Rolls <Rebecca.Rolls@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: KCDC leading the decision to cancel school swimming sports

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Regards,
[REDACTED]

From: Steve Millar <Steve.Millar@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Sent time: 02/29/2024 05:40:31 PM
To: Amanda Yannetta [REDACTED]
Cc: Rebecca Rolls [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: KCDC leading the decision to cancel school swimming sports

Hi Amanda,
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From: [REDACTED]
Sent time: 02/29/2024 03:53:18 PM
To: Sonja Williams <Sonja.Williams@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Darren Edwards <Darren.Edwards@kapiticoast.govt.nz>
Subject: KCDC leading the decision to cancel school swimming sports
Attachments: RE: KCDC leading the decision to cancel school swimming sports

AY – sent to Steve Millar for advice

AY – replied to acknowledge receipt (Rebecca Rolls will provide a response to this)

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[REDACTED]

RE_KCDC leading the decision to cancel school swimming sports.msg

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[Redacted]

2024

[Redacted] Discussion on swimming for 2024 and decided that we are going to cancel this event due to falling attendance numbers. Main attendees are the swim club members who are already catered for. Doesn't fit the brief for giving all the chance to give it a go as the schools are only sending their competent swimmers. Becs to reassess and come back in 2024 with ideas. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]