

18 June 2026

Kia ora,

**Local Government Official Information Request**

Thank you for your request for information from Council. All requests to the Council for information are required to be considered in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA). More information about how the Council handles LGOIMA requests can be found in the Council's LGOIMA Request Policy which is available on the Council's website [LGOIMA Request Policy: Rangitikei District Council](#)

Your request for information was received on 12 June 2026 and requested information about if Council used AI in the response to your question about harm to the bats at Tutaenui Dam. Your questions and our response can be found below:

**Question 1:**

Do the team responsible for the new water treatment plant use AI in their work? The last response I received was flagged as partially written by AI in core technical areas.

**Response:**

Council did not use AI to prepare its response to your question.

The information provided to you was supplied to by Council's contractor in response to Council sending your question to them. The contractor has advised that the information was based on research undertaken by the contractor and verified against online sources. The contractor further advised that AI was used only to assist with drafting the email response to Council, and it was not used for the underlying research, analysis, or technical conclusions.

Council reviewed the contractor's response before providing it to you.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests, where appropriate. Our response to your request will be published shortly at [RDC Official Information - Proactive Release](#) with your personal information removed.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to email [lgoima@rangitikei.govt.nz](mailto:lgoima@rangitikei.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely,

LGOIMA Officer  
**Rangitikei District Council**

*Making this place home.*