



24 January 2024

File Ref: 5-IM-2

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.

Your request for information was received on 18 December 2023 and related to how geosmin in the Marton water supply is treated. Our response is below:

1. If Geosmin is present there is potential for cyanotoxins to also be present. Can Council advise what their cyanobacterial response is and whether they are testing their raw water for cyanobacteria cell counts and biovolume and directly for any cyanotoxins?

Response:

Samples of the raw (untreated) water are sent to the laboratory for geosmin level measuring. These samples are also checked for algae cell counts but do not include direct testing for cyanotoxins. The lab tests include a survey of the dominant algal species present, as well as monitoring the levels of *Anabaena* sp. In addition to laboratory testing our operations team visually inspect the source water for changes and monitor other operational parameters for early signs of algal growth. We have a Cyanotoxin & Cyanobacteria Management Protocol in place to manage the potential for cyanotoxins in the water supply.

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 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 <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/council/about/contact-us/official-information> with your personal information removed.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Rhonda Morris 027 294 7375.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carol Gordon'.

Carol Gordon

Group Manager Democracy & Planning