



16 January 2026

[Redacted]
Email: [Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

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 16 December 2025 and requested information about changing room provisions in Council owned swimming pool facilities. Your questions and our response can be found below:

Information Request

"Please provide the following information regarding provision for single-sex and gender neutral changing and showering facilities in any swimming pool or fitness centre sites that are owned and / or operated by your Council."

Response:

For context, Rangitikei District Council (Council) owns two swimming pool facilities which are operated through a contracted service with Community Leisure Management (CLM). One swimming pool is in Taihape (currently operational) and the other is in Marton (currently closed to the public due to repairs being undertaken). We have provided responses for both the Taihape and Marton facilities.

Council does not operate any fitness centres.

Question 1:

Do you provide communal single sex changing and showering facilities?

Response:

Yes, Council (through CLM) provides communal single sex changing and showering facilities at its swimming pools (Taihape and Marton)

Question 2:

Do you provide single occupancy changing and showering facilities? If so, how many at each site?

Response:

Yes, Council (through CLM) provides single occupancy changing and/or showering facilities.

Making this place home.

At the Taihape site, there are two standalone single occupancy changing cubicles (labelled 'family'), and four single occupancy changing and showering cubicles within the communal female changing room.

At the Marton site, there are four standalone single occupancy changing and showering cubicles. Two are within the communal female changing room, and two are within the communal male changing room.

Question 3:

Please provide any policies or procedures that apply to trans-identified people who wish to use the changing and showering facilities in your sites.

Response:

Council (through CLM) follows the Recreation Aotearoa Guidelines for trans and gender diversity guidance for exercise and recreation providers.

These guidelines can be accessed through the following link: [Guidelines - Trans and gender diversity guidance for exercise and recreation providers.pdf](#).

Council (through CLM) does not have any other policies or procedures that apply to trans identified people who wish to use the changing and showering facilities at its swimming pools.

Question 4:

How are your different changing and showering facilities labelled and described?

Response:

At the Taihape site, the changing and showering facilities are labelled "Gents", "Ladies" and "Family". The "Family" label applies to the two standalone single occupancy changing cubicles referred to our answer to Question 2.

At the Marton site, the changing and showering facilities are labelled "Gents", "Ladies" and "Disability". The changing and showering facility labelled "Disability" is available for use by people of any gender, who have a disability.

Question 5:

At your sites, which changing room and showering facilities is a trans-identified male permitted to use?

Response:

In accordance with the Recreation Aotearoa Guidelines for trans and gender diversity, a trans identified male would not be prevented from using the changing rooms and showering facilities labelled "Male" at the Taihape and Marton sites. They would also be able to use the "Family" labelled changing room and showering facilities at the Taihape site. If they had a disability, then they would be able to use the "Disability" labelled changing room and showering facility at the Marton site.

Question 6:

If applicable, do your facilities allow trans-identifying males to attend Women Only swim sessions.

Response:

Council (through CLM) runs a women's only swim evening at the Taihape site. The event doesn't provide for attendance from trans-identified males.

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 [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.

Yours sincerely,

LGOIMA Officer
Rangitikei District Council