

17 June 2019

**Response to official information request for correspondence relating to the closure of Whitby walkways, for the installation of a water pipe**

I refer to your request for official information received 20 May 2019 relating to the closure of Whitby walkways for the installation of a water pipe. We have processed your request under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA) 1987.

The internal and external correspondence relating to the closure is attached to this letter. Please note that some official information has been withheld from the attached documents on privacy grounds under s7(2)(a) and s7(2)(c) of LGOIMA relating to the names and contact details of individual members of the public as well as staff from the Council and other organisations who do not hold senior roles.

The work undertaken can be summarised as follows:

1. An inspection was carried out on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb to confirm the alignment of the replacement main, that Classic Developments are constructing on behalf of Porirua City Council.
2. Removal of the existing footpath commenced Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Feb, at which time the construction area was fenced off to the general public.
3. All pipework from the subdivision Right of Way to the connection location at the north end of the public walkway was completed on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March, and pressure tested on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March.
4. Backfilling of the trench alignment and preparation of the concrete footpath replacement commenced Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March.
5. The replacement concrete footpath above the new watermain was completed Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March, leaving the connection point at the north end of the new pipeline as the only excavation awaiting approval from Wellington Water to connect to the existing public watermain.
6. During attempts at chlorination of the new watermain at the end of March, it was noticed that the existing PCC watermain between the walkway connection point and the James Cook Drive intersection was leaking. The contractor worked with Wellington Water in an effort to determine where the leak was, and whether it could be repaired to allow the connection to the new pipe to take place. This investigation involved further excavation of the existing PCC main, and eventually inserting a camera in the pipe to determine what action was required for the leak to be repaired. This process took some weeks to resolve, and eventually on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April Wellington Water instructed a new extension to the new pipe be undertaken to get the pipe beyond the extent of the concrete footpath so the walkway could be re-opened.
7. While the above discussions were ongoing between the contractor and Wellington Water, another footpath crew was carrying out agreed repairs to the south end of the walkway on behalf of the Porirua City Council Reserves team. This work did NOT have anything to do with the watermain replacement construction activities, but was undertaken to take advantage of the public access restriction through this part of the walkway.
8. The footpath repairs at the south end of the walkway were completed Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May, and the agreed watermain extension was backfilled Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.
9. The concrete footpath reinstatement at the north end of the watermain replacement was completed Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June, with the walkway reopening on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June.

The major delays during the watermain replacement were mainly due to the prolonged discussions regarding the repairs required to the existing Porirua City Council watermain, and then the co-ordination and availability of the various crews for completion of the final pipeline resolution and subsequent footpath reinstatement.

In addition to the requested attached instructions you asked the following questions.

**1. The compensation agreed to be paid to ratepayers for the loss of amenity resulting from the closure.**

- No compensation is payable.

**2. The penalty to be paid for failure to complete the work by the agreed completion date.**

- No penalty will be applied.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Olivia Dovey, Manager Parks on telephone: 04 237 1573 or email: [olivia.dovey@porirua.govt.nz](mailto:olivia.dovey@porirua.govt.nz).

Ngā mihi

  
Wendy Walker  
**Chief Executive**  
**Kaiwhakahaere Matua**