

## LGOIMA

*When releasing responses to previous LGOIMA requests, names of individual requestors may be withheld to protect their privacy.*

*Information requested by the media, from public sector organisations and MPs will always be published while information specific to an individual or their property will not generally be published.*

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**Request  
from:**

**For:** Councils relationship with the United Nations and Kyoto Protocol

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**Response**

**by:** Gabrielle Thorpe, Acting Manager Strategy

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Service Request: 1939224

Civic House, 110 Trafalgar Street  
PO Box 645, Nelson 7040, New Zealand

18 September 2019

P (03) 5460200  
E LGOIMA@ncc.govt.nz  
[nelson.govt.nz](http://nelson.govt.nz)

██████████  
████████████████████  
██  
Nelson 7010

Dear ██████

**OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON COUNCIL'S  
RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED NATIONS AND KYOTO PROTOCOL.**

I refer to your official information request dated 24 August 2019 when you requested:

- 1. What is the NCC's relationship to the UN? i.e. for example does the NCC follow UN guidelines and is it bound by UN directives?*
- 2. Does NCC recognise the Kyoto protocol?*

We do not hold the information that you have requested, however, we provide the following comments to your questions below.

As a local authority, Nelson City Council is not directly bound by any directives or guidelines issued by the United Nations. New Zealand has a dualist approach to international law, which distinguishes between the government's domestic and international obligations. The government's international treaty or other obligations are not directly enforceable domestically unless incorporated into domestic law by Parliament. Local authorities, such as Nelson City Council, may have a role in implementing international treaty obligations where they have been incorporated by Parliament into domestic law affecting local authority functions.

In relation to the Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol, consistent with the above, New Zealand's implementation is led by the Ministry for the Environment and includes meeting international reporting obligations and implementing domestic legislation such as the Climate Change Response Act 2002. However, as a local authority with responsibilities for the wellbeing of our community, Nelson City Council is committed to responding to climate change impacts and has a range of work already in progress.

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

Internal Document ID: A2266513

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Gabrielle Thorpe on 03

[Redacted]

Yours sincerely

*o*  
[Redacted]

**Gabrielle Thorpe**  
Acting Manager Strategy

[REDACTED]

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**From:** no-reply@ncc.govt.nz  
**Sent:** Saturday, 24 August 2019 6:06 PM  
**To:** LGOIMA  
**Subject:** Official Information Request [from noreply@ncc.govt.nz]

**Your Details**

**First Name**

[REDACTED]

**Last Name**

[REDACTED]

**Organisation, if applicable**

**Postal Address**

[REDACTED] Nelson 7010

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Daytime Phone Number**

[REDACTED]

**Request details**

**Type of request**

LGOIMA (Official information request)

**Details of your request**

1. What is the NCC's relationship to the UN? i.e. for example does the NCC follow UN guidelines and is it bound by UN directives?
2. Does NCC recognise the Kyoto protocol?

thank you

**Supporting Document**