

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.

**Request
from:**

For: Information on the Removal of Trees from the Riverbank besides
Brook Stream

Response

by: Roger Ball, Group Manager Community Services

2 July 2019

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E LGOIMA@ncc.govt.nz
nelson.govt.nz

██████████
██████████

Nelson
7010

Dear ██████████

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE REMOVAL OF TREES FROM THE RIVERBANK
BESIDES BROOK STREAM**

I refer to your request for information dated 25 June 2019 for information on the removal of trees from the riverbank beside Brook Stream.

The information you requested is enclosed.

The removal of vegetation between sections of the Brook Stream and the Andrews Farm Reserve driveway has occurred for two reasons:

- To allow for a staged revegetation by community volunteers who are seeking to restore the ecological values of the Brook Stream riparian corridor.
- To improve pedestrian safety and sightlines which was identified through a traffic management assessment on the Codgers Hub and Riding for Disabled driveway.

The removal of vegetation by arborists included removal of 5 *Pittosporum crassifolium*, Karo trees and 2 *Phormium tenax*, NZ flax which will allow for the construction of the passing bays and pedestrian safety.

Pittosporum crassifolium, Karo, are considered a weed species in this environment, invasively out-performing the surrounding revegetation plantings.

In addition an unproductive apple tree was removed from the Community Gardens at their request, and a remaining *Olearia* was pruned to shape.

To mitigate dust and noise, revegetation of this section of the Esplanade Reserve with native species will be undertaken this winter. Some nut trees will also be planted.

We expect these plantings will rapidly establish and be actively maintained to restore higher ecological values to this area.

With regards to who was consulted, the driveway works were agreed during a site meeting by Whakatu Riding for Disabled and the Waimarama Community Gardens representatives along with Council staff.

The removal of vegetation was agreed on site with community volunteers undertaking the staged Esplanade Reserve revegetation and Council staff.

The residents across the stream on Brook Street were not consulted.

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 or Freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Rosie Bartlett email

████████████████████

Yours sincerely

Roger Ball
Manager Community Services

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 24 June 2019 4:58 PM
To: Council Enquiries (Enquiry)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Attachments: 0.jpeg
Categories: [REDACTED]

A Snap Send Solve Report has been created for Nelson City Council as the responsible Authority for this report.

Details are shown below:

Report Number: 739733
Incident Type: Other issue
When: 2019-06-24 04:55:00 UTC
Location:
Geocode: [-41.2945133333333335](#) , [173.29881333333333](#)

Notes: Please advise why the trees along the river bank were removed? These gave residents in units pictured some protection from dust from this road. The trees were also reduced noise from the vehicles that drive at speed up and down this gravel road continuously. Not to mention that the trees were more attractive to look at than the road/vehicles/gardens. Was there any consultation with residents regarding tree removal? Why was this done?

Photos: see attached images

Reporter Contact Information

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Telephone:
Address:

[REDACTED]