

**From:** [BDC Lgoima](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Official Information Request for Mokihinui Reserve - Sewage System Upgrade Ref: OIA 054/25  
**Date:** Friday, 6 June 2025 8:30:39 am

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Dear [REDACTED]

We refer to your official information request dated 13 May 2025 for information regarding the Mokihinui Reserve Sewage System Update

Your request and our response are marked below in red.

1. Could you confirm if the Mokihinui Reserve/Domain is being managed as a reserve/domain or as a campground.

**The reserve is managed by a subcommittee of Council, with contractors maintaining the grounds.**

2. Could you provide more information about the proposed sewage system.

**It is an AES (advanced enviro-septic) system that disperses waste water through a vented, fabric wrapped system of pipes.**

3. What are the knock-on effects of placing it on a sports field? Does this pose a health and safety risk? Were other locations considered? Why was this site selected?

**The proposed site was identified after ground conditions were found to be unsuitable in other considered locations. There are no H&S implications with the proposed location.**

4. If there a risk of contamination of the field in the event of a flood - especially since it is in a flood prone area?

**All septic systems, and even reticulated networks, can overflow or leach in high rainfall, or high water table events and conditions. This design will minimise those risks**

5. Does this change the use of the sports field land?

**The proposed site will reduce the useable area of the sports field, however the sports field can be used for the same activities as prior.**

6. I understand that the previously open domain / reserve area has been roped off, restricting drive-in access and demarcating a camping area that is usually only fills up over the peak Christmas period. Locals feel you are increasing the footprint of the campsite. Could you comment on this please.

**There are no plans to expand the camping ground activity at the Mokihinui Reserve.**

7. Why is a tender for the project underway given the project is part of the LTP which is currently open for consultation and not yet adopted and definitely going ahead?

**This project is not in the 2025-2034 Long Term Plan budget projections, just noted as a project being completed in 2025. It is being co-funded by the Tourism Infrastructure Fund from a successful application made in January 2024 for Waste Water treatment improvements to both the Punakaiki and Mokihinui campgrounds.**

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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact the Buller District Council by return email to [lgoima@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:lgoima@bdc.govt.nz).

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request may be published at <https://bullerdc.govt.nz/district-council/your-council/request-for-official-information/responses-to-lgoima-requests/> with your personal information removed.

Kind regards

Anthony Blom | Group Manager Infrastructure Services  
Email [Anthony.Blom@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Anthony.Blom@bdc.govt.nz)

Buller District Council | Phone 0800 807 239 | [bullerdc.govt.nz](http://bullerdc.govt.nz)  
PO Box 21 | Westport 7866

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