

From: [BDC Lgoima](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Official Information Request for Gene Technology Bill Ref: OIA 060/25
Date: Thursday, 10 July 2025 4:56:44 pm

Dear [REDACTED]

We refer to your official information request dated 16 June 2025 regarding the Gene Technology Bill.

All elected members were asked via email to provide any information pertaining to your questions, no responses were received. The below information marked in red was provided by Mayor Jamie Cleine.

PSGR make a Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 request to Councillors (to be answered as one response from Councillors):

1. *What concerns do Councillors hear from your constituents about gene editing technologies in food and the environment? **I have not had this issue raised by any constituents.***
2. *Have Councillors been made aware that there has been no risk assessment, economic assessment or cost-benefit assessment to assess the safety of the proposed Gene Technology Bill, including to structure some gene editing technologies and organisms completely outside of regulation? **No I'm not aware of any such advice or awareness.***
3. *Have Councillors been advised that the decision to remove the precautionary principle/approach was not made based on a review of best global practice? **No***
4. *Are Councillors aware that the gene edited technologies and organisms that following enactment of this Bill, that would be outside of regulation would never be monitored or declared? **No***
5. *How do you feel about the potential loss of local democratic control over GMO decisions in your region? **Information not held.***
6. *How might mayors collectively respond if the Gene Technology Bill overrides existing local precautionary and GMO policies without consultation (i.e. early-stage stakeholder consultation did not include elected members of TLAs)? **I am not aware of any co-ordinated collective response by Mayors.***

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.

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.

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

Simon Pickford | Chief Executive Officer
Email Simon.Pickford@bdc.govt.nz

Buller District Council | Phone 0800 807 239 | bullerdc.govt.nz
PO Box 21 | Westport 7866

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The banner features the Buller District Council logo on the left, which includes a stylized 'B' and the text 'BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL Te Kaunihera O Kawatiri'. Below this is the 'creative communities nz' logo. The main text reads 'Creative Communities Scheme Funding Round 1 of 3 open now'. To the right, there is an illustration of a person painting a portrait on an easel. Below the main text, it says 'Round 1 of 3 (FY 25/26) Closes 07/07/2025'. At the bottom right, there is a red button with a cursor icon and the text 'Click here to learn more'.

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