

**From:** [BDC Lgoima](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Official Information Request for Master Planning Participation Process Ref: OIA 158/24  
**Date:** Friday, 7 February 2025 11:57:45 am

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Dear [REDACTED]

We refer to your further official information request dated 19 December 2024.

The information you have requested is marked below in red:

1. Please provide a copy of the advertisement.

There was no advertisement calling for participants for the participatory design works undertaken for Westport Master Planning. A stakeholder mapping exercise was undertaken with many and varied participants invited to attend the design workshops.

2. Please provide a list of all who formally applied to be involved.

Not applicable, please refer to above

3. Please provide a list of all community members who have participated in the Master Planning process.

Refused under section 7 whether any identified harmful effect would prejudice one of the interests protected by section 7, including:

privacy;

commercial activities;

information subject to an obligation of confidence;

free and frank opinion; or

legal professional privilege.

4. Please advise who made the selection of the individuals to be involved in the Master Planning process.

The stakeholder mapping exercise undertaken and subsequent invitations to attend were approved by BDC senior leadership team.

Sub-note – it is important to note that the various members of the community who were involved in the participatory design process to create a draft plan were involved in an iterative design process with no delegated authority or otherwise to make or influence decisions.

The members involved acted as a local ‘sounding board’ throughout the design process

only, the draft plan created is now going through wider community engagement with all information on the process, workshop content and findings are available to the public.

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.

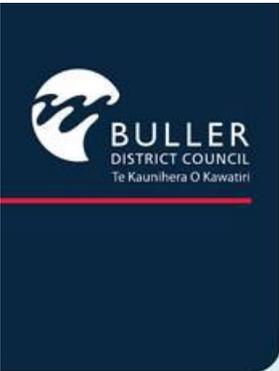
Kind regards,

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**Grants closing dates**

- Community Grants  Closes 22/02/2025
- Rural Travel Fund  Closes 22/02/2025
- NZ Creative Communities  Closes 10/03/2025

[Click here to learn more](#)

The graphic features a light blue background with a dark blue sidebar on the left containing the Buller District Council logo. The main content area has a light blue background with a large red lightbulb icon, a green plant growing from a stack of red coins, and a black upward-pointing arrow. There are also icons of people and a magnifying glass. A red button with a white cursor icon and the text 'Click here to learn more' is at the bottom right.