From: Allie Dunn
To: [redacted]
Subject: CM: Response to Official information request — confidentiality and public funding in the Bunnythorpe / Te Utanganui pathway
Date: Wednesday, 4 November 2026 2:39:00 pm
Attachments: image001.png
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Kia ora [redacted]

Thank you for clarifying the scope of your request.

Following a reasonable search of Council records, Tararua District Council has not identified records showing that it was involved in the specific potential Manawatū data-centre proposal referred to in your request.

In particular, Council has not identified records showing that it:

- entered into, proposed or amended an NDA, confidentiality agreement or other confidentiality undertaking concerning that specific proposal;
- made a decision about publicly releasing or acknowledging that specific proposal;
- proposed, approved, committed, paid or declined any grant, loan, co-funding, guarantee, public asset, infrastructure support, or other financial support for that specific proposal; or
- made any funding, asset or infrastructure commitment relating to that specific proposal through Te Utanganui.

To the extent your request seeks information of those kinds held by Tararua District Council, the request is refused under section 17(e) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, as the documents alleged to contain that information do not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate them, cannot be found.

Our officers advise that the Council has participated in regional discussions concerning Te Utanganui. Council's attendance at those discussions, does not indicate Council involvement in the specific potential Manawatū data-centre proposal referred to in your request.

No part of your request has been transferred under section 12 of LGOIMA. You confirmed that similar requests have already been made to Palmerston North City Council and Manawatū District Council. Those councils are therefore already

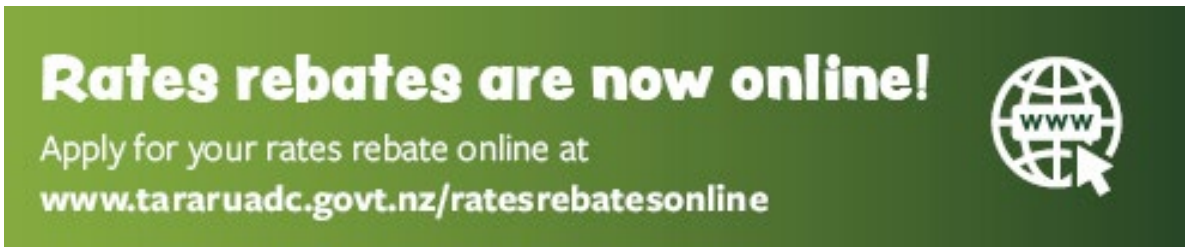
considering requests for information they may hold on this subject.

You have the right to complain to the Ombudsman about Council's decision on your request. Information about making a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi

Allie Dunn | Manager Democracy Services | Deputy Electoral Officer
Democracy Services | Tararua District Council

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From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, 2 November 2026 7:35 pm
To: Allie Dunn <Allie.Dunn@Tararuadc.govt.nz>
Subject: CM: Re: Clarification re Official information request — confidentiality and public funding in the Bunnythorpe / Te Utanganui pathway

EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT: Caution advised. This message is from an external sender. Verify the sender's identity and use caution with attachments and links.

Kia ora Allie,

Thank you. Yes, I have also made similar requests to Palmerston North City Council and Manawatū District Council. I intentionally included Tararua District Council for any records it holds concerning the potential Manawatū data-centre proposal or the related Te

Utanganui pathway, including any regional communications, involvement, funding or infrastructure support.

I understand Bunnythorpe is outside Tararua and that Tararua District Council is not a CEDA shareholder. I am not suggesting that the Council was involved or that it holds responsive records; the request is to establish whether it holds any.

Please proceed with a reasonable search on that basis. If no responsive records are held, please confirm. If any part should be transferred to another authority under section 12 of LGOIMA, please transfer it and let me know.

Ngā mihi,
[redacted]

On Tue, 27 Oct 2026 02:15:18 +0000, Allie Dunn <Allie.Dunn@Tararuadc.govt.nz> wrote:

> Kia ora [redacted] Thank you for your official information request regarding confidentiality arrangements and public funding associated with the Bunnythorpe / Te Utanganui pathway. Before undertaking a broader search across Council records, I would like to clarify the intended scope of your request and whether Tararua District Council was specifically intended to be included. Bunnythorpe is outside the Tararua District, and Tararua District Council is not a shareholder in CEDA. Our preliminary search has not identified information falling within the scope of your request. Given the subject matter of your request, could you please confirm: * whether you have also made this request to Palmerston North City Council and Manawatū District Council, as the local authority shareholders of CEDA; and * whether you intended Tararua District Council to be included in your request. If so, it would be helpful if you could identify any particular involvement, or record you understand Tararua District Council may have had or may hold. This would help us focus any further searches. Your clarification will also help us determine whether any part of your request should be transferred to another agency under section 12 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. If Tararua District Council was intentionally included, we are happy to undertake further reasonable searches once we better understand the connection you are seeking. Ngā mihi
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> <https://www.tararuadc.govt.nz/> Allie Dunn | Manager Democracy Services | Deputy Electoral Officer Democracy Services | Tararua District Council _____
> [cid:image004.png@01DD6623.C9194D30] Phone: +64 6 3744080 | Mobile: +64 27 3331626 [cid:image005.png@01DD6623.C9194D30]

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[cid:image002.png@01DD6625.F834DCE0] 26 Gordon Street, Dannevirke 4930, PO Box 115 [cid:image003.png@01DD6625.F834DCE0]
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www.facebook.com/tararuadc<https://www.facebook.com/TararuaDC>
From: [redacted]
[redacted]> Sent: Friday, 23 October 2026 9:31 pm To: Info - Tararua District Council <Info@TararuaDC.Govt.NZ<mailto:Info@TararuaDC.Govt.NZ>> Subject: Official information request — confidentiality and public funding in the Bunnythorpe / Te Utanganui pathway EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT: Caution advised. This message is from an external sender. Verify the sender's identity and use caution with attachments and links. Under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, please provide the following records held by your organisation for 1 January 2024 to the date received. The released CEDA–Energy Estate MOU dated 3 September 2025 says the parties agreed to investigate “a potential hyper data centre being located in Manawatū”. Clause 4.4 requires covered confidential or commercially sensitive information to be kept in the “strictest of confidence”. This request asks what that and any other arrangements covered; it does not assume all participants were bound. Please provide records showing: (1) any executed, proposed or amended NDA, confidentiality agreement, confidentiality clause or commercial-sensitivity undertaking concerning the potential data-centre proposal or related pathway, including any confidentiality term attached to or applying to a grant, loan, co-funding, guarantee, public asset, connection or infrastructure-support arrangement; provide its parties, dates, duration, scope and any restriction on publicly acknowledging the proposal or the funding, recipient, amount or purpose; (2) any public-facing description, release decision or record showing when the public was given a recognisable account of the proposal; and (3) any grant, loan, co-funding, guarantee, public asset, staff/consultant support or infrastructure work proposed, approved, committed, paid or declined for the data centre or its connection. For each support item, include the recipient, source, amount, purpose, conditions, drawdown, asset/role funded, cost allocation, ownership and who bears cancellation or stranded-asset costs. Identify any record classifying the item as direct project support, shared regional infrastructure, wider network

reinforcement or unrelated. Please include records about the Council's Te Utanganui / regional infrastructure role where they refer to Bunnythorpe, a potential data centre, a large load, or the named project partners, including any public funding, asset or infrastructure commitment. Search terms include Bunnythorpe Business Park, Technology Development Precinct, Te Utanganui, data/digital infrastructure, large electrical load, customer-driven, customer connections, green/renewable energy and enabling infrastructure, plus Energy Estate, 2nd Chapter Partners, Kākāriki, Amber Infrastructure, Powerco, Transpower and NZ Wind Farms. These are search aids, not assertions that each record proves a data centre. Please provide records electronically. If you withhold any part, identify the statutory provision and the particular material withheld. If relying on OIA s9(2)(g)(i) or LGOIMA s7(2)(f)(i) (the "free and frank" ground), state the specific basis for expecting release to inhibit future expression of opinions needed for the effective conduct of public affairs, and provide the public-interest assessment. Release factual and otherwise reasonably separable material under OIA s16 or LGOIMA s17, including non-withheld details of an arrangement's existence, parties, dates, scope and any public-acknowledgment term. If you hold no responsive records, please confirm that. If another covered agency is likely to hold part of the request, please transfer that part where the Act allows. If you need clarification to avoid substantial collation, please contact me before refusing the request.
Thank you ever so much [redacted]