

From: Lauren McDonald
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Response to LGOIMA request re policy for non-compliant buildings
Date: Wednesday, 18 September 2019 12:39:00 p.m.

Dear [REDACTED]

In response to your email request received on 2 September 2019, I provide a response to your request [REDACTED]:

[REDACTED] I see in the ODT that you have a policy/policies about non-compliant buildings. Apparently included are that you are obliged to follow up all complaints and that you check the compliance of complainants as well. Could I please have a copy of the policy documents from which these 2 examples are taken.

Under section 17 of the Building Act 2004 (Act), *'All building work must comply with the building code to the extent required by the Act whether or not a building consent is required in respect of that building work.'*

Additionally under section 40 the Building Act 2004 (Act), *'A person must not carry out any building work except in accordance with a building consent and a person commits an offence if the person fails to comply with this section.'*

The Council follows up on all customer complaints (requests for service). In regard to the issue of *'check the compliance of complainants as well'*, I advise that we are not aware of any specific policy documented for this, nor do Resource Consents have a policy to investigate the complainants site, therefore there is no documentation I am able to provide you as per your request.

I trust that this answers your query in relation to your request [REDACTED] as stated above.

Yours sincerely

Lauren McDonald

**Governance Support Officer
CORPORATE SERVICES GROUP**

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From: Lauren McDonald
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Further to our response on LGOIMA request re policy for non-compliant buildings
Date: Monday, 23 September 2019 02:57:00 p.m.
Attachments: [DCC to ODT email re correction to Mosgiel Sheds article.pdf](#)

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

The CEO's office has forwarded your email of 18 September 2019 for the Governance Support Office to respond.

In your email (shown below), you refer to the ODT article in which Mr Simon Pickford was referenced as stating that the DCC had a policy on investigations of complaints, and yet the LGOIMA response received by you stated it was not a DCC policy. I confirm that the action taken in regard to non-compliant structures was under DCC's responsibility as a Local Authority under the Building Act 2004.

Attached is a copy our email to the Otago Daily Times in regard to the statement (within the article of 2 September 2019) attributed to Mr Pickford, advising that this was incorrect. A correction was not sought as it was not seen as of material importance at the time.

Yours sincerely

Lauren McDonald

Governance Support Officer
CORPORATE SERVICES GROUP

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 September 2019 2:02 PM
To: Sue Bidrose <Sue.Bidrose@dcc.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: Response to LGOIMA request re policy for non-compliant buildings

Hi Sue.

I understand some of the complexities here.

My question is, that Simon seems to be saying, twice, that someone making a complaint was investigated as well as the subject of the complaint.

The second reference quotes him as saying doing this is DCC policy.

This LGOIMA says it isn't.

So is it or isn't it?

Was something sent to the ODT as a correction and they did not print it?

Confused of [REDACTED]

From: [Andrea Jones](#)
To: [Lauren McDonald](#)
Subject: FW: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 19 September 2019 11:32:04 a.m.

Hi Lauren

Here's what we sent the ODT.

Thanks

[Andrea Jones](#)

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM LEADER

From: Andrea Jones
Sent: Tuesday, 3 September 2019 5:09 p.m.
To: 'Jono Edwards' <jono.edwards@odt.co.nz>
Subject: RE: Mosgiel Sheds

Hi Jono

All we are able to say is that this paragraph in yesterday's article – "This person later sent a list to the council of houses in the area with similarly non-compliant structures." – is incorrect.

Cheers

Andrea Jones
COMMUNICATIONS TEAM LEADER

-----Original Message-----

From: Jono Edwards <jono.edwards@odt.co.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 3 September 2019 2:22 p.m.
To: Communications <comms@oa.dcc.govt.nz>
Subject: Mosgiel Sheds

Good Afternoon,

A man named [REDACTED] from Mosgiel called saying a recent ODT article seemed to imply that he was the person who sent a list to council about 20+ nearby residences with non-compliant structures in the area.

We used information for the article from an interview with Simon Pickford.

He seemed very upset as while not named, people seemed to think it was him, and he was getting a lot of hate.

While I understand issues of privacy, could the council confirm he is not the person who sent the list of residences to council?

If so can someone please provide some clarity on this. Mr Pickford said it was the original complainant who sent the list to council. [REDACTED] admits he was the original complainant,

but denies complaining about any more properties.

Thanks,

Jono Edwards

Otago Daily Times reporter

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