

10 November 2025

Tēnā koe

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT Request: 2025-55

Thank you for your email of Monday 13 October 2025 to the Carterton District Council (CDC) requesting the following information:

“Under the LGOIMA I request the following information and communications held by the Carterton District Council relating to the Carterton Toy Library.

The scope of this request includes, but is not limited to, any documents, reports, assessments, proposals, meeting minutes or internal/external communications about:

1. Location

- a) the reasons why the Council library space is now considered unable to accommodate the Carterton Toy Library.*
- b) any discussions, efforts or proposals by the CDC to re-home the Carterton Toy Library within a Council building or other suitable location*

2. Cataloguing / IT

- a) the reasons why the Council library IT system, existing or new, is no longer able to support the Carterton Toy Library's issues and returns*
- b) any discussions, efforts or proposals by CDC to assist the Carterton Toy Library in establishing a new cataloguing system.*

Please include any other information held by the Council that relates to discussions, decisions or proposals concerning the Carterton Toy Library that is not specified above.”

Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act).

Location

On 6 October 2025, CDC held a meeting with the Carterton Community Toy Library. The potential relocation of the Toy Library was discussed as a long-term possibility i.e. something to be explored over the next 6–12 months.

At the time of the meeting no decisions had been made about relocation of the Carterton Community Toy Library. CDC staff advised they would continue to work with the group to explore other Council facilities that might be suitable.

Cataloguing

Earlier this year Council resolved to separate Carterton Library from the shared Wairarapa Library Service with South Wairarapa District Council. This decision required Carterton Library to transition our catalogue to a new separate software version. The catalogue will now be solely managed by CDC Library staff, rather than shared jointly with South Wairarapa District Council. This additional administrative burden restricts staff time available for other library duties.

Following a review of our service, we advised the Toy Library Committee that we could no longer provide the same level of support as had been offered previously. CDC staff suggested the Toy Library Committee would need to manage its own catalogue once the Carterton Library software upgrades took place.

To support the transition CDC offered to fund the cost of new Toy Library catalogue for the first year and have our staff assist with the data migration to the new system. At our meeting on 6 October the Toy Library Committee agreed to discuss this proposal separately and respond to CDC with a decision. On the 13 October 2025 CDC was informed that the Toy Library Committee had decided to cease operating and place the toys into storage.

For more information on the Carterton Toy Library can be viewed in the following links below.

<https://www.facebook.com/CartertonToyLibrary/>
<https://cartertontoylibrary.wixsite.com/toylibrary>

Please note, the Council proactively publishes LGOIMA responses on our website. As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Nāku noa, nā



Geoff Hamilton
Chief Executive
Carterton District Council

28 Holloway Street, Carterton, Wairarapa | PO Box 9, Carterton, 5743
info@cdc.govt.nz | 06 379 4030 | www.cdc.govt.nz

LGOIMA ID: 2025-55