

Warren Slater

From: "Warren Slater" <w.d.slater@xtra.co.nz>
To: <alana@wdc.govt.nz>
Cc: "WDC Mailroom" <mailroom@wdc.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 29 September 2011 7:51 p.m.
Attach: Actually.docx
Subject: OIA request

Mr Alan Adcock

In reference to an item that appeared in the media Saturday 21st May 2011 (copy attached)

I request the following information:

1/ who issued the ticket, in question and who was the driver of the vehicle, at the time of the infingement?

2/ what was the process that Cr John Williamson went through to have the ticket cancelled?

3/ who did Cr John Williamson discuss this issue with and on what dates, to have the ticket cancelled?

4/ what was Cr John Williamson's excuse or explanation to have the ticket cancelled?

5/ who initially cancelled the parking ticket?

6/ on what grounds was the ticket cancelled?

7/ what action has been taken on the personnel that took any of the above actions, if those actions are deemed out of order?

Please supply any documentation to substantiate the answers to the above questions.

This request is made under the Official Information Act (incorporating the Official Information Act 1982 and / or The Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and any amendments)

I look forward to your reply

Thanking you

Warren Slater
09 4594992
Dated 29th September 2011

In reply please quote: 11/84528
Or ask for: Paul Dell

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Email: mailroom@wdc.govt.nz
Website: www.wdc.govt.nz

7 October 2011

W D Slater
26 Riding Downs Way
RD 9
WHANGAREI

Dear Mr Warren Slater,

Your email Official Information request 29 September 2011 was referred to Mr Dell Group Manager District Living for response. The following detail is a response to your request.

- 1 The ticket was issued by a duly authorised parking warden on 14 April 2011. The only knowledge of the driver involved is that it was a female driver.
- 2 Councillor John Williamson received the ticket in the mail as it was not issued directly to the vehicle on the day and he raised with the Chief Executive Officer if this was the practise of Council in issuing such tickets. The matter was then referred by the Chief Executive Officer to the Group Manager District Living (Paul Dell) who was asked to look at the process of the issue of the ticket and determine what action should be taken.
- 3 As the ticket was issued on 14 April 2011 and cancelled on 6 May 2011 the discussion that took place with the Chief Executive Officer would have occurred between those dates. No discussion took place between Mr. Williamson and any other staff member between the issue and cancellation of that ticket.
- 4 The matter that Councillor John Williamson raised with the Chief Executive Officer was about the process of issuing the ticket and as indicated this was then referred to the Group Manager District Living.
- 5 Enclosed is a memorandum dated 9 December 2010 to the contracted company that manages parking infringements. It is noted in that memo that Council had received several complaints as a result of parking infringements being posted to vehicle owners where the parking warden had not spoken to the vehicle driver when they were clearly in the vehicle.
- 6 It was noted by the Manager of Regulatory Services that the practise of posting infringements where the driver has not been spoken to is to cease as from the date and in such cases an alternative warning letter should be sent to the owner. It was however accepted that there may be an exceptional situation where this may not apply particularly where a warden felt for their safety.
Having received the ticket, the Group Manager passed it to the Regulatory Services Manager indicating that if it was confirmed that this ticket had been posted and not given to the driver or placed on the vehicle at the time of the offence, that the ticket should be cancelled.
- 7 The staff had again raised with the contractor the procedures that we believe are appropriate for the issue of tickets where people are sitting in their vehicles.

I would finish by noting that Councillor Williamson I understand has chosen to pay to Council the fine and that as no ticket was reissued this has gone into the general parking account.

Yours faithfully



Alan Adcock
Group Manager Support Services

Memorandum

To The Manager, Environmental Northland Ltd
From Grant Couchman
Copies Environment Group Manager
Subject **Posting of Infringement Notices**
Date 9 December 2010
Ref 10/129572

Council has recently received several complaints as a result of parking infringements being posted to vehicle owners where the parking warden has not spoken to the vehicle driver. Whilst this is a legitimate enforcement practice, the recipient of the infringement may perceive that Council is more concerned about revenue gathering than with parking management.

Therefore, the practice of posting infringements where the driver has not been spoken to is to cease as from the date of this memorandum please, in such cases, an alternative warning letter should be sent to the registered owner.

There may be rare exceptions to this rule in which case I am to be advised of the circumstances prior to the infringement notice being posted.



Grant Couchman
Regulatory Services Manager