

Our Ref DOIA 24-279

16 May 2024

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Tēnā koe ██████████

**Response to your official information request**

Thank you for your official information request which we received on 18 April 2024 for information regarding the update made to the One Tree Point Datum height confirmed in July 2017.

Between 2012 and 2016 Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) undertook the Vertical Datum Improvement project which collected new height data from throughout New Zealand.

The *New Zealand Vertical Datum 2016* standard was released in June 2016.

In mid-2017 LINZ confirmed there was a discrepancy in the One Tree Point Datum due to an accumulation of errors in certain height measurements made in the mid-1960s. These errors were within the tolerances of the techniques used at that time. A discrepancy of approximately 1.0m in magnitude was confirmed and LINZ updated the [Geodetic Database](#) (the Database) accordingly.

The Database is the publicly available official repository of height data. It provides the core data which councils, surveyors, engineers, and others are required to use in the course of their work.

The Database is dynamic and frequently updated across many locations in response to factors such as land movements, improved geodetic models, more accurate and current observations. For these reasons it is not practical to update the many hundreds of stakeholders as updates occur.

In response to your questions 1 – 4 regarding when and how LINZ notified different parties of the update to the One Tree Point Datum, as noted above, due to the dynamic nature of the Datum and frequency of updates it is not practical, and it is not our practice to separately notify local stakeholders.

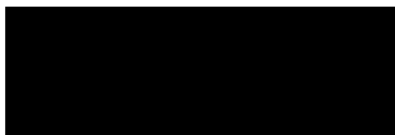
One claim relating to the One Tree Point Datum correction has been made. The table provides details of the claim with some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982 to protect personal privacy. We are of the view the withholding of the information is not outweighed by the public interest to make that information available.

Name	When	Reason for claim	Outcome of claim
Withheld under s9(2)(a)	13 January 2022	Reimbursement for additional work carried out on their property, such as raising the concrete slab for the main dwelling of a new home	LINZ declined the claim as it was unclear from the information provided how Council's level restrictions were specified or interpreted in relation to the work carried out, nor how the level information on our survey marks was used to determine compliance with those restrictions.

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.

Please note, this response letter outlining our decision on your request, **with your personal details withheld**, and any attached documentation will be published on the Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand website. This is likely to be published by 28 June 2024

Nāku noa, nā



Aaron Jordan  
Head of Location Information