

27 June 2025

File Ref: IRC-8594

**7(2)(a)**

Tēnā koe **7(2)(a)**

Thank you for your email dated 10 June 2025 to Te Kaunihera o Pōneke | Wellington City Council (the Council). Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA).

- ***Has Wellington City Council ever used indigenous forms of weed control for Darwin's barberry such as controlled burn-offs?***
- ***If it has, please provide information about the planning involved, the risk assessment and the process to undertake this control action - together with the dates it undertook these burn-offs.***

The Council has not used any indigenous forms, such as controlled burn-offs, of weed control for Darwin's Barberry.

- ***If it hasn't, why hasn't it? Please provide reasons why it hasn't and who made the decision and when, if a decision has been made not to do them.***

Open fires are prohibited on land managed under the Outer Green Belt Management Plan 2019 which recognises the risk of fires pose to safety, property and ecosystem restoration (section 4.7.2.2. page 77 [outer-green-belt-management-plan.pdf](#)).

The plan was publicly consulted on, adopted by Council in 2019, and provides detail on the management of Darwin's Barberry by area. The rationale for not controlling the widespread presence of Darwin's barberry is based on ecological succession principles. If left unmanaged for an extended period (exceeding 75 years), Darwin's barberry will eventually be replaced by native forest.

Please note, we may proactively release our response to your request with your personal information removed.

You have the right, by way of complaint under section 28(1) of the LGOIMA, to request an investigation and review of the Council's decision by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you require further information, please contact [official.information@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:official.information@wcc.govt.nz).

Nāku noa, nā

Asha Harry  
Official Information & Privacy  
Wellington City Council