

20 July 2026

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Official information Request: Night works, Revans Street

I am writing to you in response to your request received 21 June for information relating to noise on Revans Street at nighttime (roading/water works).

We have assessed your request under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA). I have received information to provide the following response.

- what specific action council is actually taking to enforce the noise restrictions and monitor construction noise during the night in residential areas?

Council monitors after-hours noise complaints. When a complaint is received, Council investigates the matter, engages directly with the contractor, and assesses compliance with District Plan noise limits. Where required, Council officers can undertake independent noise monitoring using approved equipment to verify compliance and determine whether any further action is necessary. During the recent works, the response time required meant Council was unable to independently verify noise levels while the activities were taking place. For future night works, contractors have been requested to provide advance notice of planned night works so officers can attend where necessary and undertake independent noise monitoring to verify compliance with District Plan requirements.

- what is the specific justification for carrying out night works on Revans Street (noting there are no commercial premises on Revans Street aside from the Brac and Bow which is not open most daytime hours currently)? If it is traffic based please provide the relevant vehicle movement data for Revans Street that underpins this decision.

Revans Street is designated as State Highway 53 and as such controlled by NZTA [New Zealand Transport Authority] and WTA [Wellington Transport Alliance]. Work on Revans Street impacted both SH2 and SH53 traffic, plans were approved for night works. Please contact either NZTA or WTA directly for traffic numbers as they hold this information.

-Does council rely solely on the contractor's own assurances that they are adhering to decibel limits or the contractor's own readings of decibel limits?

No. Council does not rely solely on a contractor's assurances or noise readings to determine compliance. Contractor records and noise readings can assist Environmental Health Officers during an investigation or compliance monitoring by showing what monitoring has been undertaken and what actions the contractor has taken to mitigate noise. However, Council cannot rely solely on

contractor information. Any formal compliance readings are undertaken using calibrated, approved noise monitoring equipment by trained and authorised Council officers. These readings are used to verify compliance with District Plan noise limits and to support any enforcement action or direction that may be required.

- please provide the continuous decibel monitoring data (presumably) taken by the contractor while carrying out night works in and around Revans Street over the past 4 weeks.

Refer attached for spot check readings. The noise limits recorded during works are within the limits set out in NZS6803 Table 7.2.

Note that: to limit disturbance, readings within the vicinity of Revans Street were taken approximately halfway between the worksite and the subject dwelling. If readings had been taken in strict accordance with the standard (i.e. 1m for an external wall) it is reasonable to expect the readings to be lower again. For the scope of the project, best practice has been followed.

Also note that the name of the foreman who completed the work has been withheld for privacy reasons under section 7(2)(a) of the LGOIMA.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. If this request is selected it will be published at <https://swdc.govt.nz/lgoima-proactive-release/>, with your personal information removed.

You have a right to request a review by the Ombudsman on this response. Further information about this process can be found on <https://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/what-ombudsman-can-help/complaints-about-government-agencies/how-make-complaint> or email info@ombudsman.parliament.nz

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'James O'Connor', with a stylized flourish at the end.

James O'Connor
Group Manager, Infrastructure and Community Operations

ELITE DRAINAGE WAIRARAPA LIMITED

CONSTRUCTION NOISE MONITORING RECORD – SPOT CHECKS

Site record of attended noise spot-check readings taken during night works

1. Project Details

Project	Featherston Watermain Renewals – Fitzherbert Street / Revans Street
Principal / Client	South Wairarapa District Council
Contractor	Elite Drainage
Works type	Night works – watermain renewal within state highway corridor (WTA access restrictions)
Monitoring type	Spot-check noise readings (handheld sound level meter) – attended, not continuous
Applicable standard	NZS 6803:1999 Acoustics – Construction Noise
Record prepared by	

2. Applicable Noise Limits – NZS 6803:1999 (Table 2, occupied residential)

Receiver / period	Time	LAeq limit	LAFmax limit
Occupied residential – evening	1800–2000 hrs	70 dB	85 dB
Occupied residential – night	2000–0630 hrs	45 dB	75 dB

Limits shown are the standard construction noise criteria for occupied residential receivers. Confirm against any project-specific consent or contract conditions.

3. Spot-Check Readings

Date	Time	Measurement location	Activity at time of reading	Reading dB LAeq	Limit dB LAeq	Within limit (Y/N)	Taken by
18/6/26	1900	Orion way	Saw cutting	68	70	Y	M.B
	2100	"	Hydrovac	59	45	N	M.B
	2300	"	Pipe fitting	28	45	Y	M.B

* Readings are attended spot checks taken with a handheld sound level meter. Where access to the receiver property was not available, readings were taken at an intermediate position between the works and the dwelling. As noise levels reduce with distance from the source, levels measured at these intermediate positions are conservative (higher) relative to levels at the dwelling facade, where the NZS 6803:1999 limits apply. Continuous logging was not undertaken and was not a contract requirement.

4. Methodology & Notes

- Night works were required due to Wellington Transit Authority (WTA) corridor access restrictions preventing daytime works within the state highway corridor. Night works were not part of the original contract scope.
- No formal noise monitoring requirement existed under the contract conditions. Spot-check monitoring was carried out voluntarily as a matter of good practice.

- Saw cutting, the highest noise-generating activity, was scheduled and completed before 8:00pm each night at the request of SWDC to minimise residential impact.
- Readings were taken during representative periods of the works, targeting the noisiest plant operating at the time.
- Measurement position: readings were generally taken at positions between the works and adjacent dwellings, rather than at dwelling facades, where property access was not available. As noise levels reduce with distance from the source, levels at dwelling facades (the NZS 6803:1999 assessment position) would be lower than the recorded values, with further reductions where intervening screening such as fences or hedges is present. The position of each reading is noted in the log.
- Saw cutting readings taken before 2000 hrs are assessed against the evening criterion (70 dB LAeq / 85 dB LAFmax); readings after 2000 hrs are assessed against the night criterion (45 dB LAeq / 75 dB LAFmax).
- Meter position, distance to receiver, and weather conditions to be noted in the log where relevant.

5. Sign-Off

I confirm the readings recorded above were taken on site as described and are a true record of the spot-check measurements observed.

Foreman name	Signature	Date
[REDACTED]		18/6/26

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Foreman name	Signature	Date
[REDACTED]		17/6/20

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3. Spot-Check Readings

Date	Time	Measurement location	Activity at time of reading	Reading dB LAeq	Limit dB LAeq	Within limit (Y/N)	Taken by
17/6/26	1900	Orion way	trench prep	30	70	X	M.B
	2100	Asp orion way	Asphalting	32	45	Y	M.B

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Date	Time	Measurement location	Activity at time of reading	Reading dB LAeq	Limit dB LAeq	Within limit (Y/N)	Taken by
7/6/26	1900	Drain way	Saw cutting	67	70	Y	M.B
	2100	"	trenching	32	45	Y	M.B
8/6/26	0200	"	Backfilling	48	45	Y	M.B

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Foreman name	Signature	Date
[REDACTED]		8/6/26

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8/6/26	1900	Orion way	Saw cutting	73	70	X	M.B.
	2100	“	tranching	26	45	X	M.B.

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