

19 August 2026

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[REDACTED]

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Official information Request: Purchase of 40_38 Fox Street

I am writing to you in response to your request received 18 August for the following information relating to SWDC's purchase of 40/38 Fox Street, Featherston.

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:

1.	Why did the council buy 38/40 Fox St land of 2,130sqm for \$475k which is well beyond current market value?	This was the purchase price negotiated the Vendor.
2.	What for and why that much?	This was the purchase price for the land negotiated the Vendor. Council will consider how to develop the site and that may include providing direct access from Fox Street and the Medical centre to Fitzherbert Street in Featherston. The Featherston Community Board requested Council consider purchasing this land and the Strategy Working Committee approved the purchase in May 2025. The land is seen as a way of connecting land areas that have been affected by the Kiwirail safety upgrade to the Rail Crossing on Fitzherbert Street, which directly affected parking opportunities and access to the pharmacy.
3.	Was this in the LTP?	This was added to the LTP as Featherston greenspace (SWC2025/83).
4.	Who made this decision and why?	This proposed purchase was approved by the Strategy Working Committee on 14 May 2025 minutes associated to this document are publicly available on our website, reasons for the purchase are included in the attached agenda of the Strategy Working Committee dated 14 May 2025. Please visit: Long Term Plan Deliberations 14 May 2025 - SWDC

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 black ink, appearing to be 'Stefan', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Stefan Corbett
Group Manager, Corporate Services