

Response to Minute 11 – Council costs for GMO compliance and clean-up

3 May 2019

Updated 8 May 2019 with response from Auckland Council

In Minute 11 Council requested an answer to the question:

What have other councils (that have GMO provisions in their respective plans) budgeted for the potential clean-up of the accidental or illegal release of GMOs and the costs (including staff time) of monitoring and enforcement of GMO use?

An email was sent (11 April 2019) to the four councils with GMO provisions in their respective district or unitary plan (no regional plans include GMO provisions):

- Hasting District Council,
- Whangarei District Council,
- Far North District Council and
- Auckland Council.

Responses were received from Hastings and Whangarei district councils and Auckland Council (no response to date from Far North District Council):



Thu 11/04/2019 3:25 PM

Rowan Wallis <rowanw@hdc.govt.nz>

GMO Funding

To Ben Lee

You replied to this message on 23/04/2019 9:19 AM.

Hi Ben

You have asked the following questions in relation to the budgeting around GMOs in our district.

What have councils, with genetically modified organisms (GMO) provisions in their respective district or unitary plans, budgeted for:

- *the potential clean-up of the accidental or illegal release of GMOs, and*
- *the costs (including staff time) of monitoring and enforcement of GMO use?*

It is a relatively straightforward answer as the Hastings District Council has prohibited the use of GMO's in terms of outdoor release and field trials. We do however, provide for laboratory research and medical or veterinary applications in our Plan. Due to the prohibited status we do not make any budgeting provision for the potential or accidental release of GMO's. Neither do we make specific budget for our compliance team to monitor and enforce, as the uses are very clear.

I am happy to answer any other queries that you may have.

Kind regards

Rowan

ROWAN WALLIS
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY MANAGER



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