

14 November 2011

Dear Occupy Wellington campers

You have been camping on the triangular space bordering the City to Sea Bridge since 16 October. The Council is the owner and lawful occupier of this land on behalf of the people of Wellington. At last count you have 44 tents filling this land and around 10 people per night sleeping there.

As the Council understands it, your protest is in support of the international Occupy Wall Street movement.

The Council's position is straight forward:

- We support the right to peaceful protest
- We do not support the illegal occupation of public spaces
- Your exclusive occupation of the land is denying others their right to access and use that public space
- Part of our Consolidated Bylaw specifically prohibits camping in public spaces
- We have overlooked some contravention of our Bylaw in the short term but we will not tolerate the exclusive use of public space by a few people on an ongoing basis
- We must administer the Bylaw in a fair and consistent manner so that all members of the public can use and enjoy Wellington City's public spaces.

The Council considers it has been very reasonable to date but we have been receiving complaints from members of the public about your exclusive occupation and in particular the interference with the ability of others to use and enjoy this land.

Council staff have advised you that you are unable to stay on the land indefinitely and you will need to leave. Nor can you simply re-locate to another public space. From our last conversation with your communications liaison Ben Knight on the 4 November 2011 we understand that you are considering your options and how long you intend to stay.

You have not advised us about your departure date so we thought it would be useful for us to be clear about our expectations.

Can you please provide me with a definite date for your departure from the land. I will need this by 3pm Friday 18 November.

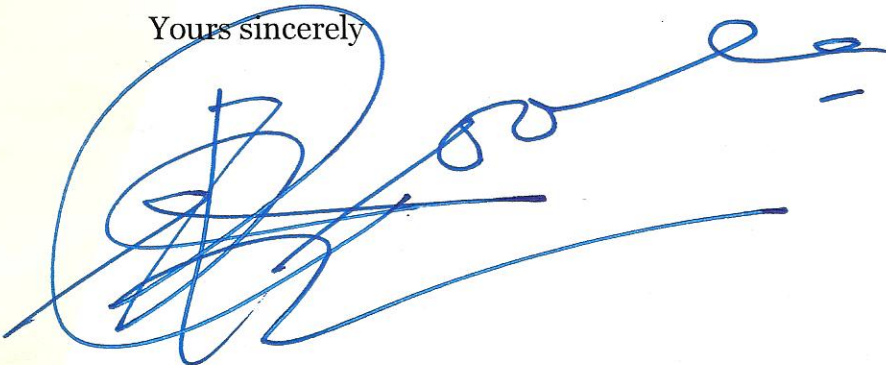
In the meantime can you please ensure that:

- There is no cooking on the site
- There is no feeding of pigeons
- The area is kept clean and tidy
- There is no toileting or washing on the site and that this is done either in public facilities or you make arrangements in private homes
- And that unoccupied tents are removed to minimise the impact on the land.

Your occupation of public space in Wellington city is apparently unrelated to the activities of the Council. However if you have some specific issues you wish to raise about the Council's policies or operations I am happy to facilitate you having these matters heard and considered as part of our normal democratic processes.

If you have some particular concerns or you wish to discuss the content of this letter, in the first instance please contact Wendy Walker, Director Citizen Engagement on 8013682 or 021 2278111.

Yours sincerely



Garry Poole  
**Chief Executive**