



**HBPCT**  
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## **HBPCT breaches Privacy Act, apologises to submitters to the Unison Ownership Review**

**1 November 2023, Hawke's Bay** - Hawke's Bay Power Consumers Trust today confirmed that its publication of submissions to the Unison ownership review does not comply with the Privacy Act.

Diana Kirton, Chair of HBPCT says the Trust Deed requires that submissions are made public but personal details should have been deleted from each submission, prior to being made publicly available.

"This didn't happen, and that means that we have not complied with the Privacy Act. On behalf of all Trustees, I sincerely apologise; we should have got this right."

HBPCT is acting quickly to put things right. From today:

- All submissions have been removed from our website and the Unison and BWR offices.
- All personal details (name, address, ICP number, email address and phone number) will be removed from every submission, and the submissions will be republished without any personal information.
- The Trust is writing to every submitter directly, apologising for its mistake.
- All Hawke's Bay power consumers will be advised via this media statement and via The Trust website, of what has happened, the actions we are taking to address this incident and improve processes going forward.
- The Trust is currently working through an assessment to determine if it is required to notify the Privacy Commissioner. If it is determined that a notifiable breach for the purposes of the Privacy Act 2020 has occurred, it will provide a further update at that stage.
- The Trust undertakes to thoroughly review its processes to ensure full compliance, in the event of any future ownership review.

Mrs Kirton says: "I want to reassure power consumers that HBPCT values their submissions and personal information and takes matters of compliance very seriously. We are working to improve our privacy practices going forward.

"We are acting quickly to put things right and will improve our process for any potential future ownership review."