

Date released: 7 January 2024

Request: OIA-1312

Original LGOIMA Request:

I request the following information for the **2022/23 Financial Year**:



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1. Average residential rates

- The average **residential** costs of rates and other Council charges, where **average residential costs = $(X + Y) / Z$** . Please ensure that the figures used (X, Y, and Z) are disclosed in the response, where:
 - X is the total of all rates (general and targeted) charged by the Council to residential rating units;
 - Y is the total amount of user charges or levies applicable to residential rating units (for example charges relating to metered water, infrastructure contributions, refuse collection, fire protection etc.); and
 - Z is the number of residential rating units (however defined by the Council) within the Council's district or city. If the Council does not have a classification for residential, please use the closest definition (such as urban).
 - Please do not include Council charges that are not part of the rates demand (for example retail sales of Council rubbish bags).
- If possible, the median residential rates payment by residential units.

Please include all residential rates in this calculation, regardless of location, as we are aiming to compare residential rating units (i.e. non-income producing) to non-residential (commercial/rural, income-producing).

2. Average non-residential rates

- The average **non-residential** costs of rates and other Council charges, where **average non-residential costs = $(X + Y) / Z$** . Please ensure that the figures used (X, Y, and Z) are disclosed in the response, where:
 - X is the total of all rates (general and targeted) charged by the Council to rating units except those defined as residential*;
 - Y is the total amount of user charges or levies applicable to rating units except those defined as residential* (for example, charges related to metered water, infrastructure contributions, refuse collection, fire protection etc); and
 - Z is the number of rating units except those defined as residential* (however defined by the Council) within the Council's district or city. If the Council does not have a classification for non-residential, please use the closest definition (such as commercial).
 - Please do not include Council charges that are not part of the rates demand (for example, retail sales of Council rubbish bags).
- If possible, the median non-residential rates payment for the council.

***Please ensure that this definition matches that used to calculate average residential rates so that the respective X values of both requests add up to total rates income for the 2022/2023 Financial Year.**

3. Personnel

- The total number of staff dismissed due to poor performance.
- If applicable, the FTE number of staff employed by council-controlled organisations.
- If applicable, the total FTE number of staff employed by the council, excluding council-controlled organisations.
- The total number of staff (non-FTE, including casual staff)
- The total number of staff including those employed by council-controlled organisations receiving remuneration in excess of \$100,000.
- The total number of staff including those employed by council-controlled organisations receiving remuneration in excess of \$200,000.

3.1. Management

- The FTE number of managers employed.
 - The Taxpayer's Union defines a manager as: any staff member who is responsible for a team of staff, or who has an employee/employees reporting to them and organises them to achieve their department's or organisation's specified goal. The Chief Executive team is included in this definition.
- The ratio of management to total staff numbers.
- The average and median salary of a manager.

3.2. Communications

- The FTE number of communications & marketing staff employed.
- The average and median salary of communications & marketing staff.

3.3. Consultants & contractors

- Total expenditure on consultants and contractors. Please ensure that this includes CAPEX and OPEX spending.
- Total number of consultants and contractors paid. Please note that this refers to companies/entities, rather than total employees.

3.4. Core services

- The FTE number of staff employed to work on the delivery and/or maintenance of local infrastructure.
 - The Taxpayer's Union defines Infrastructure FTE as hours worked by staff who are directly responsible for maintaining council assets and services, including physical involvement in environmental services, stormwater, roading, water supply, wastewater, and solid waste management.
- The FTE number of staff employed to provide regulatory functions.

- The Taxpayer's Union defines Regulatory FTE as hours worked by staff who are directly responsible for upkeeping and enforcing council functions and income, including parking, democracy services, rates collection, building and planning consents, and health licensing.
- The FTE number of staff employed in customer-facing roles.
 - The Taxpayer's Union defines Customer Service FTE as hours worked by staff who are directly responsible for communicating and providing aid for members of the public, such as at libraries, pools, art galleries, venues and events and customer services, whether in person or by phone.

4. Audit and Risk Oversight

- How many members are on the Council's Audit and Risk Committee (or equivalent)?
- Of those members, how many are elected and how many are independent of the council?
- Is the Chair of the Committee an independent member?
- Does the Council have a lawyer (with a current practising certificate) on the Committee?
- Does the Council have an accountant (with a current practising certificate or a full member of the Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand) on the Committee?
- Does the Council have a code of conduct requiring political neutrality from Council staff?

5. Payments to third parties

- The total payments made by the Council (or any council-controlled organisation) to any Chamber of Commerce, including GST.
- The total payments made by the Council (or any council-controlled organisation) to Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ), including GST.
- The total payments made by the Council (or any council-controlled organisation) to the New Zealand Society of Local Government Managers (SOLGM), including GST.

6. Debt

- Net debt (total for the council) as a percent of rates income
- The dollar amount of debt per rating unit
- The dollar amount of interest paid per rating unit

Council Officers have reviewed your request and have collated the answers in red below:

1. Average residential rates

- The average **residential** costs of rates and other Council charges, where **average residential costs = $(X + Y) / Z$** . Please ensure that the figures used (X, Y, and Z) are disclosed in the response, where:
 - **X** is the total of all rates (general and targeted) charged by the Council to residential rating units;
 - **Y** is the total amount of user charges or levies applicable to residential rating units (for example charges relating to metered water, infrastructure contributions, refuse collection, fire protection etc.); and
 - **Z** is the number of residential rating units (however defined by the Council) within the Council's district or city. If the Council does not have a classification for residential, please use the closest definition (such as urban).

- Please do not include Council charges that are not part of the rates demand (for example retail sales of Council rubbish bags).
- If possible, the median residential rates payment by residential units.

Answer is: Council does not segregate or report residential rates separate from other categories but does monitor rates charged for a typical residential home in Oamaru.

CV 1/9/2020 basis for 2023 rates strike \$460.000

Total rates for this property 2023 \$2,866.02 GST incl

Total rating units 13,894

2. Average non-residential rates

- The average **non-residential** costs of rates and other Council charges, where **average non-residential costs = (X + Y) / Z**. Please ensure that the figures used (X, Y, and Z) are disclosed in the response, where:
 - **X** is the total of all rates (general and targeted) charged by the Council to rating units except those defined as residential*;
 - **Y** is the total amount of user charges or levies applicable to rating units except those defined as residential* (for example, charges related to metered water, infrastructure contributions, refuse collection, fire protection etc); and
 - **Z** is the number of rating units except those defined as residential* (however defined by the Council) within the Council's district or city. If the Council does not have a classification for non-residential, please use the closest definition (such as commercial).
 - Please do not include Council charges that are not part of the rates demand (for example, retail sales of Council rubbish bags). **Answer is- Council does not undertake such an analysis**
- If possible, the median non-residential rates payment for the council.

***Please ensure that this definition matches that used to calculate average residential rates so that the respective X values of both requests add up to total rates income for the 2022/2023 Financial Year.**

3. Personnel

3a. The total number of staff dismissed due to poor performance. **Answer is Zero**

3b. If applicable, the FTE number of staff employed by council-controlled organisations. **Answer is 269**

3c.If applicable, the total FTE number of staff employed by the council, excluding council-controlled organisations. **Answer is 200.17**

3d.The total number of staff (non-FTE, including casual staff) **Answer is 278- Headcount incl. casuals.**

3e.The total number of staff including those employed by council-controlled organisations receiving remuneration in excess of \$100,000. **Answer is 98**

3f. The total number of staff including those employed by council-controlled organisations receiving remuneration in excess of \$200,000. **Answer is 14**

	WDC	WCL	WDHS	TW	Geopark
3a					
3b		A/Rpt 124.1	Assumed 136	A/Rpt 7	1.5
3c	153				
3d	43.17				
3e	43	23	31	1	
3f	3	3	8		

3.1. Management

- The FTE number of managers employed.
 - The Taxpayer's Union defines a manager as: any staff member who is responsible for a team of staff, or who has an employee/employees reporting to them and organises them to achieve their department's or organisation's specified goal. The Chief Executive team is included in this definition.
- The ratio of management to total staff numbers. **Answer is 44.85 FTE , ratio 1 Mngr to 6.0 staff.**
- The average and median salary of a manager. **Answer is Avg \$122,576 / Median \$113,156**

3.2. Communications

- The FTE number of communications & marketing staff employed. **Answer is 3.0 FTE**
- The average and median salary of communications & marketing staff. **Answer is Avg \$73,574/ Median \$68,557**

3.3. Consultants & contractors

- Total expenditure on consultants and contractors. Please ensure that this includes CAPEX and OPEX spending. **Answer is \$45,848,837**
- Total number of consultants and contractors paid. Please note that this refers to companies/entities, rather than total employees. **Answer is zero – Ex One-Pager**

401	410	430	431	432	433	435	439	443	450	507	539	405
Excludes	436 TW		439 cleaning		403 Solicitors		409 Valuers					

3.4. Core services

- The FTE number of staff employed to work on the delivery and/or maintenance of local infrastructure. Total expenditure on consultants and contractors. Please ensure that this includes CAPEX and OPEX spending. **Answer is 31.66 FTE**
- The FTE number of staff employed to provide regulatory functions. **Answer is 39.81 FTE**
- The FTE number of staff employed in customer-facing roles. **Answer is 37.34 FTE**

Waters	Waste Mgmt	Roading	Building	Fin. Rates	Planning	Reg Serv	AH + LK	WAC	CLT G, M & A	Library	OOH
18.66	2.50	10.50									
			14.80	3.00	11.81	9.00	1.20				
								12.47	6.14	2.96	10.76
											5.01

4. Audit and Risk Oversight

- How many members are on the Council's Audit and Risk Committee (or equivalent)? **Answer: Waitaki District Council's Performance, Audit and Risk Committee has seven members**
- Of those members, how many are elected and how many are independent of the council? **Answer: Six of the members are elected (the Mayor and five Councillors) and one is independently appointed.**
- Is the Chair of the Committee an independent member? **Answer: Yes.**
- Does the Council have a lawyer (with a current practising certificate) on the Committee? **Answer: No.**
- Does the Council have an accountant (with a current practising certificate or a full member of the Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand) on the Committee? **Answer: No.**
- Does the Council have a code of conduct requiring political neutrality from Council staff? **Answer: Yes.**

5. Payments to third parties

- The total payments made by the Council (or any council-controlled organisation) to any Chamber of Commerce, including GST. **Answer is Business South - \$45,255.75**
- The total payments made by the Council (or any council-controlled organisation) to Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ), including GST. **Answer is LGNZ- \$66,698.36**
- The total payments made by the Council (or any council-controlled organisation) to the New Zealand Society of Local Government Managers (SOLGM), including GST. **Answer is Taituara SOLGM- \$38,024.28**

6. Debt

- Net debt (total for the council) as a percent of rates income **Answer is 110.7%**
- The dollar amount of debt per rating unit **Answer is \$3,041.38**
- The dollar amount of interest paid per rating unit **Answer is \$95.70**