

29 January 2021

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Dear Natalie

**OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST – NUMBER OF FULL AND EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR THE YEARS 2018, 2019 AND 2020.**

In response to your official information request received on 10 December 2020, I have set out below your questions, together with our responses in **blue**.

1. The total number of full and extraordinary council meetings for the past three calendar years, broken down by each year. For example, 2018, 2019 and 2020.

2018 17 meetings in total  
2019 21 meetings in total  
2020 24 meetings in total

2. The number of full and extraordinary council meetings where a public excluded session applied. Please list break down by full and extraordinary meetings.

2018 15 meetings held with public excluded sessions. No extraordinary meetings held.  
2019 14 meetings held with public excluded sessions, of which 1 was an extraordinary meeting.  
2020 19 meeting held with public excluded sessions, of which 4 meetings were extraordinary meetings.

3. The total number of committee meetings held by the council for each of the three years, broken down by each year.

<b>Standing Committees of Council (15 Councillor members – Mayor and 14 councillors)</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
Economic Development Committee	5	5	4
Finance and Council Controlled Organisations Committee	5	4	4
Planning and Environment Committee	6	4	5
Community and Culture Committee	5	4	4
Infrastructure Services Committee	5	4	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>

Total number of Standing Committee meetings held for the years:

2018 26 meetings

2019 21 meetings

2020 21 meetings

4. The number of committee meetings where a public excluded session applied.

2018 5 Committee meetings had public exclusion sessions.

2019 4 Committee meetings had public excluded sessions.

2020 3 Committee meetings had public excluded sessions.

5. The total number of council workshops held for each of the three years, broken down by year.

Information on workshops is not held and therefore your request is declined pursuant to section 17(g) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

6. Please state if any of the workshops did NOT entirely exclude the public and if so how many?

Information on workshops is not held and therefore your request is declined pursuant to section 17(g) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

7. Please state whether your mayor/chairman is involved in a district/region-wide mayoral or chairman forum and if so, the regularity of the forum and whether that forum is open to the public.

Mayor Hawkins is a member of the Otago Mayoral Forum (OMF) that meets approximately 5 times per year, with 5 meetings scheduled for 2021. These meetings are not public.

8. Please state whether the council is part of a region-wide meeting of councils and if so the regularity of that meeting and whether it is open to the public.

The Dunedin City Council is a member LGNZ (Local Government New Zealand), an organisation that represents the interests of Councils in New Zealand.

DCC is also a zone group member of LGNZ (there are 7 member zones, Otago/Southland is Zone 6 and Canterbury/Westland is Zone 5). Zones 5 and 6 meets jointly, twice a year which provides opportunity for two-way communication between the geographic areas and LGNZ. These meetings are not open to the public.

9. Please provide the attendance rate of each current council member including the mayor/chairman from October 1, 2019 to date. For example, how many council and committee meetings was the member expected to attend during that time, and how many did they attend?

Please break down by month from October 2019 to December 2020.

I advise that 29 Council meetings and 21 Committee meetings were held for the period requested of 1 October 2019 through to December 2020. A total of 50 meetings were held for the 14-month period requested.

The tables below indicate the apologies received for the 2019/2020 meetings dates and the ratio of attendance for the year out of the 50 meetings held.

# of meetings held 1/10/2019 to 24/12/2020	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jul 2020	Aug 2020	Sep 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2020	Dec 2020
	4	1	1	2	4	4	1	5	4	1	7	4	4	6	2
<b>Apologies:</b>															
Mayor Hawkins					1										
Cr Garey				1											
Cr Barker						1									
Cr Benson-Pope		1												2	
Cr Elder													2		
Cr Hall														2	
Cr Houlahan												1		1	
Cr Laufiso					1						1	1			
Cr Lord															
Cr O'Malley															
Cr Radich															
Cr Staynes					2										
Cr Vandervis											1				
Cr Walker															
Cr Whiley	1		1		4										

Ratio of attendance for meetings held 1/10/2019 to 24/12/2020	#/50	<b>Please note:</b>  At times, Councillors and the Mayor are unable to attend meetings due to conflicts with other Council business.  Below is the link to the DCC webpage which holds the agendas and minutes for your information. <a href="https://www.dunedin.govt.nz/council/council-meetings/agendas-and-minutes">https://www.dunedin.govt.nz/council/council-meetings/agendas-and-minutes</a>
Mayor Hawkins	49/50	
Deputy Mayor - Cr Garey	49/50	
Cr Barker	49/50	
Cr Benson-Pope	47/50	
Cr Staynes	49/50	
Cr Elder	48/50	
Cr Hall	48/50	
Cr Houlahan	48/50	
Cr Laufiso	47/50	
Cr Lord	50/50	
Cr O'Malley	50/50	
Cr Radich	50/50	
Cr Vandervis	49/50	
Cr Walker	50/50	
Cr Whiley	44/50	

As we do not hold some of the information you have requested, your request is refused pursuant to section 17 (g) of the Local Government Official Information Act because the information is not held. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision.

Information about how to make a complaint is available at:  
<https://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/get-help-public/make-complaint-members-public> .

Yours sincerely



Lauren McDonald  
**GOVERNANCE SUPPORT OFFICER**