

5 February 2024

New Zealand Taxpayers Union
E-Mail: ratepayers.report@taxpayers.org.nz

Dear Sir/Madam

**Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 Request 20231218 DCC 2024
Ratepayers Report.**

I refer to your e-mail of 18 December 2023 requesting the following information for the 2022/23 financial year.

1. Average residential rates

x	Total residential rates	\$143,204,232
y	Total user charges	0
z	Number of residential rating units (SUIP)	51,055
	Average residential costs	\$2,804.90

2. Average non-residential rates

x	Total non-residential rates	\$76,177,818
y	Total user charges	0
z	Number of non-residential rating units	6,350
	Average non-residential costs	\$11,996.51

3. Personnel

- The total number of staff dismissed due to poor performance.

CCO 5

DCC There were no staff dismissed for poor performance.

- If applicable, the FTE number of staff employed by council-controlled organisations.

CCO	845
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- If applicable, the total FTE number of staff employed by the council, excluding council-controlled organisations.

DCC	664.76
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- The total number of staff (non-FTE, including casual staff)

CCO	878
DCC	200.91

- The total number of staff including those employed by council-controlled organisations receiving remuneration in excess of \$100,000.

CCO	276
DCC	226

Total	502
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- The total number of staff including those employed by council-controlled organisations receiving remuneration in excess of \$200,000.

CCO	17
DCC	12

Total	29
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3.1. Management

- The FTE number of managers employed.

CCO	128
DCC	170

- The ratio of management to total staff numbers.

CCO	1 to 7
DCC	1 to 6

- The average and median salary of a manager.

CCO	Average: \$143,301 Median: \$130,842
DCC	Average: \$119,658 Median: \$109,644

3.2. Communications

- The FTE number of communications & marketing staff employed.

CCO	10
DCC	21

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

CCO	Average: \$96,427 Median: \$82,041
DCC	Average: \$84,188 Median: \$79,592

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.

This information is declined pursuant to section 17 (f) that the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

3.4. Core services

- The FTE number of staff employed to work on the delivery and/or maintenance of local infrastructure.

CCO	254
DCC	204

- The FTE number of staff employed to provide regulatory functions.

CCO	N/A
DCC	162

- The FTE number of staff employed in customer-facing roles.

CCO	N/A
DCC	284

4. Audit and Risk Oversight

- How many members are on the Council's Audit and Risk Committee (or equivalent)?

Six members

- Of those members, how many are elected and how many are independent of the council?

2 Independent Members and 4 Elected

- Is the Chair of the Committee an independent member?

Yes

- Does the Council have a lawyer (with a current practising certificate) on the Committee?

Yes

- 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?

Yes

- Does the Council have a code of conduct requiring political neutrality from Council staff?

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.

CCO	\$14,910
DCC	\$82,805.75

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

CCO	N/A
LGNZ	\$150,136.08

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

CCO	N/A
DCC	\$55,908.27

6. Debt

- Net debt (total for the council) as a percent of rates income

241%

- The dollar amount of debt per rating unit

\$8,093.85

- The dollar amount of interest paid per rating unit

\$273.27

As we have declined to provide some information you are advised that you have the right to seek a review of this decision by the Office of the Ombudsman.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Lapham', written in a cursive style.

Jennifer Lapham
GOVERNANCE SUPPORT OFFICER