

Laura Bowman

From: official information
Sent: Friday, 27 May 2022 10:47 am
To: report@ratepayers.nz
Cc: official information
Subject: Final Response - LGOIMA 263585- Taxpayers' Unio - 2022 Ratepayers' Report

Kia Ora,

I refer to your **information request below**, Hamilton City Council is able to provide the following response.

Please see the following information for the **2020/21 Financial Year** as requested:

Your request (1 of 5)

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).

Our response (1 of 5):

Average residential cost of rates = \$2,612

- **X** = \$144,100,191
- **Y** = \$0
- **Z** = 55,173

Your Request (2 of 5)

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).

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 2020/2021 Financial Year.

Our Response (2 of 5)

Average non-residential = \$ 15,088

- **X** = \$76,919,695
- **Y** = \$9,475,910
- **Z** = 5,726

>Your request (3 of 5)

Personnel

- The total number of staff dismissed due to poor performance.
- If applicable, the FTE number of staff employed by council-controlled organisations.
- 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.

Our Response (3 of 5)

- Zero (0)
- 1072.41
- 236 staff
- 10 Staff

Your Request (4 of 5)

Audit and Risk Oversight

- How many members are on the Council's Audit and Risk Committee (or equivalent)?
- Does the Council have independent members on the Committee?
- 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) on the Committee?
- Does the Council have a code of conduct requiring political neutrality from Council staff?

Our Response (4 of 5)

- Hamilton City Council operates a Strategic Risk and Assurance Committee. The Committee has nine members.
- Yes, the Committee has three independent members.
- Yes.
- No.
- Yes.
- Members of the Committee are subject to the standards set out in the Elected members Code of Conduct. The Code includes guidance on the relationship between Elected members and staff. In addition, Council has a management policy for staff protocols during the election period, new staff who start during the pre-election period are required to undergo training of the on the "staff elections protocols".

Your request (5 of 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.

Our response (5 of 5)

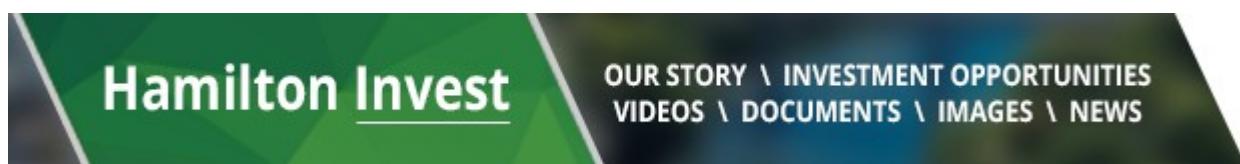
All figures are GST inclusive.

- a. Waikato CC \$3,335.00
- b. LGNZ \$188,311.39
- c. SOLGM \$83,914.60

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 www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Kind Regards,

Laura
Official Information Team
Legal Services & Risk | People and Organisational Performance
Email: officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz



From: Ratepayers' Report <report@ratepayers.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 3 May 2022 2:56 pm
To: official information <officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz>
Subject: Ratepayers' Report

Good afternoon,

The Taxpayers' Union is in the process of preparing the 2022 Ratepayers' Report for the 2020/21 financial year.

We are pleased to inform you that this is the only LGOIMA request you will receive in relation to the 2022 report. You will note that the amount of information requested is *significantly less* than in previous years. For this reason, however, we will not be delaying publication due to the Council requesting extensions.

If you have any questions, please reply directly to this email.

Regards,

New Zealand Taxpayers' Union

This is a request for information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. Please use **GST inclusive** figures where applicable.

I request the following information for the **2020/21 Financial Year**:

1. Average residential rates

a. 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).

2. Average non-residential rates

a. 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).

***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 2020/2021 Financial Year.**

3. Personnel

- e. The total number of staff dismissed due to poor performance.
- f. If applicable, the FTE number of staff employed by council-controlled organisations.
- g. The total number of staff including those employed by council-controlled organisations receiving remuneration in excess of \$100,000.
- h. The total number of staff including those employed by council-controlled organisations receiving remuneration in excess of \$200,000.

4. Audit and Risk Oversight

- a. How many members are on the Council's Audit and Risk Committee (or equivalent)?
- b. Does the Council have independent members on the Committee?
- c. Is the Chair of the Committee an independent member?
- d. Does the Council have a lawyer (with a current practising certificate) on the Committee?
- e. Does the Council have an accountant (with a current practising certificate) on the Committee?
- f. Does the Council have a code of conduct requiring political neutrality from Council staff?

5. Payments to third parties

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