

From: [Official Information](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [Official Information](#)
Subject: Final response - LGOIMA 392006 - [REDACTED] - Amounts paid to Taituara
Date: Friday, 19 April 2024 10:33:52 am
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image003.jpg](#)
[image004.png](#)

Kia ora,

We refer to your information request below. Hamilton City Council provides the following response.

Your request:

This is a request for official information relating to funds paid to Taituarā – formally known as the NZ Society of Local Government Managers (SOLGM).

Please provide for the 2023 calendar year:

1. A list of all payments from the Council group (i.e. including any CCOs) to Taituarā
 2. For each payment:

- a. the date, invoice number, and what the payment was for* and
 - b. whether it was recovered (or deducted from the pay) from the relevant employee enjoying the membership or services related to the same.

Given the nature of Taituarā as a membership organisation – in effect the employment union for local government managers – if membership dues are not recovered or deducted, please provide:

- a. the reasoning (if any) for not deducting the amounts (i.e. Why should ratepayers pay for a private organisation/benefit?) and
 - b. whether the Council does this for any other employment union or professional/networking association. If so, which ones?

If the Council considers that the membership for Council officers is as part of their role at the Council (and therefore not for private benefit) please provide this information and explain how Taituarā is not therefore treated as a CCO under s 6(1) of the Local Government Act 2002 for the purposes of the Council group's statutory reporting.

If you require clarification of any of the matters contained in this request, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please also note that this request, and the Council's response – including the time taken to provide the sought information – may be made publicly available.

**this information should be easily available from the Council's accounting system. The source documents (invoice) are not requested/required (the description copied from the Council's accounting/records system is fine).*

Our response:

Please see the table below this is the workings, and the list of transactions requested. Our CCO's will respond directly.

Written response:

- Taituarā does not meet the legal definition of a CCO. It is the individual not the council that is a member of Taituarā. No local authority or group of local authorities own or control 50 percent or more of the voting rights at any meeting of Taituarā, nor does any local authority or group of local authorities have the right to appoint 50 percent or more of the members of our governing body.
- Members of Taituara derive professional benefit from access to resources, relevant updates and training opportunities and the ability to network across the sector. There is no advocacy on behalf of any employee or group of employees relating to employment conditions.
- No deductions are made from employees pay as the membership is deemed to be a professional membership which is part of their role at Council.

Payments for membership are also made to professional bodies such as the Law Society, Chartered Accountants ANZ, IPENZ - Engineering NZ, NZ Planning Institute etc as part of generally standard market conditions of employment for roles where a professional qualification or registration is required to be maintained.

Supplier/Other:		NZ Society Of Local Government Managers	
Date	Ref	Description	Amount
18/01/23	15806	LTP Webinar 3 Feb.	250.00
25/01/23	INV-0001154	Taituara Membership	275.00
1/02/23	INV-00011547	Taituara Membership	275.00
16/02/23	16029	Online Training: Introduction to Policy Fundamentals	1,100.00
6/03/23	16302	Online Training: 2023 Marsh Taituara Risk Management Forum	312.50
24/03/23	16535	Taituara Civic Financial Services Strategic Finance Forum	1,795.00
17/04/23	16395	Wellbeing forum in Wellington-May 2023	960.00
17/04/23	16398	Wellbeing forum in Wellington-May 2023	960.00
17/04/23	16402	Wellbeing forum in Wellington-May 2023	960.00
17/04/23	16420	Wellbeing forum in Wellington-May 2023	960.00
17/04/23	16548	3 x Gala Dinner Attendance	645.00
1/05/23	16759	LGOIMA Webinar through Taituaraa	250.00
5/05/23	16504	2 x Community Wellbeing forum attendance	1,920.00
10/05/23	16853	Webinar: Climate change and decision-making	250.00
26/05/23	17131	Webinar: Embedding climate change in the 2024 LTP	250.00
15/06/23	17176	Webinar: Rating 14/06/2023	250.00
5/07/23	INV-00011830	Taituara Membership	275.00
5/07/23	INV-00011823	Taituara Membership	275.00
6/07/23	INV-00011820	Taituara Membership	275.00
6/07/23	INV-00011829	Taituara Membership	275.00
7/07/23	INV-00011826	Taituara Membership	275.00
10/07/23	INV-00011825	Taituara Membership	275.00
19/07/23	17341	All of HCC registration for Taituara Bylaws refre	250.00
19/07/23	17342	All of HCC Registration for Taituara Local alcoh	250.00
28/07/23	INV-00012031	Taituara Membership	275.00
1/08/23	17506	Community Plan Forum - Staff member attendance	950.00
1/08/23	17506	Community Plan Forum - Staff member attendance	1,100.00
1/08/23	17506	Community Plan Forum - Staff member attendance	950.00
2/08/23	16301	Online Training: 2023 Marsh Taituara Risk Management Forum	625.00
7/08/23	INV-00011827	Taituara Membership	275.00
7/08/23	INV-00011828	Taituara Membership	275.00
7/08/23	INV-00011821	Taituara Membership	275.00
7/08/23	INV-00011824	Taituara Membership	275.00
15/08/23	17672	Webinar: July Legislative Changes and the 2024 LTP Online Training: Your Long-term Plan (LTP) Starter Kit	615.00
15/08/23	17655	2 x Governance professionals Forum attendance	2,200.00
18/08/23	17635	Online Training: Writing for Local Government De	1,450.00
23/08/23	17465	Ticket to Online: Your Long-term Plan (LTP) Start	290.00
12/09/23	INV-00012074	SectorGood Work Programme - Annual Subscription f	32,738.26
19/09/23	INV-00012186	Taituara Membership	275.00
1/10/23	INV-00011819	Taituara Membership	275.00
10/10/23	17970	WEBINAR: BERL 2023 - the Post Adjustors update -	325.00
12/10/23	17998	Rating and Funding Forum attendance	3,300.00
13/11/23	INV-00012236	Taituara Membership	275.00
14/11/23	INV-18206	Webinar: Climate Change Financial Disclosures	325.00

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.

Ngaa mihi
Keeley Faulkner

Official Information Coordinator

Legal services

Governance & Assurance Team | Business Services

Email: officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz



Hamilton City Council | Private Bag 3010 | Hamilton 3240 | www.hamilton.govt.nz

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I support flexibility at work. While it suits me to send this email now, I don't expect a response outside of your own working hours.

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, 28 March 2024 12:54:17 pm

To:

Subject: SOLGM - Request for information -

Hi there,

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Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 

[REDACTED]
Writebot Works Account Manager | The Campaign Company Limited
The Campaign Company Limited
Unit 6, Shed 24, 143 Quay Street, Auckland 1010
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]