

**From:** [Official Information](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [Official Information](#)  
**Subject:** Final response - LGOIMA 463682 - [REDACTED] - Partnerships  
**Date:** Monday, 10 March 2025 6:02:11 pm  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.jpg](#)  
[image003.jpg](#)

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Kia ora,

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

Your request:

In regard to the Governance and partnerships percentage which has gone up from 1.4% to 4.6%, what part of this is governance and how much pertains to partnerships?

Who are the partnerships?

What returns come back from the partnerships?

Who within council has a connection with the partnerships in any form ie family, friend, spouses etc?

Our response:

1. In regard to the Governance and partnerships percentage which has gone up from 1.4% to 4.6%, what part of this is governance and how much pertains to partnerships?

1.0% Governance

3.6% Partnerships, Communication & Maaori

As part of an internal restructure, governance functions were moved to a new group. Governance now sits in Partnership, Communications and Maaori, which includes four units (Governance, Communications and Engagement; Community Partnerships; and Amorangi Maaori) and the combined spend of this group is reported on.

### **Who are the partnerships?**

Rather than formal partnerships the “Partnership” costs refer to a broad range of front facing governance, community and iwi engagement activities that this group undertakes across its four units to strengthen the relationships or partnership we have in the city:

- Governance: Advising on how to craft Council reports, being the go-to people on governance and democratic processes, including running elections for the city, supporting LGOIMA requests, provide timely and accurate legal advice including contract reviews and management of privacy breaches and protect Council assets and business through expert risk and resilience management.

Communications and Engagement: Delivers all community communication and engagement strategies, plans and collateral (including managing media and our social media channels); makes sure community voices are heard and there's an easy feedback loop between them and Council; and is responsible for all council communications on key projects to ensure the community has a say (last year the engagement team held 36 consultations on key issues).

- Community partnerships: This team builds and supports collaborative projects with our community groups. They hold all civic ceremonies and events including ANZAC Day commemorations, Civic Awards and Citizenship ceremonies. They provide the permitting framework and support for other community events not run by council but that are held on council land. They manage community partnership and service funds, and recommend how much goes to what group, they raise external funding for community projects like new gardens at the Hamilton Gardens, Waiwhakareke nature precinct developments, and astro turf projects for sports fields. This team also maintain relationships with key community stakeholders.
- Amorangi Maaori: Manages the Joint Management Agreements pertaining to our agreements with Waikato-Tainui; ensuring council is meeting its Treaty obligations and drives council's Pillars of Wellbeing strategy [He Pou Manawa Ora](#).

**3. What returns come back from the partnerships?**

All of the activity outlined contributes to strong community and iwi partnerships, providing opportunity for all our communities, businesses, iwi and Maaori to have say, contribute and be involved in the growth of our city. Some of our major Partners can be found on our website here: <https://hamilton.govt.nz/your-council/about-council/our-partners/>.

**4. Who within council has a connection with the partnerships in any form ie family, friend, spouses etc?**

Staff may have connections within the community for a variety of reasons, Council has a process regarding disclosure by staff of conflicts of interest for senior staff and as part of procurement planning processes.

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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngaa mihi  
Keeley Faulkner  
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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.

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 10 February 2025 9:23 am  
**To:** Official Information <[officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz](mailto:officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz)>; CEO <[CEO@hcc.govt.nz](mailto:CEO@hcc.govt.nz)>; Paula Southgate <[paula.southgate@council.hcc.govt.nz](mailto:paula.southgate@council.hcc.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** HCC distribution of rates

To whom it may concern

In regard to the Governance and partnerships percentage which has gone up from 1.4% to 4.6%, what part of this is governance and how much pertains to partnerships?

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Regards

