

LGOIMA response

Taxpayers' Union

RESPONDED	16/01/2024		
As per your Local Government and Official Information Act request		dated	7/12/2023
, please find the answers beside the questions below.			
<p>End-of-Year Bonuses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total amount paid in end-of-year bonuses to the CEO this Christmas. <i>None</i> Total amount paid in bonuses to staff employed by your organization this Christmas. <i>None</i> Please also provide the same for Christmas 2022. <i>None</i> <p>Presents for Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total expenditure on presents for staff including but not limited to 'secret Santa' etc. <i>None</i> Please include this cost for last year also. <i>None</i> <p>Christmas Parade:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total expenditure breakdown on any Christmas parade hosted or funded by the Council this year. This should also include road closure impact assessments where possible. <i>Council does not host a Christmas parade and did not spend any money directly on Christmas parades for either 2023 or 2022, but the Oraka Aparima Community Board did give a grant to the Riverton Community Christmas Parade of \$3,190</i> Please include a cost breakdown for any Christmas parade last year. <i>Nil</i> <p>Christmas Trees and lights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of Christmas trees purchased and erected, and the cost of these purchases for this year. <i>None</i> Please also include the cost for any Christmas lights for tree and any lights for buildings for this year. <i>None</i> Please also include the cost of both for last year, too. <i>None</i> Please highlight if the council had any left over from last year. <i>We have old Christmas trees that have been used for several years in the foyers of our buildings.</i> <p>Hiring Santa:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breakdown of costs associated with hiring a Santa, if applicable. <i>None</i> Please also provide this information for last year, too. <i>None</i> <p>Christmas Market:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breakdown of costs associated with running/hosting/sponsoring a Christmas market, if applicable. <i>None</i> Please provide this information for last year, too. <i>None</i> 			

Christmas Party Supplies:

- Please breakdown the amount spent on the following for the years 2022 and 2023: ***None***
 - Wrapping paper
 - Santa hats
 - Alcohol for parties
 - Party hats
 - Christmas crackers
 - Christmas cards
 - Christmas decorations

Christmas Parties:

- Total expenditure breakdown on Council Christmas parties. Please also include in the breakdown any travel arrangement costs. ***No specific Christmas party held***
- Please include this for last year, also. ***No specific Christmas party held***

Office Closure:

- Duration of office closure during the Christmas period for the council generally. ***Mid day 22nd December 2023 – back 8th January 2024***
- Please specify how many managers and senior executive staff are taking more hours/days out of office than is blanket across the council for the Christmas period. ***Managers and senior staff have no additional entitlement over this period - (apart from contractual annual leave provisions)***
- Does the Christmas office closure also affect contactors paid by the council? If not, how much are they being paid over the Christmas break in an hourly rate? ***We still need specific contractors to undertake works eg: animal control, general public rubbish bin emptying, cemetery internments. How much they are paid will depend if they are an employee, which will revert to their individual employment agreement/holidays act or if a contractor, the contract for service with them***

Fines:

- Does the council have any plans to increase fines for parking offences or any other offences during the Christmas period? ***We don't have parking meters***
 - If so, which fines are increasing, why and what revenue is expected to be raised? ***N/A***

If you have any concerns in relation to this response then you are able to raise these with the Ombudsman in accordance with Section 27 (3) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act.