

OIR: 2223/336

1 September 2022

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Request for Information under the Local Government and Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act)

Thank you for your email of 9 August 2022 requesting the following information:

I'm emailing you with regards to the OIR that is published on the KCDC website outlining the income and expenses for Elevate Ōtaki. You can find a copy of the OIR in the following link <https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/media/mc1j11mi/2122-262-elevate-otaki.pdf> and as the staff member that signed off on the OIR I have a couple of questions for you.

The following expenses have been attributed in the OIR to Elevate Ōtaki's expenditure. Could you please clarify what the expenditure below was for in relation to the work Elevate Ōtaki is doing?

Further investigation has shown that these invoices were incorrectly attributed to Elevate Ōtaki in our finance system.

Along with the clarification can you please provide any communications from myself or Elevate Ōtaki approving the work/expenditure listed below.

- **201707 \$5,008.70 AP HELIX 4 CONSULT 304008/02 Greater Otaki project evaluation**
- **201708 \$3,510.00 AP HELIX 4 CONSULT 304008/04 Greater Otaki project evaluation**
- **201709 \$7,301.60 AP DELANEY AND THO 304009/02 PR for Youth Passport**
- **201810 \$540.00 AP HELIX 4 CONSULT 321061/01 Additional Work - June 2018**

After a search of our records, we did not find any emails in our system related to you approving the work/expenditure listed above. On that basis I must decline this part of your request as the documents alleged to contain the information requested do not exist, despite reasonable efforts to locate them, they cannot be found, section 17(e) of the Act refers.

Considering the earlier review of the invoices, project brief and contract, it is likely that this information could not be found as you did not approve any of this spending, which was unrelated to Elevate Ōtaki.

Additional Note: Financial Consequences for Elevate Ōtaki

The transactions wrongly attributed to Elevate Ōtaki totalled \$16,360. Council had already identified and corrected \$11,000 of this error through a reversal that occurred outside of the timeframe of the initial OIR 2122-262 request. Unfortunately, this timing meant it was not captured in our response. This prior correction means that \$5,360 remains incorrectly attributed to Elevate Ōtaki. Now that Council has identified this error, an additional correction will be made so that there will be no enduring financial consequences for the Elevate Ōtaki budget.

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.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'ABell', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Angela Bell

Acting Group Manager Strategy, Growth and Recovery

Te Kaiwhakahaere Roopu Rautaki, Te Tipuna me te Whakaoranga