

3 September 2020

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Request for Official Information responded to under the Local Government and Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) – reference: 7385412

I refer to your information request we received on 31 August 2020 for the following:

At the 28 May 2020 meeting KCDC councillors made the following recommendations re Agenda item 8.2:

[71 That the Council approves an application being made to the Provincial Growth Fund for fifty percent (\$2.23m) of the total development costs for the Kapiti Gateway Project and delegates to the Chief Executive the authority to sign off the final application and support material in general accordance with this report.]

[72 That the Council notes that officers will provide reprioritised capex budgets for the council share of development costs, once the PGF application is approved and detailed design is confirmed – including construction timelines.]

1. KCDC employed Gilpin Consultants/Associates to deliver a business case. It was not part of the information/facts/statistics in the 28.5.20 agenda item. Why not?

The assistance of the Giblin Group with preparation of the indicative business case **was** included in the Agenda item on 28 May 2020, in paragraph 7:

“In order to have the greatest chance of success in receiving funding from the PGF, Council has been advised that it needs to submit an application as soon as possible. The application should include a business case for the project and confirmation about how the remaining fifty percent of development costs will be funded and confirmation that the consenting process is well progressed. At the time of submitting this report, the Giblin Group were in the process of finalising the business case.”

2. KCDC received \$140,000 from the PGF in July 2019 for PGF Planning. Was any of the PGF grant used to pay Gilpin for the business plan? If not how did KCDC use the \$140,000?

Funds received from the PGF grant were not used to pay the Giblin Group. The funding of \$140,000 obtained from PGF in 2019 was obtained for and has been applied to a contribution towards a fixed-term employee to assist and support Council's growth and development projects.

3. What did KCDC pay Gilpin for the Gateway business plan and what date was it (a) requested (b) delivered?

The information you are seeking in regards to the fee for the Gateway business plan is commercially sensitive and in confidence, on that basis I must withhold this information under section 7(2)(b)(ii) of the Act which allows for Council to withhold information in order to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

In the Council's view the reasons for withholding these details are not outweighed by public interest considerations in section 7(1) favouring their release.

However we can tell you that Giblin Group was engaged to assist with the preparation of the PGF application and indicative business case on 8 April 2020. Giblin Group delivered the papers on 8 June 2020.

4. Please provide a copy of the Gilpin business case prepared for the Gateway project, the case presented as part of the Provincial Growth Fund Application, ie the May/early June business case.

The PGF application and the business case that accompanied it has been approved for public release shortly. Therefore at this time we are declining to supply the information as the information requested will soon be publically available, section 17(d) of the Act refers.

Please note that there have been some changes made to the version provided to the PGF, which included staff names, those have now been replaced by position titles. Please advise if you wish to sight the original without that change after the public release.

You have the right to request the Ombudsman to review this decision. Complaints can be sent by email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz, by fax to (04) 471 2254, or by post to The Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Ngā mihi



James Jefferson
Group Manager Place and Space
Te Kaihautū Takiwā, Waahi hoki