

6 November 2020

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New Zealand Herald
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Request for Official Information responded to under the Local Government and Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) – reference: 7622050 (2021-105)

I refer to your information request we received on 12 October 2020 for the following:

The total amount the mayor/chair has spent since being elected in 2019.

Please provide in a table a breakdown of these expenses line-by-line and details of what they were for i.e. the table should consist of Item, Cost, Reason and Date. This should include any entertainment costs, office equipment, accommodation, gifts, travel etc.

Separately could you please provide the cost of the mayoral car, its value and what it is.

Council response regarding your request

Please find below a table of categorised spending (excluding GST) by the Mayor’s Office from commencement on the 12 October 2019 to 30 September 2020.

Category	\$
Meeting Expenses	2,143.96
LGNZ New Mayors Workshop	123.29
Mayor’s Taskforce for Jobs Subscription (LGNZ)	3,696.00
Mayoral Special Projects / Community Grants	1,392.80
Newspaper Subscription (Dom Post)	480.99
Parking and Other Transport	281.73
Grand Total	8,118.77

Please note these figures exclude corporate overheads that are recovered from the Mayor’s office.

In response to your request about the cost of the Mayoral car I can confirm that the Mayor currently has the use of a Nissan Leaf, Model ZE1LE01. The vehicle was purchased in March 2020. The vehicle had a recommended retail price of \$52,165 excl gst. The Council purchased the vehicle under the All of Government (AoG) procurement Contract and was eligible for a discounted price.

The details of the purchase price are deemed commercially sensitive. On that basis I must withhold this information under the following sections of LGOIMA:

- 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, and
- 7(2)(c)(i) – to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source

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.

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



Mark de Haast
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Te Kaihautū Ratonga Tōpū