

OIR: 2223/576

4 July 2023

Tēnā koe

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

Thank you for your letter of 26 May 2023, which we received on 7 June 2023 requesting the following information:

- 1. What is the total value of rates arrears and late payment penalties (which have not been paid and remain outstanding at the date of this letter) for each of the following rating years:
 - 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017
 - 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018
 - 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019
 - 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020
 - 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021
 - 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

Kāpiti Coast District Council property rates arrears and late payment penalties outstanding as at 28 June 2023 for each of the years' requested is shown below:

	KCDC Rates revenue	KCDC rates and penalties due as at end of rating year	KCDC Rates and penalties due as at 28th June 2023
Rating year	including GST \$000	\$000	\$000
2016/17	66,334	1,816	24
2017/18	71,251	1,950	28
2018/19	75,493	1,560	34
2019/20	79,382	1,885	38
2020/21	82,615	1,717	53
2021/22	89,120	1,758	217

Please note that any information provided in response to your request may be published on the Council website, with your personal details removed.

2. Is the Kāpiti Coast District Council predicting the total value of rates arrears and late payment penalties for the 2022/2023 rating year to increase or decrease on the previous rating year?

At the time of preparing this response, the rate arrears and late payment penalties outstanding for 2022/23 is \$2.06 million. This is expected to reduce through payment arrangements and Council collection processes.

3. Is the Kāpiti Coast District Council predicting the total value of rates arrears and late payment penalties for the 2023/2024 rating year to increase or decrease on the previous rating year?

The Council is not able to predict the level of arrears that will be outstanding as at a future date. The Council regularly reviews and monitors all rates accounts and proactively contracts those ratepayers that are experiencing difficulty in paying their rates.

4. How many rating units have arrears or rates and/or late payment penalties which have been outstanding for more than 12 months?

There are 19 rating units which have arrears or rates and/or late payment penalties which have been outstanding for more than 12 months.

5. What are the Kāpiti Coast District Council's policies and processes for the collection of any outstanding rates and late payment penalties.

The Council's rates team issue quarterly reminder notices and work with ratepayers to set up workable payment arrangements for overdue rates.

Where a payment arrangement has not been agreed or maintained, from July each year the Council follow the collection framework set out from Section 62 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 for the collection of previous year's rate arrears. The Council use the services of Debt Management Central, who specialise in the collection of Local Government debt for this process.

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

Ngā mihi

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Mark de Haast Group Manager Corporate Services Te Kaiwhakahaere Rōpū Ratonga Tōpū