

OIR: 2526/39

7 August 2025

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED],

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

Thank you for your email of **16 July 2025** and further refinement email of **23 July 2025**.

Your request for this information is refused under section 17(d) of the Act as the information requested is, or will soon be, publicly available. However, you will see that we have directed you to the areas on our website where this information can be found.

You have requested the following information:

**1. *Let me know your plans to control the 2026 rates at inflation level.***

Details of the Council's financial plans and budgeting can be found within our Annual and Long Term Plans on the Council's website at <https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/council/forms-documents/annual-and-long-term-plans/>

**2. *Your plans to actually discuss any additional high cost items with the ratepayers and get their approval.***

The Council consults with the community over the development of the Long Term Plan. Further formal public consultation is carried out during the annual plan process if any large adjustments are being considered. Further information in relation to how the Council approaches community engagement can be found in our Significance & Engagement Policy which can be found on the Council's website at <https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/media/u1cabwls/significance-and-engagement-policy-2024.pdf>

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

**3. Why have debt levels been allowed to get so high?**

The Council's planning on the work to be delivered and how it will be paid for is set out in the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan which can be found on our website at <https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/council/forms-documents/annual-and-long-term-plans/>

**4. When will we be able to question potential councillors before the next election on their approach to rates?**

Details of the 'Meet the Candidate' events that have been arranged can be found on the Council's website at <https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/council/about-council/local-elections/local-elections-2025/meet-the-candidates/> These events help voters meet and hear from candidates, learn where the candidates stand on issues affecting our District and make informed decisions when voting in the local elections.

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

Ngā mihi,



**Mark de Haast**  
Group Manager Corporate Services  
Te Kaihautū Ratonga Tōpū