

OIR: 2223/533

8 May 2023



Kia ora

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

Thank you for your email of 24 April 2023 requesting the following information *relating* to redundancies and pay-outs within the organisation over the past few financial years:

Please provide the following information for the financial years 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23:

 Number of employees made redundant broken down into compulsory and voluntary redundancies. Please also provide total amount of redundancy pay-outs - compulsory as well as discretionary.

For the financial years 2020/21 and 2021/22 the Council had no employees made redundant.

- 2. For each compulsory redundancy, please provide the number of cases where the employee was eligible for payment of pension. For each of these cases, please provide following:
 - Amount paid out as statutory redundancy payment
 - Amount paid out as discretionary redundancy payment
 - Age of the employee in bands of 5 years i.e. 55-60, 60-65, 65-70, over 70.

On 2 May we contacted you to seek clarification about 'redundancy and superannuation' as per your question above. You advised us on 3 May that you meant "that they got redundancy and were getting the government superannuation".

While the Council recognises that its employees aged 65 years and above may be entitled to receive NZ Government Superannuation payments, the Council does not require employees to disclose if they are receiving such payments therefore, we are unable to provide you with this level of detail.

On this basis we decline your request for this information as it is not held by Council, we considered transferring you request; however we have no grounds for believing that the information is held by another local authority or a department or Minister of the Crown or organisation, section 17(g)(i) of the LGOIMA refers.

- 3. For each voluntary redundancy, please provide the number of cases where the employee was eligible for payment of pension. For each of these cases, please provide following:
 - Amount paid out as statutory redundancy payment
 - Amount paid out as discretionary redundancy payment
 - Age of the employee in bands of 5 years i.e. 50-55, 55-60, 60-65, 65-70, over 70.

Please refer to our response to Question 2 above.

- 4. Please provide following information for all cases of where the employee was eligible for early payment of pension:
 - Amount paid in statutory redundancy payment
 - Amount paid out in discretionary redundancy payment
 - Age of the employee in bands of 5 years i.e. 55-60, 60-65, 65-70, over 70,
 - Total strain cost to the pension fund for early payment of pension due to redundancy.
 - If possible please break down this figure into strain costs due to voluntary and compulsory redundancy.

Please refer to our response to Question 2 above.

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

Dianne Andrew

Organisational Development Manager

Te Kaihautū mo te Hunga Mahi