OIR: 2627/145

29 October 2026

[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 ***5 October 2026*** requesting the following information:

Under the "Sustainability and Resilience" activity, the Long Term Plan 2024-2034 identifies the Council will undertake the following activities:

1. ***Carbon and energy management and a strategic programme to embed climate adaptation across Council's activities***
2. ***Support the Incorporation of Climate change mitigation into the design and implementation of all Council programmes***
3. ***Investigate and support projects that reduce the Council's greenhouse gas emissions***
4. ***Provide education to the wider community on climate change***
5. ***Carbon audits and modelling for the district***
6. ***Administering climate action grants***
7. ***Respond to government submission opportunities on climate change***

a) Can you please provide the amounts spent (excluding corporate overheads, interest and depreciation) on each of the activities (1) to (7) above for the past financial year (2025/26) and the amounts budgeted to be spent on each of the activities (1) to (7) above in the 2026/27 financial year.

We have interpreted your email as a request for the amount spent and budgeted for the Council's Climate Action work programme to undertake the 'Sustainability and Resilience' activities listed above.

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

Note, however, that the Kāpiti Coast District Council is committed to integrating sustainability and climate action across other Council activities and programmes. If we have misunderstood the scope of your request, please let us know.

1. ***Carbon and energy management and a strategic programme to embed climate adaptation across Council's activities***

   The **total** amount spent and budgeted for the Council's Climate Action work programme (excluding corporate overheads, interest and depreciation) is:
   - 2025/26 (spent): $607,884
   - 2026/27 (budgeted): $644,208

   This includes staffing costs for 3 FTE (full-time equivalent) staff.

   Within this total, $83,680 was spent (2025/26) and $61,445 is budgeted (2026/27) specifically for carbon and energy management. This includes monitoring Council's energy use, procuring new electricity and gas contracts in 2025/26, and improving energy efficiency across Council operations.

   The Climate Action work programme includes working across the organisation to embed climate adaptation and mitigation (ie reducing emissions) into the design and delivery of other Council projects and programmes, modelling district emissions, and coordinating with and advocating to regional and central government, including responding to submission opportunities. This work primarily involves staff time.

   Staff time is not recorded against individual activities, so we cannot provide a separate figure for the activities listed in your questions 2, 3 and 7, the climate adaptation programme in question 1, or staff time spent on district emissions modelling in question 5. These costs are included in the total above. These parts of your request are therefore refused under section 17(e) of the Act as the documents alleged to contain the information requested do not exist.

2. ***Support the incorporation of Climate change mitigation into the design and implementation of all Council programmes***

   See response 1 above.

3. ***Investigate and support projects that reduce the Council's greenhouse gas emissions***

   See response 1 above.

4. ***Provide education to the wider community on climate change***

   Within the total above, $76,001 was spent (2025/26) and $110,614 is budgeted (2026/27) specifically for the provision of climate education across the wider community. This includes $41,080 (2025/26) and $62,625 (2026/27) to support the delivery of the Enviroschools programme at participating schools in the Kāpiti district.

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5. Carbon audits and modelling for the district

Within the total above, $25,968 was spent (2025/26) and $25,556 is budgeted (2026/27) specifically for Council's external annual carbon audit. Council is required to undertake an independent, external annual carbon audit to remain eligible for its Climate Action Loan with the Local Government Funding Agency, which reduces Council's overall lending costs by $52,000 a year (as of June 2026).

Modelling district emissions primarily involves staff time. See response 1 above. Within the total above, $11,156 was spent externally in 2025/26 to model district emissions. This includes Council's contribution to the bi-annual Greater Wellington regional emissions inventory (from which we derive a Kāpiti district emissions inventory) led by Greater Wellington Regional Council.

This external modelling was funded from Council's general Climate Studies budget, as there is no dedicated budget for modelling. No external modelling of district emissions is currently planned for 2026/27, although the Climate Studies budget could be used for this if a need arises.

6. Administering climate action grants

Climate action grants have not been offered in 2025/26 or 2026/27. Accordingly, the amount spent and budgeted for administering climate action grants in these financial years is $0.

7. Respond to government submission opportunities on climate change

See response 1 above.

b) Can you also provide the amount spent on climate action grants in the 2025/26 financial year, and the amount budgeted to be spent in the 2026/27 financial year.

The amount spent (2025/26) and budgeted (2026/27) for climate action grants is $0.

Council distributed climate action grants in 2023/24 and 2024/25. Funding for these 2023/24 and 2024/25 grants came from part of Council's share of central government's Better Off Funding programme to help local government invest in the wellbeing of their communities. The grants were not funded from general rates.

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You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi,



Brendan Owens
Group Manager Customer and Community
Kaiwhakahaere Rōpū - Kiritaki me te Hapori

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