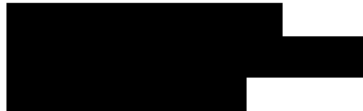



OIR: 2223/508

17 April 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 3 April 2023 requesting the following information:

1. *How many years has your council been affiliated with Toitū?*

Council started measuring its emissions from 2009/10 and was certified for the first time in 2010 for the period 2009/10.

2. *How much does it cost your council to maintain certification, including fees from Toitū and costs related to meeting these requirements?*

The annual cost for certification is around \$22,000 excl. GST. The annual cost for a data management system where all emissions data are gathered for the audit as well as for further emissions reduction planning through services delivery is around \$28,000.

a) *If different, what were the initial up-front costs to achieve compliance with certification standards and achieve certification in the first place?*

Not applicable.

3. *Does the council plan to achieve CarbonZero/Carbon Positive certification, and if so, why, and under what timeframe?*

The Council is certified under the Emissions Reduction Programme.

b) *If not, why?*

It has been proposed to continue with this programme for now, as further reduction programmes have been planned for delivery over the next 6 years. A change of programme will be considered following successful further reductions.

4. Has the council considered other certification/auditors, or in-house auditing of their climate emissions as an alternative to Toitū?

Yes, this has been considered and discussed, but it's preferred to continue with Toitū at this moment in time.

On 4 May, you sent Council an extra question to be added to your request, as follows:

5. Please provide copy of any contracts signed, any other applicable conditions or criteria your council must abide by as part of accreditation.

We have searched our records and can confirm that a signed contract does not exist. On this basis I must decline this part of your request as the document alleged to contain the information requested do not exist, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, it cannot be found, section 17(e) of the LGOIMA refers.

Criteria that must be met to be accredited is published on the Toitū website here:

[Certification Requirements | Toitū Envirocare \(toitu.co.nz\)](#)

Council are also part of the Carbon Reduce Programme.

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



Sean Mallon

Group Manager Infrastructure Services
Te Kaihautū Ratonga Pakiaka