

OIR: 2324/777

8 February 2024

[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 **10 January 2024** requesting the following information:

I hereby request under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 the release of the following information:

1. How many requests for official information (LGOIMA) did the Council receive in the year 2023?

262 requests were received in 2023 under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA) 1987.

Please be aware that this number will differ from which is reported in our annual report [Annual reports - Kāpiti Coast District Council \(kapiticoast.govt.nz\)](https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz) – see pages 81 and 82 of the most recent annual report. This is because the reporting period for the annual report is from 1 July to 30 June each year whereas your request asked for the number received in the calendar year.

2. How many of them were handled within the statutory timeframe of 20 working days?

The Council endeavours to respond to LGOIMA requests as soon as possible, and within the statutory timeframe or by a valid extension under the Act.

In 2023, the Council responded to the following:

- a) 240 requests were handled within the statutory timeframe of 20 working days under the LGOIMA.
- b) Eight requests were responded to outside the 20 working days due to a valid extension of time under either section 14(1)(a) and/or 14(1)(b) of the LGOIMA. Section 14(1)(a) provides “*the request is for a large quantity of official information or necessitates a search through a large quantity of*

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

information and meeting the original time limit would unreasonably interfere with the operations of the local authority”, and 14(1)(b) provides “consultations necessary to make a decision on the request are such that a proper response to the request cannot reasonably be made within the original time limit of the LGOIMA”.

- c) Four requests were answered outside of the statutory 20 working days under the LGOIMA without valid extension.
- d) Ten requests were withdrawn.

3. Out of all responses to requests for official information in 2023, how many of them were made publicly available (e.g. on your website)?

The Council publicly releases Official Information responses to requests via our website under [Responses to information requests](#). In 2023, there were 93 responses published on our website. A further 39 responses provided in 2023 were published to our website in early 2024. We continue to proactively release responses to our website as part of our usual practice.

4. How many of all the requests for official information in 2023 were refused on the grounds that these requests were “frivolous or vexatious or that the information requested is trivial” (see Section 17 (h) of Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987)?

To fully answer this question, we would need to go through every LGOIMA request made in 2023 one by one and review what, if any, grounds were used. This would require a substantial amount of work to research and collate the information you have requested.

However, instead we made a search of our email records during the 2023 calendar year and could not find any reference to "section 17(h)" or other key words such as "frivolous", "vexatious", or "trivial". which would indicate that we did not use that provision to decline to provide information. This corresponds with staff recollections as well.

5. Were the people informed that their requests for information were refused under Section 17 (h) LGOIMA?

It is our practice to always explain to customers the reason(s) for which information is refused, withheld, or redacted under the LGOIMA. Therefore, if this ground was to be applied when declining to provide information, that would be explained in the response letter. As set out in response to question 4, to the best of my knowledge we did not use section 17(h) as a ground upon which to decline to provide information under the LGOIMA in 2023.

Ngā mihi,



Hara Adams

Te Kaiwhakahaere Rōpū Hononga ā-Iwi
Group Manager Iwi Partnerships