

26 January 2022

Request for Official Information responded to under the Local Government and Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) (the Act) – OIR reference: 2122-150

I refer to your information request we received on 8 December 2021 for the following:

1. What was the total running costs for KCDC libraries, pools and community halls and venues for the last financial year?

Total operating costs for the last financial year (1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021):

- Libraries, Arts and Museums = \$ 5.4 million
- Swimming Pools (Coastlands Aquatic Centre, Waikanae Pool and Otaki Pool) = \$ 6.4 million
- Community centres and halls (from Paekakariki to Otaki) = \$ 1.7 million.
- 2. How many people used KCDC pools over the last year, broken down for each pool?

For the period January 2021 to December 2021 the breakdown of attendance is as follows:

- Ōtaki Pool 57,265
- Waikanae Pool 59.702
- Coastlands Aquatic Centre 172,711.
- 3. How many people used KCDC libraries over the last year, broken down for each library?

For the period January 2021 to December 2021 the foot traffic at the Council libraries was as follows:

- Ōtaki 65,900
- Waikanae 72,926
- Paraparaumu 178,508
- Paekākāriki 2,183
- 4. How many people used KCDC community halls and venues over the last year?

Use of Council community halls and venues is measured by rental hours. For the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 Council halls were hired for a total of 16,042.16 hours.

5. Will KCDC ratepayers without a vaccine pass continue to pay for ongoing running costs of libraries, pools and community halls and venues for which they are going to be denied access to even under Green?

There will not be a reduction in rates for those who do not have a Vaccine Pass. Rates help pay for services and facilities for the Kāpiti community that are either critical or beneficial to the community as a whole - often the things that make our district a more desirable place to live. Many of those raising the perceived issue of a rates rebate for the Council services are claiming that they have been denied because of the introduction of vaccine passes. The services are still on offer and ratepayers cannot receive a rebate or reduction simply because they have self-selected to opt-out by not receiving the government funded vaccine.

Many services have been translated into a safe and contactless service - information on our services under the COVID-19 protection framework is available on our website: https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/our-district/cdem/covid-19/our-services-during-covid-19/

The restrictions at Council facilities under the various traffic light levels can be seen on the Council website.

6. Is the KCDC considering a targeted approach for users of KCDC libraries, pools and community halls and venues to help pay for the ongoing running costs of libraries, pools and community halls and venues? If not, why not?

Note, as stated above in response to your question 5, there will not be a targeted approach for facility users. The Council sets it rates in accordance with its Revenue and Financing Policy. This policy sets out the private/public funding split for all Council activities which carefully considers who benefits most from Council services and facilities. You can access a copy of the policy here.

7. Will KCDC ratepayers without a vaccine pass be able to enter KCDC libraries, pools and community halls and venues if they pass an Antigen test? If not, why not?

No, the Council requires people, except for those with a medical exemption, to carry vaccine passes for entry to all our pools. People under the age of 12 years and 3 months are not required to show proof of vaccination.

Yours sincerely

Mark de Haast

**Group Manager Corporate Services** 

Te Kaihautū Ratonga Topū