

7 October 2024

File Ref: IRC-7077

7(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 7(2)(a)

Thank you for your request of 11 September 2024 to Te Kaunihera o Pōneke | Wellington City Council (the Council) requesting information regarding staff numbers at the Council. Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA). Please find my response below.

- *I'm getting in touch in relation to figures seen in this OIA, which state staffing has gone up 27 percent in four years:*  
<https://fyi.org.nz/request/27953/response/107234/attach/5/Appendix%20A%20OIA24%20324.pdf>.

*It also quotes Councillor Ray Chung as saying "I was just told today by council officers when I wanted to move an amendment to freeze recruiting more staff with a possible sinking lid that we can't do this because of the Local Government Act and that any authority to do this has to come from central government?"*

*Can WCC please confirm what the situation is, if this is the case, and if there are plans from this councillor to move an amendment to freeze recruiting more staff with a sinking lid policy?*

No results were found regarding any advice from staff or potential amendments from Councillor Chung regarding freezing staffing levels. Therefore, this part of your request is refused under section 17(e) of the LGOIMA, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

*In addition, would the LGOIMA team be able to clarify the 27 percent figure, and break down the staffing increase by sector/ title at WCC?*

Please see appended to this letter as **Appendix 01**, an excel spreadsheet of Council staff headcount from 30 June 2021 to 30 June 2024. Please note that these numbers include permanent, fixed term and casual employees, who may be either part-time or full-time.

It is important to note that smaller business units may have larger percentage changes because of a small increase or decrease in headcount.

As shown in **Appendix 01**, from 30 June 2021 to 30 June 2024 there has been a 5.78% total increase in headcount at Council. Please note, the number of staff employed by Council is dependent on the work programme that the Council is pursuing as outlined in the long-term plan or annual plans of the Council.

If you require further information, please contact [official.information@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:official.information@wcc.govt.nz).

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laura McIlhone', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Laura McIlhone  
Advisor  
Official Information & Privacy  
Wellington City Council

	30-Jun-21	30-Jun-22	% Change	30-Jun-23	% Change	30-Jun-24	% Change	2021 to 2024 % Change
<b>Customer and Community</b>								
Smart Council	130	152	16.92%	142	-6.58%	138	-2.82%	6.15%
Parks, Sport & Rec	722	735	1.80%	762	3.67%	656	-13.91%	-9.14%
Parking	78	68	-12.82%	77	13.24%	80	3.90%	2.56%
Libraries & Community Spaces	189	187	-1.06%	194	3.74%	188	-3.09%	-0.53%
Creative Capital	21	29	38.10%	24	-17.24%	28	16.67%	33.33%
Connected Communities	30	43	43.33%	38	-11.63%	51	34.21%	70.00%
City Housing	27	29	7.41%	34	17.24%	0	-100.00%	-100.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1212</b>	<b>1248</b>	<b>2.97%</b>	<b>1276</b>	<b>2.24%</b>	<b>1148</b>	<b>-10.03%</b>	<b>-5.28%</b>
<b>Executive Leadership &amp; CE Office</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>-8.33%</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9.09%</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>-8.33%</b>	<b>-8.33%</b>
<b>Finance &amp; Business</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>29.63%</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>-2.86%</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>7.35%</b>	<b>35.19%</b>
<b>Infrastructure &amp; Delivery</b>								
Transport and Infrastructure	67	68	1.49%	79	16.18%	78	-1.27%	16.42%
Property & Capital Projects	39	43	10.26%	48	11.63%	46	-4.17%	17.95%
Resilience & Sustainability	48	48	0.00%	58	20.83%	57	-1.72%	18.75%
<b>Total</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>7.27%</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>18.08%</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>-6.70%</b>	<b>18.18%</b>
<b>Mataaho Aronui</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>200.00%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>-11.11%</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>433.33%</b>
<b>People and Culture</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>11.90%</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>19.15%</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>-5.36%</b>	<b>26.19%</b>
<b>Planning and Environment</b>								
City Consenting & Compliance	171	177	3.51%	185	4.52%	194	4.86%	13.45%
City Design	26	43	65.38%	52	20.93%	48	-7.69%	84.62%
City Development	5	13	160.00%	11	-15.38%	11	0.00%	120.00%
Climate Change Response	4	16	300.00%	23	43.75%	20	-13.04%	400.00%
Housing Development	5	6	20.00%	7	16.67%	6	-14.29%	20.00%
Strategic Planning	24	28	16.67%	32	14.29%	32	0.00%	33.33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>16.80%</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>9.59%</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>28.00%</b>
<b>Strategy &amp; Governance</b>								
Mayors Office	3	6	100.00%	6	0.00%	6	0.00%	100.00%
Communications & Engagement	37	39	5.41%	36	-7.69%	43	19.44%	16.22%
Democracy Services	9	11	22.22%	12	9.09%	12	0.00%	33.33%
Economic Wellbeing & CCO's	2	2	0.00%	5	150.00%	6	20.00%	200.00%
Legal	7	9	28.57%	7	-22.22%	10	42.86%	42.86%
Risk & Assurance	10	13	30.00%	12	-7.69%	12	0.00%	20.00%
Strategy, Policy and Research	18	25	38.89%	23	-8.00%	24	4.35%	33.33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>18.95%</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>-0.88%</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>9.82%</b>	<b>29.47%</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>1833</b>	<b>1967</b>	<b>7.31%</b>	<b>2061</b>	<b>4.78%</b>	<b>1939</b>	<b>-5.92%</b>	<b>5.78%</b>