

20 March 2025

File Ref: IRC-8063

7(2)(a)

New Zealand Taxpayers' Union

7(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 7(2)(a)

Thank you for your email dated 5 March 2025 to Te Kaunihera o Pōneke | Wellington City Council (the Council) requesting the following information:

1. *The following events receipts and overall costs for Portaloo hireage*
 - o 2019 school climate strikes
 - o Parliamentary protests 2022
 - o Hikoi 2024
2. *The Council's policy and process for determining which events and protests do and don't get council hired/rented/paid Portaloo's.*

Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA). Please find my response below:

Question 1 - *The following events receipts and overall costs for Portaloo hireage:*

2019 school climate strikes

No portaloo's were provided by the Council for the 2019 school climate strikes, this part of your request has been refused under section 17(g) of the LGOIMA as the requested information is not held.

Parliamentary protests 2022

No portaloo's were provided by the Council for the 2022 Parliamentary protests, this part of your request has been refused under section 17(g) of the LGOIMA as the requested information is not held.

Hikoi 2024

For the the Toitū Te Tiriti Hikoi there were a total of 51 portaloo's which were stationed at Waitangi Park, Barnett Street carpark and at Parliament. The total cost for this service, including delivery setup and collection, was \$21,702.10 (excluding GST).

The invoice for this service has been refused under section 7(2)(b)(ii) of the LGOIMA, as making the information available would likely prejudice the commercial position of the person who is the subject of the information.

Question 2 - *The Council's policy and process for determining which events and protests do and don't get council hired/rented/paid Portaloo's*

I can confirm the Council does not hold a policy regarding which events and/or protests require portaloos at the expense of the Council. This part of your request has been refused under section 17(g) of the LGOIMA as the requested information is not held.

However, with respect to protests, the Toitū Te Tiriti Hikoi was the first time that portaloos for a protest were provided by the Council. Anticipating a large number of attendees for the Hikoi, the Council decided to provide portaloos to ensure adequate hygiene services and minimise cleanup efforts or impacts on Wellington after the event.

When it comes to events, be they cultural, community, or entertainment focused, we require all event organisers to carefully consider the hygiene needs of their attendees. This includes assessing the necessary toilet facilities based on both the expected and potential attendance.

Bathroom plans don't always have to rely solely on temporary portaloos; they can also incorporate existing facilities or a combination of both. For Council-run public events, such as Gardens Magic, Christmas in the Quarters and other special occasions, the Council directly hires extra toilets as needed. For events organised by community groups, it's their responsibility to arrange additional facilities, though Council funding may be available to cover these expenses on a case-by-case basis.

You have the right, by way of complaint under section 28(1) of the LGOIMA, to request an investigation and review of the Council's decision to withhold information by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you require further information, please contact official.information@wcc.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



Ollie Marchant
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