



Compiled Date	20/12/2023
File Number	23.24.74

LGOIMA

When releasing responses to previous LGOIMA requests, names and contact details of individual requestors will be withheld to protect their privacy.

Information requested by the media, lobby groups, public sector organisations and MPs will always be published, while information specific to an individual or their property will not generally be published.

Request from:	Private Individual
Information requested:	Staffing and contractor information
Response by:	Simon Bastion, Chief Executive

20 December 2023

Via Email:

Dear Private Individual

Official information request for staffing and contractor information

I refer to your official information request dated 10 December 2023 for staffing and contractor information.

You have asked for the following information:

Ombudsman Report 2023

- 1. What steps has your territorial authority taken in regard to the Ombudsman's report?**

Noted in the report.

- 2. What actions/motions have been passes by your territorial authority in response to the Ombudsman's report?**

Ensuring that there are written records of any workshops that are not held in public.

- 3. What steps are still under consideration?**

None.

- 4. What has or will the total cost been of any changes?**

No cost

Costs relating to councillors interactions

- 1. How much has your territorial authority budgets in each of the last 3 years for any costs related to councillor conduct. This could include individual conduct or between other councillors, mayor/chair or Chief Executive. This many include mediation, legal fees, legal investigation and similar.**

None.

- 2. How much has your territorial authority spent in each of the last 3 financial years for any costs related to councillor conduct? This could include individual conduct or between other councillors, mayor/chair or Chief Executive. This may include mediation, legal fees, legal investigations and similar.**

None.

Staffing numbers

1. What is the full FTE staff number if your territorial authority was fully staffed?

70 FTE (74 people)

2. What is your current FTA staff number employed?

69 FTE

3. What percentage of full FTE staff required is currently vacant?

1.4%

4. What percentage of the vacant positions are not being actively recruited to fill?

0%

5. What effect will these vacancies have on the services your territorial authority delivers/can deliver?

The current vacant role is essential to meet the administrative, operational and compliance requirements of Council.

Senior Leadership

1. Has your Chief Executive resigned, or a new CE been appointed in the last 3 years?

No.

2. How many of your Tier Two leaders resigned, or a new leader been appointed in the last 3 years?

One.

3. Have your territorial authority had a staff restructure implemented, considered by senior leadership or consulted in in the last 3 years? This includes a restructure of the whole territorial authority, or one or more department.

Yes.

Contractors

1. How much was budgeted by your territorial authority in each of the last 3 years for external contractors?

2021	\$27,000
2022	\$14,000
2023	\$14,316

2. How much was the budgeted amount as a percentage of total income for each of the last 3 years?

2021	0.08%
2022	0.04%
2023	0.04%

3. How much was spent by your territorial authority in each of the last 3 years for external contractors?

2021	\$87,685
2022	\$346,614
2023	\$199,170

4. How much was the amount spent on contractors as a percentage of total contractors income for each of the last 3 years?

2021	0.25%
2022	0.87%
2023	0.61%

5. Is your territorial authority's spend on contractors expected to increase this year because of staffing shortages.

No.

6. Could the services contracted for be hired directly under the territorial authority?

Yes.

7. What were the 3 companies, receiving the highest contractors spend in the last year?

We are refusing this question of your request under section 7(2)(i) to enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).

There is no charge in supplying this information to you.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Council has adopted a Proactive Release Policy and accordingly may publish LGOIMA responses on the Council Website at <https://www.westlanddc.govt.nz/lgoima-responses>. The collection and use of personal information by the Westland District Council is regulated by

the Privacy Act 2020. Westland District Council's Privacy Statement is available on our website [here](#)

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Mary-anne Bell, Business Analyst at LGOIMA@westlanddc.govt.nz, 03 756 9091.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Simon Bastion | Chief Executive

SB/MB