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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:	Jonathan Milne – Newsroom
Information requested:	Audit NZ fee increases
Response by:	Simon Bastion, Chief Executive

09 August 2023

Jonathan Milne
Newsroom

Via Email: Jonathan.milne@newsroom.co.nz

Dear Jonathan

Official information request for information regarding Audit NZ fee increases

I refer to your official information request dated 08 August 2023 for information regarding Audit NZ fee increases.

You have asked for the following information:

1. What were your previous audit fees, and what are the new ones?

Year	Fee
2021 – 22	\$181,989 excl GST
2022 – 23	\$191,059 excl GST

2. How big an impact is this on your budget?

No impact as we were advised of the fee before budgets were finalised.

3. If this increase is a concern, have you raised that concern? And with whom?

No, it is a 5% increase which was less than the CPI rate.

4. Noting that the council is obliged to get its audit done by Audit NZ or its designated agent, are you seeking any change to that rule, or ministerial intervention?

No.

5. Combined with the three “I’s” - inflation, interest and insurance, what is council looking to do to manage these costs? Are there areas in which it can seek additional revenue, or other areas in which it can manage costs?

- Council manages inflation as much is possible using BERL factors.
- Council manage interest costs through the use of hedging by way of Swaps and Forward Starts.
- Insurance costs have been managed through ensuring that assets being insured are at the correct values. No aggressive management has previously occurred.
- All external funding available is applied for if relevant.
- Managing costs and affordability is always considered.

There is no charge in supplying this information to you.

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 dark ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Simon Bastion | Chief Executive

SB/MB