

23 February 2023

██████████  
██████████@taxpayers.org.nz

Dear ██████████

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT Request: 2023-04**

Thank you for your email of 30 January 2023 to the Carterton District Council (CDC) requesting the following information:

- "...1. How are citizenship ceremonies run across your district/city, are they just run by council staff, privately organised, etc.?  
2. Provide a list of all citizenship ceremonies which have taken place in your council's district/city over the last 3 calendar years. Alongside each ceremony listed, please also provide the following information relevant to that event:*

- The number of people who received their citizenship certification*
- The number of council staff who attended the event*
- The number of councillors who attended the event*
- The total cost of organising and running the event, costs should include but not be limited to the following; travel costs, accommodation, staff hours, consulting, venue hire, catering, entertainment, advertising*
- The location of the citizenship ceremony*
- The number of local or central government staff who were not working for your council, but were working for another govt. authority"*

Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meeting Act 1987 (the Act).

My response to your request is in the order below.

- 1. How are citizenship ceremonies run across your district/city, are they just run by council staff, privately organised, etc.?***

Citizenship ceremonies for CDC are coordinated by Council staff, following the Department of Internal Affairs process.

2. *Provide a list of all citizenship ceremonies which have taken place in your council's district/city over the last 3 calendar years. Alongside each ceremony listed, please also provide the following information relevant to that event:*

- *The number of people who received their citizenship certification*
- *The number of council staff who attended the event*
- *The number of councillors who attended the event*
- *The total cost of organising and running the event, costs should include but not be limited to the following; travel costs, accommodation, staff hours, consulting, venue hire, catering, entertainment, advertising*
- *The location of the citizenship ceremony*
- *The number of local or central government staff who were not working for your council, but were working for another govt. authority*

My response to the above points of your request is attached as **Appendix One**.

Please note, the Council now proactively publishes LGOIMA responses on our website. As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Geoff Hamilton  
Chief Executive  
Carterton District Council

## Appendix One – Response to Question 2.

DATE	The number of people who received their citizenship certification	The number of council staff who attended the event	The number of councillors who attended the event	The total cost of organising and running the event, costs should include but not be limited to the following; travel costs, accommodation, staff hours, consulting, venue hire, catering, entertainment, advertising	The location of the citizenship ceremony	The number of local or central government staff who were not working for your council, but were working for another govt. authority
12 August 2020	Postponed due to covid					
9 December 2020	8	5	7	<p>Citizens already had their certificates due to Covid lockdown</p> <p>2hrs venue staff 32 hrs comm dev staff no venue costs</p> <p>Catering \$315.65 minus the \$35pp DIA gives us. (\$35 x 8 = \$280)</p>	Carterton Events Centre	0

DATE	The number of people who received their citizenship certification	The number of council staff who attended the event	The number of councillors who attended the event	The total cost of organising and running the event, costs should include but not be limited to the following; travel costs, accommodation, staff hours, consulting, venue hire, catering, entertainment, advertising	The location of the citizenship ceremony	The number of local or central government staff who were not working for your council, but were working for another govt. authority
				Plants \$14.50 each x 8 = \$116  <b>TOTAL COST</b> \$151 + 34 hours staff time		
25 August 2021	Postponed due to covid					
7 December 2022	11	7	8	2hrs venue staff 32 hrs comm dev staff no venue costs  Catering \$819.57 minus the \$35pp DIA gives us. (\$35 x 11 = \$385)  Plants \$14.50 each x 11 = \$159.50  <b>TOTAL COST</b> \$594.07 + 34 hours staff time	Carterton Events Centre	0

(3 calendar years of information provided is from the date the request was received) - January 2020 – January 2021 – January 2022 – January 2023