

19 December 2023



Dear

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT Request: 2023-91

Thank you for your email of 7 December 2023 to the Carterton District Council (CDC) requesting the following information:

## "End-of-Year Bonuses:

- Total amount paid in end-of-year bonuses to the CEO this Christmas.
- Total amount paid in bonuses to staff employed by your organization this Christmas.
- Please also provide the same for Christmas 2022.

## Presents for Staff:

- Total expenditure on presents for staff including but not limited to 'secret Santa' etc.
- Please include this cost for last year also.

#### **Christmas Parade:**

- Total expenditure breakdown on any Christmas parade hosted or funded by the Council this year. This should also include road closure impact assessments where possible.
- Please include a cost breakdown for any Christmas parade last year.

#### **Christmas Trees and lights:**

- Number of Christmas trees purchased and erected, and the cost of these purchases for this year.
- Please also include the cost for any Christmas lights for tree and any lights for buildings for this year.
- Please also include the cost of both for last year, too.
- Please highlight if the council had any left over from last year.

## **Hiring Santa:**

- Breakdown of costs associated with hiring a Santa, if applicable.
- Please also provide this information for last year, too.

## **Christmas Market:**

- Breakdown of costs associated with running/hosting/sponsoring a Christmas market, if applicable.
- Please provide this information for last year, too.

## **Christmas Party Supplies:**

- Please breakdown the amount spent on the following for the years 2022 and 2023:
  - Wrapping paper
  - Santa hats



- Alcohol for parties
- Party hats
- Christmas crackers
- Christmas cards
- Christmas decorations

#### **Christmas Parties:**

- Total expenditure breakdown on Council Christmas parties. Please also include in the breakdown any travel arrangement costs.
- Please include this for last year, also.

### Office Closure:

- Duration of office closure during the Christmas period for the council generally.
- Please specify how many managers and senior executive staff are taking more hours/days out of office than is blanket across the council for the Christmas period.
- Does the Christmas office closure also affect contactors paid by the council? If not, how much are they being paid over the Christmas break in an hourly rate?

#### Fines:

- Does the council have any plans to increase fines for parking offences or any other offences during the Christmas period?
  - If so, which fines are increasing, why and what revenue is expected to be raised?"

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

For the Christmas 2022 and 2023, my response to your request is provided in the order of your request below.

#### **End-of-Year Bonuses**

No end of year bonuses received.

## **Presents for Staff**

There were no presents for staff.

#### **Christmas Parade**

The Christmas parade is run by Rotary Club. CDC contributes \$10,000.00 towards traffic management.

# **Christmas Trees and lights**

No Christmas trees and lights purchased.

## **Hiring Santa**

No Santa/s hired.

#### **Christmas Market**

No Christmas market/s.

## **Christmas Party Supplies**

No supplies provided for Christmas parties.

### **Christmas Parties**

Table below shows the total expenditure breakdown for the Council Christmas for the years 2022. Council does not currently have the final breakdown for the year 2023.

Date	Value	Detail
15/12/2022	181.71	Provisions for Staff Christmas Party (Yard)
16/12/2022	2,389.91	Staff Christmas Dinner 15th December 2022
20/12/2022	243.00	Staff Xmas Function Bus Drop Off
Total	\$2,814.62	

All drinks are bought by council staff.

# Office closure

Our office closure for Christmas can be viewed here: <a href="https://cdc.govt.nz/christmas-2023/">https://cdc.govt.nz/christmas-2023/</a>

Our office services hours can be viewed here: <a href="https://cdc.govt.nz/services/hours/#services">https://cdc.govt.nz/services/hours/#services</a>

For 2023 timesheet recordings, the shut-down period as follows:

- 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> Dec statutory holidays
- 27<sup>th</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> Dec annual leave
- 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan statutory holidays
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> Jan usual workdays (but closed to the public) or annual leave.

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 <a href="mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz">info@ombudsman.parliament.nz</a> or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely

Karon Ashforth

Corporate Services Manager

Carterton District Council