

12 June 2024

New Zealand Taxpayers' Union
ratepayers.report@taxpayers.org.nz

Tēnā koe

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT Request: 2024-30

Thank you for your email of 22 May 2024 to the Carterton District Council requesting the following information:

"The Taxpayer's Union is in the process of collating data for the publishing of its yearly Ratepayer's Report soon. Based on data we have sourced from you through LGOIMA requests, we have summarised data that we will publish in the attached council profile for 2022/2023. Would it be possible for your council to read and confirm the data that we have sourced, and if there are irregularities, let us know so that we can provide a correction? Similarly, if the data is correct, we would appreciate you letting us know, but if we do not hear a response back, we will assume it is correct."

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

Our response to your request is attached as **Appendix A**.

Please note, the Council 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 or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Geoff Hamilton
Chief Executive
Carterton District Council

Appendix One

Carterton District Council

	Current figures to be published	Our Comment (if any)	Council Correction (if any)
Council Profile			
Council type	Rural		
Population served (Stats NZ)	10,250		
Number of households (Stats NZ)	4,188		
Area (square km)	1,179.91 km ²		
Average Rates			
Average residential rates	\$4,296.80		✓
Median residential rates	Refused		The question was not asked, therefore not refused
Average non-residential rates	\$3,572.30		✓
Median non-residential rates	Refused		The question was not asked, therefore not refused
Personnel			
Full-time Equivalent Staff – Group	Refused		73
Number of performance related dismissals	0		✓
FTE Staff over \$100,000 – Group	13		✓
Proportion of staff earning over \$100,000	N/A	Could use total staff (non-FTE) which is 104 making the proportion 12.5%	12.5%
Staff over \$200,000 – Group	1		✓
Management FTE	15		✓
Average salary of managers	\$119,115		✓
Median salary of managers	\$120,615		✓
Communications & marketing FTE	2.75		✓
Average salary of comms staff	\$76,477		✓
Median salary of comms staff	\$88,400		✓
Infrastructure FTE	32.23		✓

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Regulatory FTE	12.45		✓
Customer service FTE	14.85		✓
% FTE Core services (Infrastructure, Regulatory & Customer service)	Refused		The question was not asked, therefore not refused – 72.5 % 72.5%
Total expenditure on consultants & contractors	\$1,093,862.80		✓
Total number of consultants & contractors	62		✓
Audit & Risk Committee			
Total number of members	6		✓
How many elected members serve on the committee?	4		✓
How many independent members serve on the committee?	2		✓
Is there a lawyer with a practising certificate on the committee?	No		✓
Is there an accountant with a practising certificate on the committee?	Yes		✓
Is the chair an independent member?	Yes		✓
Is there a code of conduct requiring political neutrality from staff?	Yes		✓
Payment to Third Parties			
Chamber of Commerce (inc GST)	\$20,125.00		✓
Local Government New Zealand (inc GST)	\$34,402.24		✓
New Zealand Society of Local Government Managers (inc GST)	\$19,586.06		✓
Debt			
Net debt % rates income	106%		✓
Debt per rating unit	\$3,391.81		✓
Interest paid per rating unit	\$82.35		✓