

17 October 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT Request: 2024-26

Thank you for your email of 25 September 2024 to the Carterton District Council requesting the following information:

LGOIMA questions re meeting held 18th September 2024 regarding the Mayors decision to exclude Crs Williams & Cherry-Campbell on grounds of pre determination and bias/conflict of interest.

1) Can you please provide any/all advice (internal or external) or evidence that was sought/received by the Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor (including date and time stamped) prior to the meeting regarding both the perceived issues raised by the Deputy Mayor (pre determination, bias, conflicts of interest etc) and the decision of the Mayor to exclude Crs Williams & Cherry-Campbell?

2) Were Council Standing Orders and/or Local Government processes followed correctly in the Council meeting?

3) Was the decision of the Mayor to exclude Crs Williams & Cherry-Campbell constitutionally appropriate and in line with Council Standing Orders?

4) Were any statements/comments made by the Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor at the meeting (as recorded) later found to be inaccurate or factually/procedurally incorrect?

If so, what were they?

Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meeting Act 1987 (the Act). The response to your request is in the number order below.

1. *Can you please provide any/all advice (internal or external) or evidence that was sought/received by the Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor (including date and time stamped) prior to the meeting regarding both the perceived issues raised by the Deputy Mayor (pre determination, bias, conflicts of interest etc) and the decision of the Mayor to exclude Crs Williams & Cherry-Campbell?*

We hold no record of the Mayor and or Deputy Mayor seeking advice.

2. *Were Council Standing Orders and/or Local Government processes followed correctly in the Council meeting?*
3. *Was the decision of the Mayor to exclude Crs Williams & Cherry-Campbell constitutionally appropriate and in line with Council Standing Orders?*
4. *Were any statements/comments made by the Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor at the meeting (as recorded) later found to be inaccurate or factually/procedurally incorrect?*

In response to questions 2, 3 and 4, the opinion you are seeking from CDC are not information that the council holds.

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

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