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LGOIMA

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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:	New Zealand Taxpayers' Union
Information requested:	Information for the Ratepayers Report 2023/24
Response by:	Barbara Phillips, Chief Executive

03 April 2025

New Zealand Taxpayers' Union

Via Email: ratepayers.report@taxpayers.org.nz

Dear New Zealand Taxpayers' Union

Official information request for information for the Ratepayers Report from the 2023/24 Financial year

I refer to your official information request dated 13 March 2025 for information for the Ratepayers Report from the 2023/24 Financial year.

You have asked for the following information for the 2023/24 Financial year:

1. Average residential rates

- The average (mean) residential costs of rates and other Council charges, where average residential costs = (A + B) / C. Please ensure that the figures used (A, B, and C) are disclosed in the response, where:
- A is the total of all rates (general and targeted) charged by the Council to residential rating units (inclusive GST);
- B is the total amount of user charges or levies applicable to residential rating units (for example charges relating to metered water, infrastructure contributions, refuse collection, fire protection etc.); and
- C is the number of residential rating units (however defined by the Council) within the Council's district or city. If the Council does not have a classification for residential, please use the closest definition (such as urban).
- Please <u>do not</u> include Council charges that are not part of the rates demand (for example retail sales of Council rubbish bags).
- If possible, the median residential rates payment (inclusive GST) by residential units.

Please include all residential rates in this calculation, regardless of location, as we are aiming to compare residential rating units (i.e. non-income producing) to non-residential (commercial/rural, income-producing).

The average residential rate is \$2,379.27.

2. Average non-residential rates

- The average non-residential costs of rates and other Council charges, where average non-residential costs = (X + Y) / Z. Please ensure that the figures used (X, Y, and Z) are disclosed in the response, where:
- X is the total of all rates (general and targeted) (inclusive GST) charged by the Council to rating units except those defined as residential*;
- Y is the total amount of user charges or levies applicable to rating units except those defined as residential* (for example, charges related to metered water, infrastructure contributions, refuse collection, fire protection etc); and
- Z is the number of rating units except those defined as residential* (however defined by the Council) within the Council's district or city. If the Council does not have a classification for non-residential, please use the closest definition (such as commercial).
- Please <u>do not</u> include Council charges that are not part of the rates demand (for example, retail sales of Council rubbish bags).
- If possible, the median (inclusive GST) non-residential rates payment for the council.

*Please ensure that this definition matches that used to calculate average residential rates so that the respective X values of both requests add up to total rates income for the 2023/2024 Financial Year.

The average non-residential rate is \$16,284.02.

There will be 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 <u>https://www.westlanddc.govt.nz/lgoima-responses</u>. 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 <u>here</u>

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,

Barbara Phillips | Chief Executive BP/MB