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LGOIMA

When releasing responses to previous LGOIMA requests, names and contact details of individual requestors will be withheld to protect their privacy.

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:	Lee Scanlon – Westport News
Information requested:	Council remuneration and expenses
Response from:	Simon Bastion, Chief Executive

15 November 2019

Lee Scanlon
Chief Reporter
The News

Via Email:

Dear Lee

Official information request for information regarding Council annual remuneration.

I refer to your official information request dated 09 September 2019 for information regarding Council annual remuneration.

You have asked for the following information (your numbering):

1. The remuneration of your council's mayor/chair for 2018/19.
This can be found in the Annual report on Council's website.
2. All ratepayer-funded expenses which are not part of the remuneration package for your mayor/chair for 2018/19 including: travel, vehicle, fuel, accommodation, food/beverages, conference fees, phone, membership fees (eg Koru Club). Please list individual items/events separately so it is clear where costs have been incurred.
Please see attached appendices
3. The remuneration package for your council's chief executive for 2018/19 (components separately listed please).
This can be found in the Annual report on Council's website
4. All ratepayer-funded expenses, which are not part of the remuneration package, for your council's chief executive for 2018/19 including: travel, vehicle, fuel, accommodation, food/beverages, conference fees, membership fees (eg Koru Club, professional organisations). Please list individual items/events separately so it is clear where costs have been incurred.
Please see attached appendices
5. The current remuneration package for your council's chief executive (components separately listed please) if it has changed since June 30, 2019.
Salary of \$239,700. Superannuation \$7,191.
6. Does the Mayor/Chair and/or Chief Executive have a Council credit card? If so, what rules apply to its use?
I advise that the Mayor and Chief Executive do not have a Council credit card.
7. What was the number of FTE staff employed by your council at June 30, 2019?

This can be found in the Annual report on Council's website.

8. What were your council's total staff costs for the year ended June 30, 2019?

This can be found in the Annual report on Council's website.

9. What percentage did staff costs comprise of your council's operating spending?

14.2%

10. What was the average cost per FTE employee?

\$78,131

11. How many staff were employed in each salary band?

This can be found in the Annual report on Council's website.

12. Please supply your council's legal expenses for 2018/19 and what the expenses related to.

<i>Complaints</i>	<i>\$14,403</i>
<i>Employment advice</i>	<i>\$1,250</i>
<i>Assistance with LGOIMA Request</i>	<i>\$5,973</i>
<i>Rating apportionment</i>	<i>\$9,569</i>
<i>Building Control</i>	<i>\$5,973</i>
<i>Infringements</i>	<i>\$496</i>
<i>Dog Control infringements</i>	<i>\$2,013</i>
<i>Land advice</i>	<i>\$15,476</i>
<i>Marine & Coastal area advice</i>	<i>\$1,794</i>
<i>Lease agreements</i>	<i>\$1,382</i>
<i>Enforcement order</i>	<i>\$66,134</i>
<i>Affidavit Fee</i>	<i>\$17</i>
<i>Abandoned land</i>	<i>\$24,536</i>
<i>Services agreement</i>	<i>\$1,150</i>
<i>Landfill advice</i>	<i>\$2,299</i>
<i>Total Legal Costs</i>	<i>\$152,172</i>

13. How much did the legal expenses comprise of your council's operating expenses (and what was that operating cost)?

0.6% of total operating costs \$25,945,000

14. What was the average cost per rateable property of your council's legal bills?

\$23

15. How much did your council pay for professional public relations/communications advice in 2018/19 (including any expenses for consultants)?

\$48,265

16. How much has your council paid for professional public relations/communications advice since June 30, 2019?

\$9,281

17. To whom was this advice provided - councillors, staff, or both - and in what form (eg written report, workshop)?

Communication cover – Written

Staff

LTP assistance – Written

Staff

Communications assistance – Written

Council and Staff

March flood event – Written

Staff

Training – Workshop

Staff

The 2018/19 Westland District Council Annual Report can be found at <https://www.westlanddc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/FINAL%20Annual%20Report%202018-19%20with%20Audit%20Opinion.pdf>

There is no charge in supplying this information to you.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Diane Maitland, Executive Assistant on LGOIMA@westlanddc.govt.nz, 03 756 9038.

Sincerely,



Simon Bastion | Chief Executive

Attachments: Copy of Chief Executive expenses

Copy of Mayor expenses

Mayor

Conferences

445 Chairing Practice Workshop
110 Leading light awards
1,650 Mineral Forum 2019
1,809 LGNZ Conference 2019

4,014 Total conferences

Subscriptions

672 Mayors taskforce

Accommodation

577 Accomodation Local Government Conference
321 Accomodation Rural & Provincial meeting
178 Accommodation Wellington meetings
283 Accomodation Haast meeting
486 Accomodation Minerals forum

1,844 Total Accomodation

Food/Beverages

152 Meals Wellington
128 Meals Hokitika
837 Meals
14 Meals Franz Josef meeting
185 Meals Minerals forum

1,317 Total Food/Beverages

Travel

2,325 Travel Wellington

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278 Travel Dunedin
184 Travel Auckland

2,787 Total travel

Vehicle

5,473 Vehicles
7,070 Mileage

12,543 Total vehicle expenses

Telephone

3481.75 Telephone

WDC 19.20.30 Released under LGOIMA

Chief Executive

Conferences

419 Time management workshop
110 AP Development 107007/01 Purchase ticket for Simon Bastion - Leading I
1,650 Mineral Forum 2019
1,635 LGNZ Conference 2019

3,814 Total Conferences

Subscriptions

275 SOLGM Annual membership
7,485 SOLGM Recruitment Subscription 2018/19

7,760 Total Subscriptions

Accommodation

561 LGNZ Conference
178 Wellington meetings
442 Minerals Forum

1,181 Total Accommodation

Food/Beverages

25 LGNZ Conference
86 Hokitika meetings
441 Minerals Forum
59 Wellington and Haast meetings
63 Wellington meetings
117 Zone 5 conference

791 Total Food/Beverages

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Travel

495 Travel Minerals forum

457 Travel Christchurch

93 Travel LGNZ Conference

469 Travel executive Programme

1,749 Travel Wellington

3,263 Total Travel

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