



Ref: [REDACTED]

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24 April 2024



Dear [REDACTED]

**OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST FOR DETAILS OF SPEND ON CONSULTANTS OVER
2021 – 2023 CALENDAR YEARS**

I refer to your official information request dated 25/03/2024 for information relating to consultancy spend.

The information you requested is enclosed.

1. *What is the total amount that your council spent on consultants during the 2023, 2022 and 2021 calendar years?*

Council's financial year is between July and June so these will not align with our annual report. Please note the below figures include audit, valuation and legal fees. Please also note that below figures only include consultants cost that are operating expenditure in nature and Consultants cost capitalized is excluded as it is difficult to track those easily without going through individual invoices/claims forms.

2021: \$3,819,808.67 2022: \$5,023,222.13 2023: \$3,576,842.68

2. *Could this figure also please be broken down by department?*

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Department	2021	2022	2023
Accounting & Property Services	546,125.14	532,088.56	708,408.85
Building	6,534.06	2,341.16	-
Business Improvement	9,280.50	-	-
Consents & Compliance	-	1,607.00	-
Corporate	530,317.04	445,847.01	608,310.39
Customer & Information Serv	75,124.39	107,725.53	65,758.58
Economic	-	9,723.75	9,887.75
Environmental Management	1,285,820.23	1,581,251.31	840,967.76
Parks & Active Recreation	240,628.20	403,086.02	219,049.50
Parks & Facilities	29,960.62	29,012.66	31,500.00
People and Capability	207,745.03	479,681.98	271,328.05
Property Services	1,608.26	1,330.80	8,484.40
Senior Leadership Team	51,858.22	148,375.15	40,514.08
Social	42,630.85	154,789.33	127,839.33
Stormwater	163,514.29	236,168.40	114,600.81
Strategy	28,044.89	687.80	85,287.34
Transport	314,855.90	311,496.04	245,406.39
Wastewater	104,319.06	237,805.02	116,374.25
Water Supply	181,441.99	341,580.21	83,125.20
Grand Total	3,819,808.67	5,023,222.13	3,576,842.68

3. During each of the 23/22/21 calendar years, how many consultants did work for the council?

This approximately ranges between 120 – 150 companies/individual consultants each year.

In relation to the information you have requested:

How many individual consultants within the above companies worked on behalf of the council?

What is the per diem range, organised by department?

What is the highest rate that a consultant was paid for work in 2023, and in which department did they work?

this cannot be supplied to you without substantial collation and research.

We have an obligation, under section 17A of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA), to consider whether raising a charge and/or extending the statutory timeframe would assist, where a request may otherwise be refused on administrative grounds under s.17(f) LGOIMA, if a response requires substantial collation and research. In this instance neither would be appropriate because resources are not available and diverting staff time to the production of this information would unreasonably interfere with Council's other operational business. Furthermore, we do not believe there is a wider public interest or benefit to Council's operations to justify the work involved. Consequently, this part of your request is refused on administrative grounds under section 17(f) LGOIMA.

If you would like to submit a more refined/narrowed request, Prabath Jayawardana would be happy to discuss with you what that might look like. His contact details are prabath.jayawardana@ncc.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. 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 Prabath Jayawardana prabath.jayawardana@ncc.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Prabath', written over a horizontal line. There is a small vertical line to the right of the signature.

Prabath Jayawardana
Manager Finance