



Ref: [REDACTED]

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nelson.govt.nz

29 April 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST FOR INFORMATION RELATING TO FUNDS PAID TO TAITUARĀ

I refer to your official information request dated 28 March 2024 for information relating to funds paid to Taituarā.

The information you requested is below, each part with our respective answers:

Please provide for the 2023 calendar year:

- 1. A list of all payments from the Council group (i.e. including any CCOs) to Taituarā***
- 2. For each payment:***
 - a. the date, invoice number, and what the payment was for* and***
 - b. whether it was recovered (or deducted from the pay) from the relevant employee enjoying the membership or services related to the same.***

Internal Document ID: [REDACTED]

All payments were made by Nelson City Council, none from other entities in the group
(All amounts Include GST)

Date	Invoice Number	Description as per accounting system	Invoice amount (\$)	Recovered from Employee
9-Jan-23	15840	Introduction to Policy Fundamentals Training for Pip via Taituara	1,138.50	no
13-Feb-23	11566	Your LTP Starter Kit webinar - Alistair R	287.50	no
14-Feb-23	16213	Christchurch LTP Roadshow - The Road to 2024	724.50	no
22-Feb-23	16287	Policy Fundamentals course	1,265.00	no
2-Mar-23	16334	Taituara Online: Marsh Risk Management Forum	718.75	no
8-Mar-23	16377	Individual Ticket to the 2023 Gala Dinner	247.25	no
15-Mar-23	16438	Gala Dinner - FDS Excellence Awards Event 8 June 2023 1x Non-Member Ticket	247.25	no
17-Mar-23	16479	Civic Financial Services Strategic Finance 2023	960.25	no
20-Mar-23	16507	LGNZ Conference Awards Te Pa Harakeke Gala Dinner Entry	247.25	no
21-Mar-23	16518	Webinar: LGOIMA and the Privacy Act: Taituara 23 May 2023 - Kate Redgrove + other staff	287.50	no
19-Apr-23	16736	Conference- Robyn Byrne Taituara Representation Review Forum 29 May 2023	724.50	no
10-May-23	16937	Webinar: What happened to the water legislation	287.50	no
17-May-23	11652	How Local Government Works elearning training modules x20 seats	2,070.00	no
23-May-23	17113	Taituara Excellence Awards - Gala Dinner ticket Sally Mottram for CFAA	247.25	no
9-May-23	16922	Webinar: Climate change and decision-making in on 24 May 23; Webinar: Embedding climate change in the 2024 LTPs in on 26 May 23	575.00	no
12-Jun-23	17174	Taituara - LGPA Rating webinar: the rating Conference	287.50	no
20-Jun-23	17252	Webinar - Land Development Issues	287.50	no
22-Jun-23	17266	Taituara - LGPA what happened to the water legislation?	287.50	no
5-Jul-23	11836	Renewal of SOLGM membership - Nikki Harrison Full membership 1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024	316.25	no
5-Jul-23	11835	Renewal of SOLGM membership - x 8 Full membership 1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024	2,530.00	no
11-Jul-23	17407	Bylaws Seminar	287.50	no
28-Jul-23	17548	Conference - Katie Libeau + Robyn Byrne Taituarā Governance Professionals Forum 04-04 September 2023	2,530.00	no
31-Jul-23	17561	LTP project webinars x2 webinars by Taituara for LTP planning	707.25	no
1-Aug-23	17569	LTP project webinars x1 webinar by Taituara for LTP planning	333.50	no
14-Aug-23	12093	Sector Good Work Programme Subscription for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024	20,896.24	no
15-Aug-23	17714	1 x attendee at Community Plan Forum 18-19 Sept23	1,265.00	no
13-Sep-23	17866	Accelerated Leadership Programme Sarah Clarke and Matt Bruce attendees	4,312.50	no
27-Sep-23	17936	Funding and Rating Forum 2023	1,092.50	no
10-Oct-23	17979	Taituarā webinar registration BERL post adjustors update	373.75	no
25-Oct-23	12218	Annual membership for DPRG participation 23/24	316.25	no
31-Oct-23	18128	Webinar: The Business Payment Practice Regulations	373.75	no
6-Nov-23	18173	How Local Govt Works - eLearning - Taituar NCC Induction for Amy Hofman	138.00	no
14-Nov-23	18212	Climate Change Financial Disclosures	373.75	no
21-Nov-23	18244	Simpson Grierson Webinar - 13Dec2023 Ombudsman's Report	373.75	no
20-Oct-23	18083	Crowded Places Webinar 13 November - Te Raranga	373.75	no
11-Dec-23	18413	The Next Three Years webinar	373.75	no
6-Dec-23	18327	Webinar: The Next Three Years Coalition Agreements Summary and 100-day plan	373.75	no
19-Dec-23	18482	Navigating the Maze – LTPs and the water reforms	373.75	no
			<u>48,605.49</u>	

Given the nature of Taituarā as a membership organisation – in effect the employment union for local government managers – if membership dues are not recovered or deducted, please provide:

a. the reasoning (if any) for not deducting the amounts (i.e. Why should ratepayers pay for a private organisation/benefit?)

The majority of payments to Taituara are for services rendered in providing training via conferences and webinars to upskill staff in operating in the unique environment that is local government or to provide resources/tools that enable staff members to fulfil their duties effectively.

b. whether the Council does this for any other employment union or professional/networking association. If so, which ones?

Yes, the Council pays membership fees for employees to the following organisations without recovering costs from the employees:

- Library & Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa
- New Zealand Planning Institute
- Engineering New Zealand
- Building Officials Institute of New Zealand
- Engineering New Zealand
- Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand
- New Zealand Association of Resource Management
- Philanthropy New Zealand
- New Zealand Law Society
- Institute of Directors New Zealand
- New Zealand Parking Association Inc
- NZ Traffic Institute
- New Zealand Society of Actuaries Incorporated
- The Institute of Internal Auditors

If the Council considers that the membership for Council officers is as part of their role at the Council (and therefore not for private benefit) please provide this information and explain how Taituarā is not therefore treated as a CCO under s 6(1) of the Local Government Act 2002 for the purposes of the Council group's statutory reporting.

Taituarā does not meet the legal definition of a CCO. It is the individual not the council that is a member of Taituarā. No local authority or group of local authorities own or control 50 percent or more of the votes at any meeting of Taituarā, nor does any local authority or group of local authorities have the right to appoint 50 percent or more of the members of Taituarā's governing body.

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



Prabath Jayawardana
Manager Finance