

2 March 2023

Sent via email to: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Request for official information – **RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

We refer to your official information request dated 30 January 2023. You requested the following information from the Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC):

1. Average residential rates

- a. The average **residential** costs of rates and other Council charges, where **average 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) charged by the Council to residential rating units;
- **Y** 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
- **Z** 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 do not include Council charges that are not part of the rates demand (for example retail sales of Council rubbish bags).

2. Average non-residential rates

- a. 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) 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 do not include Council charges that are not part of the rates demand (for example, retail sales of Council rubbish bags).

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 2021/2022 Financial Year.

3. Personnel

- a. The total number of staff dismissed due to poor performance.
 - Zero dismissals due to poor performance
- b. If applicable, the FTE number of staff employed by council-controlled organisations.
 - 66 employees
- c. If applicable, the total FTE number of staff employed, including those employed by council-controlled organisations.
 - As of first of 1/1/2023- FTE is 448.26
- d. The total number of staff including those employed by council-controlled organisations receiving remuneration in excess of \$100,000.
 - As at 30/6/2022 QLDC: 107 people
 - As at 30/6/2022 council-controlled org: 17
- e. The total number of staff including those employed by council-controlled organisations receiving remuneration in excess of \$200,000.
 - As at 30/6/2022 QLDC: 6 people
 - As at 30/6/2022 council-controlled org: 5

3.1. Management

1. The FTE number of managers employed. Please confirm the ratio of management to staff.
 - 118.75 FTE are of managers
 - Ratio of 1:4:42
2. The average and median salary of a manager.
 - As at 30/6/2022 - Average: 76,828.73
 - As at 30/6/2022 - Median: 69,540.38

3.2. Communications

1. The FTE number of communications & marketing staff employed.
 - As at 30/6/2022 - Communication and engagement: 11.80
2. The average and median salary of communications & marketing staff.
 - As at 30/6/2022 - Median: \$67,649.29
 - As at 30/6/2022 - Average: \$74,724.79
3. Total expenditure on communications & marketing.
 - Please see the below tables for Communication and marketing spend for 2021-2022 covering all cost centres for 206 and 2350.

21/22 Cost Centre 206		
	YTD	Current FY
Natural Account	Actual	Budget
1699 - Sundry inc UC	\$(10,336)	\$(25,320)
2001 - Depn	\$151	\$151
2200 - S&W Permanent	\$928,816	\$826,824
2220 - Annual leave	\$17,511	\$0
2242 - Taxis	\$114	\$200
2243 - Travel allow	\$0	\$1,900
2250 - Kiwisaver	\$27,096	\$24,805
2280 - ACC levies	\$1,717	\$1,571
2312 - Ins prem other	\$8,022	\$800
2350 - Advertising	\$94,402	\$75,000
2361 - Computer - soft	\$60,597	\$53,000
2461 - Sundry exp	\$361	\$0
2464 - Conf/funct cost	\$1,213	\$15,000
2468 - Rate public	\$120,932	\$110,000
3050 - Overhead alloc	\$1,081,314	1,175,692
	\$2,331,910	\$2,259,622

Additional advertising spends:

21/22 Advertising 2350	
Row Labels	Sum of Amount 1
Civil Defence	\$2,943.20
Community Administration	\$58,052.49

Community Partnerships	\$3,055.09
District Plan	\$21,752.45
Economic Development	\$548.79
Enforcement - By Law	\$603.20
Enforcement - Dog Control	\$3,021.67
Engineering Consents	\$4,178.09
Finance	\$1,929.36
Finance - Planning & Reporting	\$1,779.37
Governance	\$28,075.11
Infrastructure & Assets Administration	\$8,587.26
Legal Road Closure	\$207.20
Libraries - Upper Clutha	\$521.99
Libraries - Wakatipu	\$2,851.27
Liquor Licensing	\$19,709.82
Mitre 10 Youth & Community Centre	\$75.00
Resource Consent	\$11,239.52
Roading NZTA - Wakatipu	\$78,930.87
Roading NZTA - Wanaka	\$51,385.72
Wanaka Recreation Centre	24,644.22
Waterways - Control	\$2,131.90
Grand Total	\$326,223.59

3.3. Consultants & contractors

1. Total expenditure on consultants and contractors.
2. Total number of consultants and contractors paid.

We have sent an email to your team to clarify this part of the request for us, and still waiting for this information. To pull this information for all consultants and contractors is a huge task and this can impact the operations of our internal team, therefore we request you to be more specific as to what exactly you are after.

3.4. Core services

1. The FTE number of staff employed to work on the delivery and/or maintenance of local infrastructure
 - As at 30/6/2022 – Infrastructure - 49.78
2. The FTE number of staff employed to provide regulatory functions.
 - As at 30/6/2022 Regulatory – 28
3. The FTE number of staff employed in customer-facing roles.
 - As at 30/6/2022 – Customer service – 11.55

4. Audit and Risk Oversight

- a. How many members are on the Council's Audit and Risk Committee (or equivalent)?
 - The Council's Audit, Finance & Risk Committee has six members
- b. Does the Council have independent members on the Committee?
 - Yes, three of the members are appointed independent members
- c. Is the Chair of the Committee an independent member?
 - Yes
- d. Does the Council have a lawyer (with a current practising certificate) on the Committee?
 - No
- e. Does the Council have an accountant (with a current practising certificate) on the Committee?
 - Yes
- f. Does the Council have a code of conduct requiring political neutrality from Council staff?
 - Yes

5. Payments to third parties

- a. The total payments made by the Council (or any council-controlled organisation) to any Chamber of Commerce, including GST.
 - **\$294,946.25**
- b. The total payments made by the Council (or any council-controlled organisation) to Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ), including GST.
 - **\$69,212.22**
- c. The total payments made by the Council (or any council-controlled organisation) to the New Zealand Society of Local Government Managers (SOLGM), including GST.
 - **\$47,708.69**

6. Debt

1. Net debt as a percent of rates income

- $\$285.2\text{m}/\$94.8\text{m} = 301\%$

2. The dollar amount of debt per rating unit

- $\$285.2\text{m}/30229 = \9434.65

3. The dollar amount of interest paid per rating unit

- $\$5.55\text{m}/30229 = \181.94

Total Rates 2021/22	X Total Inc GST	Y Residential
UAGC	\$2,312,536	\$1,219,955
SPORTS, HALLS & LIBRARIES CHARGE	\$10,368,904	\$6,534,294
REFUSE CHARGE	\$4,413,572	\$2,378,423
REFUSE CHARGE	\$3,671,514	\$2,814,967
AQUATIC CENTRE CHARGE	\$3,349,814	\$2,110,992
GENERAL RATE - DISTRICT	\$1,130,017	\$464,762
RECREATION & EVENTS RATE - DISTRICT	\$ 9,733,025	\$3,718,121
GOVERNANCE RATE - DISTRICT	\$5,479,350	\$2,437,543
REGULATORY RATE - DISTRICT	\$ 7,968,192	\$3,504,962
ROADING RATE	\$ 14,547,859	\$4,146,535
STORMWATER	\$ 4,146,945	\$2,416,545
TOURISM PROMO - DISTRICT	\$6,297,921	\$0
TOTAL WATER	\$11,790,088	\$8,527,226
TOTAL SEWER	\$16,874,235	\$12,203,492
RECREATION & EVENTS CHG	\$ 4,793,878	\$1,831,313
GOV & REGULATORY CHG	\$3,361,885	\$2,328,866
	\$110,239,837	\$56,637,995
No. of Residential Properties		\$15,947
Z Average Residential Cost of Rates		\$3,552

Average Residential Cost of Rate

Rating Units

Total number of rating units 2021/22: \$30,229

Total number of residential rating units 2021/22: \$15,947

Average Non-Residential Cost of Rates

Y Total Non-Residential Rates \$53,601,843

Z Average Non- Residential Cost of Rates \$3,753

We trust this response satisfactorily answers your request.

Kind Regards,



Poonam Sethi

Governance and Official Information Advisor