From: Allie Dunn
To: [redacted]
Subject: Response to requests from Taxpayers Union
Date: Monday, 16 November 2026 11:53:00 am
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Importance: High

Kia ora

I am writing in response to your two official information requests concerning staffing and expenditure associated with specified Council activities for the financial years 2017/18 to 2025/26.

As these requests required the same officers to review the same document sets, we have processed the two closely related requests together and have provided a consolidated response.

The information Council holds is set out in the table below. The figures are GST exclusive.

We have included information relating to Animal Control, Alcohol Licensing, Recycling, Environmental Health and Pensioner Housing (as Council's social housing activity).

With regard to LGOIMA Request 1 re number of FTE in the "Public Health" activity, we have 1.53 FTE currently working in Environmental Health (which covers Council's statutory responsibilities for Food and Health Licensing). Re the number of FTE working in our Pensioner Housing activity, we currently have 0.37 FTE.

Annual Cost / Staff Cost Summary

Financial year	Animal Control ($)	Alcohol Licensing ($)	Recycling ($)	Environmental Health ($)	Pensioner Housing ($)	Combined total ($)
2017/18	$346,462	$100,479	$31,615	$76,788	$7,217	$562,562
2018/19	$362,390	$98,942	$63,025	$42,985	$19,348	$586,690
2019/20	$444,191	$83,901	$59,264	$16,119	$25,233	$628,708
2020/21	$476,107	$119,933	$82,274	$22,132	$28,055	$728,500
2021/22	$389,080	$74,785	$101,008	$41,849	$28,491	$635,213
2022/23	$491,394	$206,299	$302,325	$101,136	$31,668	$1,132,822
2023/24	$547,846	$146,461	$387,520	$132,100	$40,352	$1,254,280
2024/25	$577,377	$96,427	$785,198	$151,014	$60,986	$1,671,002
2025/26	$610,138	$148,588	$747,025	$143,138	$49,779	$1,698,667
Total	**$4,244,987**	**$1,075,814**	**$2,559,253**	**$727,261**	**$291,129**	**$8,898,444**

For the remaining activities outlined in your two requests below, we either do not undertake that category or undertake as a small part of wider responsibilities and cannot separate from wider functions.

To provide the requested figures, Council would therefore need to retrospectively estimate or create information that is not currently held. The Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 provides a right of access to information held by Council but does not require Council to create new information in order to respond to a request. Accordingly, this part of your request is refused under section 17(e) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, on the basis that the information requested does not exist.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of Council's response. Information about this process is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi

TARARUA DISTRICT COUNCIL

Allie Dunn | Manager Democracy Services | Deputy Electoral Officer
Democracy Services | Tararua District Council

Phone: +64 6 3744080 | Mobile: +64 27 3331626
Allie.Dunn@Tararuadc.govt.nz
26 Gordon Street, Dannevirke 4930, PO Box 115
www.tararuadc.govt.nz
www.facebook.com/tararuadc
www.instagram.com/tararuadistrictcouncil
www.linkedin.com/company/tararua-district-council

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LGOIMA Request 2

Dear Council,

Under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the New Zealand Taxpayers' Union requests the following for each financial year from 2017/18 to 2025/26:

- FTE positions.
- Annual employment costs.
- Other operating expenditure, excluding employment costs but including external legal advice.
- Please provide these figures for each of:
- Gambling.
- Animal control.
- Brothels.
- Easter trading.
- Alcohol licensing.

Methodology: Use existing service profiles, teams and recorded allocations. Include policy, licensing, inspection and enforcement activities assigned to each function. Where functions are combined, provide a single labelled combined figure; where requested functions cannot be separated from wider services, state "not separately recorded".

Provide gross operating expenditure before fees or other recoveries, excluding capital expenditure. Please identify the FTE measurement basis, what employment costs include, and the GST basis.

Please distinguish nil figures from information not separately recorded or not held. For 2025/26, provisional actuals or the latest budget/forecast are acceptable if final figures are unavailable; please label them.

Existing reports or spreadsheet extracts are welcome. If any part requires substantial work, identify it and suggest a narrower scope while progressing readily available information. Please provide any proposed charge and its basis before undertaking chargeable work.

LGOIMA Request 1

Dear Council,

Under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the New Zealand Taxpayers' Union requests the number of Full-time Equivalent (FTE) positions and associated staff costs for each financial year from 2017/18 to 2025/26, in these areas:

- Climate change, carbon reduction, sustainability, recycling and renewable energy.
- Public health, smoking/vaping and social housing provision.
- Cycling and sustainable transportation.
- LGBTQI+, race relations and youth policy.

Methodology: Use existing positions and teams working on activities directly related to these areas where they can be identified. Include shared roles only to the extent of an existing recorded allocation. Report overlapping categories once as a labelled combined figure. Where a subject forms an unallocated part of a broader role or team, state "not separately recorded".

Please identify the teams or reporting categories used, whether FTEs are budgeted or actual, the average for each year, and what employment costs include. Either FTEs or costs may be supplied independently if the other is unavailable.

Please distinguish nil figures from information not separately recorded or not held. For 2025/26, provisional actuals or the latest budget/forecast are acceptable if final figures are unavailable; please label them.

Existing reports or spreadsheet extracts are welcome. If any part requires substantial work, identify it and suggest a narrower scope while progressing readily available information. Please provide any proposed charge and its basis before undertaking chargeable work.

Yours faithfully,

New Zealand Taxpayers' Union