

10 June 2021

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Tēnā koe ██████████

Request for Information – Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

We refer to your official information request dated 28 May 2021.

Your request:

“I have heard from multiple sources that you may have requested from council entities information on what, if any, commercial dealings they have had with Riverside Media, a company owned by Councillor Leigh Sutton and the degree of such dealings. I am sure that this would not be the case as it would be highly unusual for a CEO of a council to make such enquiries.

Could you please: Send me, via email, any correspondence between or on behalf of yourself relating to Riverside Media and any other person; or If there has been no such correspondence then confirmation to that effect from you would be sufficient.”

Our response: There is one email in scope of this request, please find this attached. Please note some information has been redacted under section 7(2)(a) of the LGOIMA to protect the privacy of individuals.

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.

Nāku noa, nā



Euan Kyle,
Corporate Information Manger

-----Original Message-----

From: Jo Miller
Sent: Friday, 19 February 2021 4:34 PM
To: Alan McLellan
Subject: Re: Vibrant Hutt - confidential

Thanks Alan, have a good weekend , JO

Sent from my iPad

Ngā mihi nui
Jo Miller
Tumu Whakarae
Chief Executive

Hutt City Council, 30 Laings Road Private Bag 31912, Lower Hutt 5010, New Zealand
T04 570 6773 M 027 213 7550
Wwww.huttcity.govt.nz
Follow me on Twitter : @jomillernz

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> On 19/02/2021, at 4:32 PM, Alan McLellan <alan@seaviewmarina.co.nz> wrote:

>

> Hello Jo,

>

> Thanks for the clarification on the Vibrant Hutt advertising. I misunderstood the issue.

> Also thank you for extending the deadline for an application. I will put together an application over the weekend.

>

> Regards,

> Alan McLellan

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Jo Miller [<mailto:Jo.Miller@huttcity.govt.nz>]

> Sent: Friday, 19 February 2021 3:03 p.m.

> To: Alan McLellan

> **7(2)(a)**

> Subject: Re: Vibrant Hutt - confidential

>

> Dear Alan,

> Thanks for your email.

> You've misunderstood email to you . I've just tried to call but couldn't get you and set out my reply here including to Brian who was copied into your email to me.

>

> Seaview Marina is it's own company , there are no rules that preclude it from advertising in Vibrant Hutt.

>

> There is no council policy regarding Vibrant Hutt, and there is no ban.

>

> The rules regarding spending with companies owned by councillors are national rules , and it is these rules that neither the individual councillor nor the council should fall foul of- the issue is one of quantum of spend. It if for that reason my request was made and thank you so much for your information , that's extremely helpful.

>

7(2)(a)

> Kind regards, Jo MILLER

> Sent from my iPad

>

>

> Ngā mihi nui

> Jo Miller

> Tumu Whakarae

> Chief Executive

>

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>> On 19/02/2021, at 2:24 PM, Alan McLellan <alan@seaviewmarina.co nz> wrote:

>>

>> Good afternoon Jo,

>>

>> I was unaware of a Council regulation which precluded Seaview Marina Ltd from advertising in a magazine owned by a Councillor. Could you direct me to the relevant Council policy as I will add it to our policy file.

>>

>> In this instance Leigh Sutton approached me, Michael Mead (Compass Café) and Robert Baldock (Shipwreck Traders) with the proposal we promote our facilities in the Vibrant Hutt. The cost of \$600 was shared equally between the three businesses. This is the third or fourth time, over the last seventeen years I've been running the marina, I have advertised in the magazine. While the marina does very little by way of print media advertising I agreed to the article as the Vibrant Hutt reaches a market Seaview Marina is targeting, it has a focus on the Hutt and it is a quality magazine.

>>

>> Now I am aware of the Council's policy I will not advertise again with Vibrant Hutt and I'll make sure the new Chief Executive is made aware of this ban.

>>

>> 7(2)(a)

>>

>> Yours sincerely,

>>

>> Alan McLellan

>> Chief Executive

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Jo Miller [<mailto:Jo.Miller@huttcity.govt.nz>]

>> Sent: Thursday, 18 February 2021 5:36 p m.

>> To: Alan McLellan; Martin White

>> Subject: Vibrant Hutt - confidential

>>

>> Dear both

>> I notice both Riverlink and Seaview Marina have advertised in this latest edition of Vibrant Hutt . There are particular rules around spending with companies owned by Councillors. Cr Sutton is the owner of Vibrant Hutt and it's important we understand spend across the group (the Council itself does not advertise or pay for content in Vibrant Hutt)

>> Please can you advise of all spending to date from your area on Vibrant Hutt , plus details of any future planned expenditure with Vibrant Hutt .

>> Thanks Jo

>>

>> Ngā mihi nui

>> Jo Miller

>> Tumu Whakarae

>> Chief Executive

>>

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