

From: [Information Management Team](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [Jo Miller](#)
Subject: Your LGOIMA request
Date: Wednesday, 2 June 2021 3:40:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

We refer to your official information request dated 31 May 2021.

The first part of your question asks us express an opinion on a matter, this is not covered under the LGOIMA. To require a response in terms of the LGOIMA, questions must be put in such a way as to elicit information that already exists.

To answer the second part of your question, a discussion took place with the IT team.

Nāku noa, nā

Kate Ostapowicz ([she/her](#))
Senior Advisor, Official Information and Privacy

Hutt City Council, 30 Laings Road, Private Bag 31912, Lower Hutt 5040, New Zealand
W www.huttcity.govt.nz

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 25 May 2021 11:45 AM
To: Jo Miller
Subject: Re: Your allegation of fraud or dishonesty - notice of defamation

Internal communication to staff of *which I was the subject*.

I record that your approach significantly differs to the approach taken by you when you consider allegations are being made about you. Your refusal to provide any assurance or engage on my reasonable requests is evidence of malice: that you took the opportunity to attack me rather than it being a genuine mistake.

I request under the LGOIMA information that answers the following question:

1. Did you understand the meaning of phish when you sent the email?
2. Was any advice taken, or did you discuss the email, prior to your sending the email? If so, who?

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: Jo Miller <Jo.Miller@huttcity.govt.nz>

Date: Tuesday, 25 May 2021 at 11:40 AM

To: [Redacted]

Subject: Re: Your allegation of fraud or dishonesty - notice of defamation

Kia Ora [Redacted]

I acknowledged receipt of your email on Friday evening. I will not be entering into any further correspondence with you about the contents of my internal communication to staff .

Ngā mihi nui, Jo Miller

Sent from my iPad

Jo Miller

Chief Executive Officer

Hutt City Council, 30 Laings Road, 5010, Lower Hutt 5010, New Zealand

T 04 570 6773, M 027 213 7550, W www.huttcity.govt.nz



On 25/05/2021, at 9:29 AM, [Redacted] wrote:

Jo,

You've now had this for 72 hours, and I do not have a response to my reasonable request for you to confirm you will not be repeating this nasty and hurtful allegation that I am somehow involved in fraud.

Regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: Jo Miller <Jo.Miller@huttcity.govt.nz>

Date: Friday, 21 May 2021 at 9:03 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Phil Baker <Philip.Baker@huttcity.govt.nz>, Paul Stewart <Paul.Stewart@huttcity.govt.nz>, Jonathan Winter <Jonathan.Winter@huttcity.govt.nz>, Vineet Poddar <Vineet.Poddar@huttcity.govt.nz>, Sam Campbell <Samuel.Campbell@huttcity.govt.nz>, Raymond Humphrey <Raymond.Humphrey@huttcity.govt.nz>, Luke Colleran <Luke.Colleran@huttcity.govt.nz>, Andrew Ainsworth <Andrew.Ainsworth@huttcity.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: Your allegation of fraud or dishonesty - notice of defamation

Receipt confirmed

Jo Miller

Chief Executive Officer

Hutt City Council, 30 Laings Road, 5010, Lower Hutt 5010, New Zealand

T 04 570 6773, M 027 213 7550, W www.huttcity.govt.nz<<http://www.huttcity.govt.nz>>

<image001.jpg>

On 21/05/2021, at 7:44 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:

Dear Jo,

I was alarmed to see your 'all staff' email sent this afternoon. I put you (and the Council) on notice that the suggestion that I, or the Taxpayers' Union, have attempted to "phish" information from the Council or its staff is totally unjustified, and defamatory. You are not to repeat this most serious allegation.

Phishing has a very specific meaning: it is obtaining information fraudulently by tricking the victim into unwittingly revealing sensitive information to the attacker or to deploy malicious software on the victim's infrastructure like ransomware. Oxford defines it as the fraudulent practice of sending emails purporting to be from reputable companies in order to induce individuals to reveal personal information, such as passwords and credit card numbers.

Providing public servants with an avenue to send material to a transparency group or the media, as part of a public interest investigation, is certainly not 'phishing', criminal, or fraudulent. It was totally unjustified for you to suggest otherwise.

As you can see I have copied in the IT team into this email – I am sure they will clarify the situation for you.

Please confirm receipt, and confirm that you will not repeat this allegation.

We reserve all rights.

Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]