



04 April 2025

Sam Warren

New Zealand Taxpayers' Union

ratepayers.report@taxpayers.org.nz

Dear Sam

Request for Information – Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA) 1987

We refer to your official information request dated 13 March 2025 for:

"...

1. Average residential rates

- *The average (mean) residential costs of rates and other Council charges, where average residential costs = $(A + B) / C$. Please ensure that the figures used (A, B, and C) are disclosed in the response, where:*
- *A is the total of all rates (general and targeted) charged by the Council to residential rating units (inclusive GST);*
- *B 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*
- *C 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).*
- *If possible, the median residential rates payment (inclusive GST) by residential units.*



Please include all residential rates in this calculation, regardless of location, as we are aiming to compare residential rating units (i.e. non-income producing) to non-residential (commercial/rural, income-producing).

2. Average non-residential rates

- 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) (inclusive GST) 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).*
- If possible, the median (inclusive GST) non-residential rates payment for the council.*

**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 2023/2024 Financial Year..."*

Answer:

Please see attachment to this response.

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.

Please note that this response to your information request may be published on Hutt City Council's website. Please refer to the following link: www.huttcity.govt.nz/council/contactus/make-an-official-information-act-request/proactive-releases

Yours sincerely

Lakna Siriwardena

Legal Operations Advisor

Question 1 - 2023 2024 Average Residential Rates

Taxpayers Union Official Information Request			Hutt City Council Rates
The average residential costs of Council charges for the 2023/2024 year calculated using:			
Average Residential costs = (X+Y)/Z			
X	Total of all Residential Rates		134,995,810
Y	Total of User Charges		-
Z	Total Number of residential rating units	Rating Units	39,128
	Average Residential Costs		3,450.11

Question 2 - 2023-2024 Average Non-Residential Rates

Taxpayers Union Official Information Request			
The average non-residential cost of Council rates for the 2023-2024 year calculated using:			
Average Non-Residential costs = (X+Y)/Z			
X	Total of all Non-Residential Rates (General and Targeted)		50,909,269
Y	Total of User Charges		-
Z	Total Number of non-residential properties	Rating Units	3,892
	Average Non-Residential Costs		-
			13,080.49