

14 April 2022

Barry Godfrey

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Tēnā koe Barry

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

We refer to your official information request dated 19 March 2022 for the following information:

- *What was the net surplus earned by Council from the operation of the Silverstream landfill in each year 2016 to 2021 (year ended 30 June)?*
- *What is the projected surplus for the year ended 30 June 2022?*
- *How much extra revenue is expected to be raised in the year to 30 June 2023 as a result of the new pricing structure advertised for 1 April 2022?*
- *On what authority can Council increase or change landfill changes outside the annual plan process, ie on 1 April 2022 rather than 1 July 2022?*

The information you have requested is provided below.

What was the net surplus earned by Council from the operation of the Silverstream landfill in each year 2016 to 2021 (year ended 30 June)?

The following table shows the total revenue and total expenses that make up each historic net surplus figure.

\$000	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
Revenue	11,909	12,972	12,408	14,702	14,472	17,967
Expenses	5,227	6,294	6,110	7,538	9,235	10,858
Net Surplus	6,682	6,678	6,298	7,164	5,237	7,109

What is the projected surplus for the year ended 30 June 2022?

The following table shows the year end forecast revenue and expenses that make up the year-end forecast net surplus figure.

\$000	2021/2022 Year-End Forecast as at 28 Feb
Revenue	20,924
Expenses	12,308
Net Surplus	8,616

How much extra revenue is expected to be raised in the year to 30 June 2023 as a result of the new pricing structure advertised for 1 April 2022?

The long-term plan (LTP) budgets for Silverstream landfill for 2021/22 included the change to weight-based charges for some vehicle types.

While it is likely that some users of light vehicles with large trailers are currently paying less than they otherwise would if weight-based charges were in place, the exact impact on revenue is unknown. This is because those vehicles did not have to be weighed in the past.

As the Council does not hold this information, your request for it is refused under section 17(g) of the LGOIMA, on the grounds that the information requested is not held by the local authority and we have no reason to believe it is held by another agency.

On what authority can Council increase or change landfill charges outside the annual plan process, ie on 1 April 2022 rather than 1 July 2022?

The change to weight-based charges for some vehicle types, for utility vehicles and those with trailers, is in line with our LTP (see the attached extract from page 186). Where those vehicles have more than 300kg of waste, they will be charged at the rate of \$140/tonne.

At the time the LTP was finalised, it was anticipated that this change would be in place soon after 1 July 2021, but there have been delays in implementing this as it required more significant changes to the software, weighbridge and kiosk set up at the entrance to Silverstream landfill.

Note that the charges for cars and station wagons (without trailers) will remain at \$15 and \$25 for green waste and rubbish, respectively, until 30 June 2022, as the current LTP does not allow for any weighing of these vehicles. However, Council is proposing to move fully to weight-based charges from 1 July 2022 and a relatively low minimum charge. Please refer to the draft annual plan for 2022/23.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this letter may be published on the Council's website.

Nāku noa, nā



Susan Sales
Senior Advisor, Official Information and Privacy

Encl Long-term Plan, page 186

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

LONG -TERM PLAN, PAGE 186

Landfills

All charges include government waste and emissions levies

General waste	2021/22
Cars and station wagons	\$25.00
Vans, utilities, SUVs (four-wheel drives), small trailers (maximum refuse dimensions: 2.5m long, 1m high, 1.5m wide). Vehicles carrying over 300kg refuse weight will be charged by weight. Note: Combinations of vehicles (vans, utilities, small trucks and trailers) will cost the sum of their respective charges	\$50.00
All other vehicles – cost per tonne	\$161.00
All other vehicles – minimum charge	\$80.50
Special wastes	
All vehicles – cost per tonne	\$241.50
All vehicles – minimum charge	\$120.75
Green waste	
Cars and station wagons	\$15.00
Vans, utilities, SUVs (four-wheel drives), small trailers (maximum refuse dimensions: 2.5m long, 1m high, 1.5m wide). Vehicles carrying over 300kg green waste weight will be charged by weight. Note: Combinations of vehicles (vans, utilities, small trucks and trailers) will cost the sum of their respective charges	\$35.00
All other vehicles – cost per tonne	\$126.50