



9 February 2024

Matt Wenlock



Dear Matt Wenlock

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

We refer to your official information request dated 11 January 2024 for:

- 1. Money spent to resolve water leaks in your councils region*
- 2. Money spent on staff travel expenses (flights, accommodation, rental cars, staff meals while travelling, taxis/ride share, tips/gratuities)*
- 3. Money spent on staff catering and entertainment*
- 4. Money spent on developing and building cycleways*
- 5. Money spent on Arts and Culture*
- 6. P Card Spending by The Mayor, councillors and executive*
- 7. Money spent on projects that have been stopped/halted before completion*

**Answer:**

Note: As your request has specified 'Council' and not 'Group' the below figures represent costs related to Hutt City Council, and not Council Controlled organisations.

**1. Money spent to resolve water leaks in your councils region.**

We incurred costs of \$5.852M for the 2023 calendar year on reactive and planned maintenance on the water network, which was largely to help resolve water leaks.



## **2. Money spent on staff travel expenses (flights, accommodation, rental cars, staff meals while travelling, taxis/ride share, tips/gratuities)**

We incurred costs of \$159,756 for the 2023 calendar year.

## **3. Money spent on staff catering and entertainment.**

We incurred costs of \$114,315 for the 2023 calendar year. This includes costs for events and hosting and attending external meetings.

## **4. Money spent on developing and building cycleways**

This answer relates to capital expenditure to develop and build cycleways. Where a project is capital in nature, full costings are not generally able to be provided until the asset is commissioned. Furthermore, the financial year of Hutt City Council is 1 July to 30 June.

### A) Costs directly attributable to building new cycleways:

We incurred costs of \$426,295 that are directly attributable to creating new cycleways across the city.

### B) Costs attributable to building assets, which include cycleways

#### **Tupua Horo Nuku – Eastern Bays Seawall & Shared Path**

Details of this project can be seen on the HCC website:

<https://www.huttcity.govt.nz/council/our-projects/cycleways-and-shared-paths/cycleways-and-shared-paths-tupua-horo-nuku>

A new seawall is also being built along the corridor which will be the platform for the path and improve the resilience of Marine Drive by providing protection against storms and waves, along with coastal erosion. On top of this seawall is an extended shared path. The total cost of this project in the 2023 calendar year is \$18.3M. This cost needs to be split between the creation of a seawall asset and shared pathway. As the project is still on-going, and the assets are not completed nor commissioned, Hutt City Council is unable to state the portion of the cost directly related to the shared path at this time.

Hutt City Council is responsible for a 25% share of the cost of this project, with the rest of the funding being provided by Waka Kotahi | NTZA and Crown Infrastructure Partners.

### **Micromobility programme**

Details of this project can be seen on the HCC website:

<https://www.huttcity.govt.nz/environment-and-sustainability/tracks-and-trails/our-vision-for-walking-and-cycling>

The total cost of this project in the 2023 calendar year is \$4.6M. As the project is still on-going, and the assets are not completed nor commissioned, Hutt City Council is unable to state the portion of the cost directly related to the shared path at this time.

Some of the costs will be related to cycleways, others will be related to other Micromobility and walking infrastructure.

## **5. Money spent on Arts and Culture**

The money spend on Arts and Culture is split between operational and capital expenditure. Operating expenditure refers to the operation and staffing of The Dowse, Petone Settlers Museum and other Arts & Culture initiatives.

The capital expenditure is the cost of renewing the Dowse, Petone Settlers Museum and any associated improvements to the buildings.

The costs are:

- Operating - \$5,744,027
- Capital - \$1,338,007
- Total - \$7,082,033

## **6. P Card Spending by The Mayor, councillors and executive**

Hutt City Council publishes sensitive expenditure information at:

<https://www.huttcity.govt.nz/council/how-council-works/sensitive-expenditure>

This information includes P card spend for the Mayor, councillors and executive.

Sensitive expenditure is presented on the agenda of the Audit and Risk subcommittee meetings. The meeting agendas and the minutes can be found at: <http://infocouncil.huttcity.govt.nz/>

## **7. Money spent on projects that have been stopped/halted before completion**

The approval or suspension of projects and their budget is generally determined through the Long-Term Plan and Annual planning processes. For the calendar year 2023, there were no decisions of this nature apart from the Micromobility project which had a partial reduction in its scope due to the loss of a 90% subsidy from Waka Kotahi | NZTA. Design and planning works had been completed at a cost of \$386,211 and implementation had not begun. This is a non-recoverable cost following the reduction in scope of the project. Depending on future funding decisions from the government, the Council may decide to complete this work at a later date.

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](http://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](http://www.huttcity.govt.nz/council/contactus/make-an-official-information-act-request/proactive-releases).

Yours sincerely

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