



26 May 2021

[REDACTED]

Sent via email to [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

REQUEST FOR OFFICIAL INFORMATION – RELEASE OF INFORMATION

We refer to your official information request dated 7 December 2020. You requested the following information from the Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC):

I request the following information for the **2019/20 Financial Year**:

1. Average residential rates

a. The average residential costs of rates and other Council charges, where average 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) charged by the Council to residential rating units;
 - **Y** 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
 - **Z** 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)

2. Average non-residential rates

a. 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) 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).

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 2019/2020 Financial Year.

3. Personnel

1. The total number of staff dismissed due to poor performance.
 - None
2. If applicable, the FTE number of staff employed by council-controlled organisations
 - 66
3. The total number of staff including those employed by council-controlled organisations receiving remuneration in excess of \$100,000.
 - 125
4. The total number of staff including those employed by council-controlled organisations receiving remuneration in excess of \$200,000.
 - 13

4. Audit and Risk Oversight

1. How many members are on the Council's Audit and Risk Committee (or equivalent)?
 - 5
2. Does the Council have independent members on the Committee?
 - Yes, there are 3 independent members on the Committee
3. Is the Chair of the Committee an independent member?
 - No
4. Does the Council have a lawyer (with a current practising certificate) on the Committee?
 - There are no lawyers on the A,F&R Committee

5. Does the Council have an accountant (with a current practising certificate) on the Committee?
 - Yes
6. Does the Council have a code of conduct requiring political neutrality from Council staff?
 - Yes, Council has a Code of Conduct, you can view it under ["Policies > Elected Members and Elections > Code of Conduct"](#)

5. Payments to third parties

1. The total payments made by the Council (or any council-controlled organisation) to any Chamber of Commerce, including GST.
 - \$25,211.00
2. The total payments made by the Council (or any council-controlled organisation) to Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ), including GST.
 - \$64,500.04
3. The total payments made by the Council (or any council-controlled organisation) to the New Zealand Society of Local Government Managers (SOLGM), including GST.
 - \$43,873.82

QLDC response

- Please see the below table covering the response for Q1 and Q2:

Total Rates 2019/20	X Total Inc GST	Y Residential
UAGC	\$1,530,915	\$815,867
SPORTS, HALLS & LIBRARIES CHARGE	\$8,283,633	\$5,228,079
REFUSE CHARGE	\$3,253,067	\$1,784,158
REFUSE CHARGE	\$3,428,119	\$2,627,139
AQUATIC CENTRE CHARGE	\$3,167,010	\$1,998,806
GENERAL RATE - DISTRICT	\$1,272,397	\$498,200
RECREATION & EVENTS RATE - DISTRICT	\$6,479,665	\$2,393,666
GOVERNANCE RATE - DISTRICT	\$3,435,605	\$1,385,942
REGULATORY RATE - DISTRICT	\$5,756,641	\$2,181,419
ROADING RATE	\$13,567,604	\$3,722,255
STORMWATER	\$3,167,785	\$1,804,333
TOURISM PROMO - DISTRICT	\$6,332,552	\$0
TOTAL WATER	\$10,907,662	\$7,150,410
TOTAL SEWER	\$15,049,081	9,780,570
RECREATION & EVENTS CHG	\$6,479,665	\$2,393,666
GOV & REGULATORY CHG	\$2,816,413	\$1,348,972
	\$96,872,001	\$46,302,694
No. of Residential Properties		14631
Z Average Residential Cost of Rates		\$3,165

Average Residential Cost of Rates

Rating Units

Total number of rating units 2019/20:	27,454
Total number of residential rating units 2019/20:	14,631

Average Non-Residential Cost of Rates

Y Total Non-Residential Rates	\$50,569,307
Z Average Non- Residential Cost of Rates	\$3,944

We trust the above information satisfactorily answers your request.

Kind Regards,



Poonam Sethi
Governance and Official Information Advisor