

Reference Number: 2025/1198

3 April 2025

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe | Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email dated 13 March 2025 requesting under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA), information relating to the 2025 ratepayers' report. Please see outlined below a response to each part of your request.

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).

The average residential costs of rates for the 2023/24 financial year was \$3,627 (inclusive of GST).

A = \$48,432,219 (inclusive of GST)

B = \$218,687 (inclusive of GST)

C = 13,415

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.**

The average non-residential costs of rates for the 2023/24 financial year was \$2,344 (inclusive of GST).

X = \$10,145,820 (inclusive of GST)

Y = \$1,698,151 (inclusive of GST)

Z = 5,052

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

Horowhenua District Council publishes responses to Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) requests that we consider to be of wider public interest, or which relate to a subject that has been widely requested. To protect your privacy, we will not generally publish personal information about you, or information that identifies you. We will publish the LGOIMA response along with a summary of the request on our website. Requests and responses may be paraphrased.

If you would like to discuss this decision or any of the information provided as part of this request, please contact Jacinta Straker (Group Manager Organisation Performance) on jacintas@horowhenua.govt.nz, or LGOIMAOfficer@horowhenua.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi | Best regards



Monique Davidson
Chief Executive