

24 February 2024

Chris McCashin
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Tēnā koe Mr McCashin,

Tākina Events Centre

Thank you for your request made under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act), received on 9 January 2024. You requested the following information:

1. Monthly Revenue & Expenses for July 2023 - December 2023
2. Final Build Cost
3. Total Debt on Building
4. Who the debt is held with
5. Total interest attributed to the debt on the building

As confirmed in our email to you on the 9th of February 2024, Wellington City Council has granted your request for information and your patience while we gathered this information is appreciated.

Please find our response below.

Background Information

Tākina Wellington Convention and Exhibition Centre was built to enable Wellington to attract international and domestic conferences for the benefit of the city, region, and country and to provide a place from which to share stories with the nation.

Opened in June 2023, Tākina is in its infancy. The original budgets were based on the best assumptions around operating costs and revenues for a building of this nature.

Over half of the expenditure to date is fixed building ownership costs which include rates, insurance, depreciation, interest, and organisational allocations. The convention business is outsourced, meaning the revenue and expenditure of that aspect of the business are not reflected in our accounts (and the figures below).

All parties involved are working hard to deliver economic benefits to the city. Two-thirds of the cost of Tākina is funded through the Downtown Levy and commercial sector share of the General Rate. Also note that in the first six months of operations there has been an estimated \$24million economic return to the community.

Question 1 - Monthly Revenue and Expenses

The following table provides the monthly revenue and expenses for Tākina between July - December 2023:

	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sept-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23
Operating Revenue	30,271	251,951	605,833	1,119,535	413,976	394,754
Operating Expenses	629,082	261,676	37,273	1,028,133	504,030	854,137
Net Expenditure	-598,811	-9,725	568,561	91,402	-90,053	-459,383

Questions 2 to 5 - Build Cost and Debt

Final Building cost	\$170.86 Million
Total Debt on the building	We have drawn down \$180m in total for the Tākina build*
Who the debt is held with	The debt is held with the New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency Limited (LGFA)
Total interest attributed to the debt on the building	interest attributed to debt for Jul 23-Dec 23 is \$1.8m

Please note, with respect to the total debt on the building, this relates to debt held with LGFA and includes some of the land purchase, but does not include the accumulated depreciation charged, and treated as debt repayments for interest calculation purposes. Therefore, the actual outstanding debt attributed to Tākina will be lower.

Right of review

If you are not satisfied with the Council's response, you may request the Office of the Ombudsman to investigate the Council's decision. Further information is available on the Ombudsman website, www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note, we may proactively release our response to your request with your personal information removed.

Thank you again for your request,

Kind regards

Chelsea McHugh
Senior Advisor Official Information
Wellington City Council