

4 July 2024

Hugh J Coon

By email: fyi-request-27228-cb57a5d7@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Hugh

Official Information Act request regarding Jannita Pilisi

I refer to your official information request, dated 11 June 2024, for information related to Jannita Pilisi as a member of the Arts Council. We've considered your request under the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982 ('the Act'), which is based on the principle that information held by government agencies should be made available on request unless there is good reason for withholding it.

You requested the following information.

Member Janita Pillisi is said to being overseas in Europe (Venice ?) in official capacity with Creativenz Arts council.

Please confirm any and all cost or association of her visit in capacity of director board member Creativenz Arts council.

Please confirm and supply any communication between member Pillisi and Creativenz staff relating to the trip.

If not ,please provide any similar communication relating member Pillisi trips or delegation in Creativenz Arts council capacity.

Please further provide all costs associated to member Pillisi appointment and ongoing role including travel costs ,governance training or membership fees, catering!, etc. Or discussion of requested funding /future costs for the role.

Jannita Pilisi's term on the Arts Council commenced on 29 April 2024. Jannita Pilisi has not travelled overseas in her capacity as an Arts Council member. There have been no communications between Creative New Zealand and Jannita Pilisi regarding overseas travel. We are therefore refusing this aspect of your request under **section 18(e)** of the OIA because the requested information does not exist.

Arts Council members receive an annual fee of \$14,000 and Creative New Zealand supports the costs of members attending Arts Council meetings or carrying out official duties. All official duties and international travel are approved by the Arts Council.

Please see the table **below** for a record of all costs and travel associated with Jannita's role as an Arts Council member to date. Creative New Zealand staff liaise with Jannita regarding travel

arrangements to attend Arts Council meetings. No future travel or accommodation is booked at this point in time.

Date	Description	Cost
29 April – 4 July 2024	Remuneration as Arts Council member. <i>(NB: Annual remuneration of \$14,000; fees for Arts Council members are set in accordance with the Cabinet Fees Framework¹).</i>	\$2,333.34
27–29 May 2024	Flights to attend induction meetings in Wellington.	\$448.13
27 May 2024	Accommodation to attend induction meetings in Wellington.	\$247.20
28 May 2024	Catering for pōwhiri to welcome Jannita Pilisi in her role as Arts Council member attended by forty Creative New Zealand staff and ten guests. <i>(Expenditure is consistent with Creative New Zealand’s Sensitive Expenditure Policy.)</i>	\$709.98
18–19 June 2024	Flights to attend Arts Council meeting in Wellington.	\$408.37
18 June 2024	Accommodation to attend Arts Council meeting in Wellington.	\$199.75
Total to date		\$4,346.77

Creative New Zealand responds to all official information requests made in good faith in accordance with the requirements of the Act. However, the name under which this request has been made leads us to question whether your request has been made in good faith. The name appears to be using racist and offensive language.

We have decided to respond to this request; however, we will consider whether it is necessary to refuse any further request(s) as vexatious under **section 18(h)** of the Act if this name is used again.

If you wish to discuss this response, please get in touch with Elizabeth Beale (Co-Manager, Policy & Performance) via email to: elizabeth.beale@creativenz.govt.nz

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Act to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available Ombudsman’s website at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui, nā

David Pannett
Senior Manager, Strategy & Engagement
Pou Whakahaere Matua, Rautaki me te Tūhono

¹ Cabinet Fees Framework: <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/guidance/interpreting-and-implementing-the-cabinet-fees-framework>