

22 October 2024

**Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council**

Me Heke Ki Pōneke

File ref: IRC-6882

George Bastille
fyi-request-27967-035ae30e@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Mr Bastille

Thank you for your email of 7 August 2024 to Te Kaunihera o Pōneke | Wellington City Council (the Council) requesting information regarding Councillors and Media correspondence between 1 May 2024 and 7 August 2024. Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA). Please find my response below.

- *Please provide any letters, emails, Txt messages, WhatsApp messages, Signal messages, Viber messages, calendar appointments, and handwritten/typed notes/recordings of phone conversations/meetings between the following:*

1. *Cr Diane Calvert and any reporter from The Post*

Please find attached, as Appendix 01 to my response, a copy of all correspondence between Councillor Calvert and journalists from The Post/Stuff. Some information has been withheld pursuant to section 7(2)(a) of the LGOIMA, to protect the privacy of natural persons, and section 7(2)(f)(ii) of the LGOIMA, to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of such members, officers, employees, and persons from improper pressure or harassment.

2. *Cr Tony Randle and any reporter from The Post*

Please find attached, as Appendix 02 to my response, a copy of all correspondence between Councillor Randle and journalists from The Post/Stuff. Some information has been withheld pursuant to section 7(2)(a) of the LGOIMA, to protect the privacy of natural persons, and section 7(2)(f)(ii) of the LGOIMA, to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of such members, officers, employees, and persons from improper pressure or harassment.

3. *Cr Ray Chung and any reporter from The Post*

Please find attached, as Appendix 03 to my response, a copy of all correspondence between Councillor Chung and journalists from The Post/Stuff. Some information has been withheld pursuant to section 7(2)(a) of the LGOIMA, to protect the privacy of natural persons, and section 7(2)(f)(ii) of the LGOIMA, to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of such members, officers, employees, and persons from improper pressure or harassment.

4. *Cr Nicola Young and any reporter from The Post*

Please find attached, as Appendix 04 to my response, a copy of all correspondence between Councillor Young and journalists from The Post/Stuff. Some information has been withheld pursuant to section 7(2)(a) of the LGOIMA, to protect the privacy of natural persons, and section 7(2)(f)(ii) of the LGOIMA, to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of such members, officers, employees, and persons from improper pressure or harassment.

5. *Cr Diane Calvert and Nick Mills radio host*
6. *Cr Tony Randle and Nick Mills radio host*
7. *Cr Ray Chung and Nick Mills radio host*

The Councillors have advised that they have not had any correspondence with radio host Nick Mills, therefore I am refusing questions five, six and seven pursuant to section 17(g)(i) of the LGOIMA, as the information requested is not held by the local authority and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that the information is held by another local authority or a department or Minister of the Crown or organisation.

8. Cr Nicola Young and Nick Mills radio host

Please find attached, as Appendix 05 to my response, a copy of all correspondence between Councillor Young and Nick Young. This is being released to you in full.

As per section 7(1) of the LGOIMA, I do not consider that in the circumstances of this response, the withholding of this information is outweighed by the other considerations which render it desirable to in the public interest to make the information available.

You have the right, by way of complaint under section 28(1) of the LGOIMA, to request an investigation and review of the Council's decision to withhold information by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you require further information, please contact official.information@wcc.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



Danika Morris-Brown
Senior Advisor Official Information
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Wellington City Council