

From: [BDC Lgoima](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Official Information Request for Legal Costs Ref: OIA 080/23
Date: Thursday, 17 August 2023 2:34:00 pm
Attachments: [image008.png](#)

Dear [REDACTED]

We refer to your official information request dated 18 July 2023 where you requested information regarding the Dooley v Cleine defamation case.

The answers are marked below in blue:

The total legal costs incurred by council in the Dooley v. Cleine defamation case.

- \$ 15,355.00.

The proportion of these costs covered by insurance.

- Our insurer is paying the lawyer representing Mayor Cleine directly.

An estimate of staff hours involved in responding to the case, collecting evidence, any mediation etc.

- Staff have provided support to the Mayor but they have not been involved in the collection/preparation of information for the mediation. No record of this time has been kept.

An estimate of the cost of these staff hours and whether this is also covered by insurance or paid for by council.

- As above

The cost of any travel and accommodation connected to the case and whether this is covered by insurance or council.

- \$1,888.41 inclusive of GST
- This case is supported by our insurer. \$25,000 of all costs are funded by the council with any further costs funded by the insurer.

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

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact the Buller District Council by return email to lgoima@bdc.govt.nz.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request will be published shortly at <https://bullerdc.govt.nz/district-council/your-council/request-for-official-information/responses->

[to-lgoima-requests/](#) with your personal information removed.

Kind regards

Douglas Marshall | Chief Financial Officer (Contractor)
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