

From: [BDC Lgoima](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Official Information Request for christmasLGOIMA Ref: OIA 117/23
Date: Monday, 18 December 2023 4:42:00 pm

Dear [REDACTED]

We refer to your official information request dated 7 December 2023 for council Christmas expenditure.

The information you have requested is marked below in red.

We request the following information:

End-of-Year Bonuses:

- Total amount paid in end-of-year bonuses to the CEO this Christmas. - **None**
- Total amount paid in bonuses to staff employed by your organization this Christmas. - **None**
- Please also provide the same for Christmas 2022. - **None**

Presents for Staff:

- Total expenditure on presents for staff including but not limited to 'secret Santa' etc. - **None**
- Please include this cost for last year also. - **None**

Christmas Parade:

- Total expenditure breakdown on any Christmas parade hosted or funded by the Council this year. This should also include road closure impact assessments where possible. - **None**
- Please include a cost breakdown for any Christmas parade last year. - **None**

Christmas Trees and lights:

- Number of Christmas trees purchased and erected, and the cost of these purchases for this year. - **None**
- Please also include the cost for any Christmas lights for tree and any lights for buildings for this year. - **None**
- Please also include the cost of both for last year, too. - **None**
- Please highlight if the council had any left over from last year. - **None**

Hiring Santa:

- Breakdown of costs associated with hiring a Santa, if applicable. - **None**
- Please also provide this information for last year, too. - **None**

Christmas Market:

- Breakdown of costs associated with running/hosting/sponsoring a Christmas market, if applicable. - **None**
- Please provide this information for last year, too. - **None**

Christmas Party Supplies:

- Please breakdown the amount spent on the following for the years 2022 and 2023:
 - Wrapping paper- **None**
 - Santa hats- **None**
 - Alcohol for parties- **None**
 - Party hats- **None**
 - Christmas crackers- **None**
 - Christmas cards- **None**
 - Christmas decorations- **None**

Christmas Parties:

- Total expenditure breakdown on Council Christmas parties. Please also include in the breakdown any travel arrangement costs.
 - **Reefton Team event afternoon tea - \$57.50**
 - **Staff Christmas BBQ - \$290.00 (Estimated to e in line with last year, purchase not made yet).**
- Please include this for last year, also.
 - **Staff Christmas BBQ - \$280.69**
 - **Community Services Christmas Breakup - \$95.44**

Office Closure:

- Duration of office closure during the Christmas period for the council generally. – **Office closes on the 22nd of December and opens on the 3rd of January 2024. Closed for 7 weekdays (Including public holidays), 3 Working days**
- Please specify how many managers and senior executive staff are taking more hours/days out of office than is blanket across the council for the Christmas period.
 - **Out of the 5 SLT members, 4 are taking additional leave beyond statutory leave.**
- Does the Christmas office closure also affect contactors paid by the council? If not, how much are they being paid over the Christmas break in an hourly rate? - **Contractors gets paid for the work they performed, and thus will not get paid over this period unless they perform work.**

Fines:

- Does the council have any plans to increase fines for parking offences or any other offences during the Christmas period? - **No**
 - If so, which fines are increasing, why and what revenue is expected to be raised? – **N/A**

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)
Mobile 027 458 4157 | Email Douglas.Marshall@bdc.govt.nz