

Reference Number: 2024/1095

15 May 2024

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for email of 8 May 2024 requesting under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA), information relating to refreshment costs during the long term plan. Please see outlined below a response to each part of your request.

***How much has your council budgeted for refreshments/food for elected members during your public hearings into your 2024-34 long term plan?***

Council budgeted a total of \$500 for refreshments/food for Elected Members and the inclusion of any council officers during the public hearings held over 2 days and a total of 13 hours.

A total of 11 Elected Members and 10 Council Officers had refreshments/food over the two days at a total cost of \$473.43.

***If your council also feeds staff members meals during this time, how many staff members approximately?***

As the hearings concluded at 8pm on the first day, the Council arranged dinner for approximately 10 council officers who were required to be present. Please note that many of the staff started work between 7am-8am on the same day.

***A copy of the menu/list of what food will be/has been provided, and on which day***

| Hearing Day 1 – Wednesday 1 May 2024<br>(12pm to 8pm)   | Hearing Day 2 – Thursday 2 May 2024<br>(12pm to 5pm)   |
|---|--|
| <p><u>Dinner</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meat and Salad Filled Rolls, Wraps &amp; Croissants (Including Vegetarian Option)</li> <li>• Asparagus &amp; Chicken Rolls</li> <li>• Raw seasonal vegetables</li> <li>• Seasonal Fruit with Chocolate Sauce (Rock Melon, Pineapple, Strawberry, Grapes, Orange, Mandarin)</li> <li>• Seasonal Vegetables with Hummus &amp; Yoghurt (Broccoli, Cauliflower, Carrot, Celery, Capsicum, Courgette)</li> </ul> | <p><u>Light Refreshments</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leftovers from Day 1 which included the Seasonal Fruit and Seasonal Vegetables.</li> </ul> |

Light Refreshments provided over both days

- Muesli Bars
- Fruit Muffins
- Mini Chocolate
- Fruit – Mandarin/Grapes
- Soft Drink

***An explanation of how kai choices were made (e.g. if health was taken into consideration and if councillors had a say in what made it onto the menu) and if the company preparing the food is owned by people who live in your district or city***

Deliberate consideration is given to the selection of food provided, ensuring that we provide our Elected Members with nourishment that not only fuels their bodies but also enriches their cognitive faculties during meetings. Our sourcing approach prioritizes using local providers in the community and we sourced our food from a local provider who is part of our community, residing among us and actively contributing to the local economy by hiring community members. While Elected Members are able to suggest menu items, council officers make the decision on consideration of price and nourishment.

Horowhenua District Council publishes responses to Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) requests that we consider to be of wider public interest, or which relate to a subject that has been widely requested. To protect your privacy, we will not generally publish personal information about you, or information that identifies you. We will publish the LGOIMA response along with a summary of the request on our website. Requests and responses may be paraphrased.

If you would like to discuss this decision or any of the information provided as part of this request, please contact Jacinta Straker (Group Manager Organisation Performance) on [jacintas@horowhenua.govt.nz](mailto:jacintas@horowhenua.govt.nz).

Ngā mihi



Monique Davidson  
**Chief Executive**