

RURAL CITY LIVING



Response to LGOIMA request from Mathias Schaeffner / Tasman Democracy

11 January 2024

Dear Mathias,

Thanks for your email dated 9 January 2024 in which you request the

following:

1. How many requests for official information (LGOIMA) did the Council receive in the year 2023?
2. How many of them were handled within the statutory timeframe of 20 working days?
3. Out of all responses to requests for official information in 2023, how many of them were made publicly available (e.g. on your website)?
4. How many of all the requests for official information in 2023 were refused on the grounds that these requests were "frivolous or vexatious or that the information requested is trivial" (see Section 17 (h) of Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987)?
5. Were the people informed that their requests for information were refused under Section 17 (h) LGOIMA?

Our response is as follows:

1. In 2023, the Council received 86 requests for information under the Local Government Information and Meetings Act. This is an extraordinarily high number for the Gore District Council and can be directly attributed to political issues following the 2022 local body elections.
2. Of the 86 requests, the majority were responded to within 20 working days. Time extensions were required for four, given their complexity.
3. In July 2023, the Council decided to publish all LGOIMA responses on its website to ensure greater transparency. In instances where the response was to an individual, we redact personal information. Here is [the link to the web pages](#)
4. No requests were refused on these grounds.
5. No requests were refused on these grounds.

If you are unsatisfied with the response, you are entitled to lodge a complaint with the Office of the Ombudsmen. You can find more information on its website <http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz>

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sonia Gerken'.

Sonia Gerken
GM Communications & Customer Support