

8 September 2020



Andrew Price

By email: [fyi-request-13587-79eae742@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-13587-79eae742@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Andrew

### INFORMATION REQUEST – Eligibility for Covid-19 wage Subsidy

We write in response to your email dated 24 August 2020 in which you requested the following information:

- Please provide the financial information you used to determine Tauranga City Councils eligibility to apply for the Covid 19 wage subsidy, including the relevant data for the same month in 2019 to show a 30% or more loss due to Covid 19.

We have considered your request in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (“LGOIMA”) and respond as follows.

Analysis has been carried out on a cashflow basis for the periods April 2019 and April 2020. The analysis was based on all cash received transactions as per Council’s bank statements for the two periods. Cash revenue sources included in the analysis were based on Council’s revenue classification on its Annual Report 2019. These revenue categories are consistent with Council’s Treasury Policy definition of Operating Revenue and they are also consistent with Local Government Funding Agency’ definition of Operating Revenue used to calculate Council’s compliance borrowing covenants.

This methodology was discussed with MSD by telephone and email prior to lodging the wage subsidy claim.

The total revenue for the two periods and the total reduction are shown in the table below:

Revenue comparison – April 2019 and April 2020		
	April 2019	April 2020
Total revenue received	\$17,570,958	\$11,666,588
Revenue reduction		\$5,905,371
Percentage of revenue reduction		33.6%

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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

We may publish this response on our website as your request may be of interest to others. All personal information will be removed and only the question and answers will be seen.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact the writer.

Yours sincerely

*Coral Hair*

Coral Hair  
**Manager**  
**Democracy Services**