

File No: 03 04 02K
Document No: 26881361



15 August 2023

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Tēnā koe Ryan,

REQ200439 - Request for Information - Funding granted by Waikato Regional Council to Habitat Tuatēawa Incorporated.

You have made the following request for information:

In matters relating to the funding and contributions provided to Habitat Tuatēawa Incorporated 9429043322084, information is requested under the official information act, detailing the granting of public money to this private incorporation which conducts residual poison operations each year.

Accordingly and under the Act, please supply the following:

- 1. A full and comprehensive account of all funding granted by Waikato Regional Council to Habitat Tuatēawa Incorporated by way of any application or agreement with details and total for each and every grant for each and every year stating funding objective along with each amount contributed.*
- 2. A full list of any funding applications by Habitat Tuatēawa Incorporated that were declined or were unsuccessful, such information to state the funding amount required and its purpose along with the reason for being declined.*
- 3. Please provide information to show Waikato Regional Council holds evidence that Habitat Tuatēawa has sought and obtained prior written consent of all affected land owners for the incorporation to seek and obtain public funding for the distribution of poison, to nail plastic to native trees, counter sink traps and to spray paint fluorescent pink upon native trees within public conservation land.*
- 4. Please provide information held by Waikato Regional Council notifying of any objection or any notice to cease and desist being issued or notified in relation to actions and activities of Habitat Tuatēawa Incorporated or any of their members by way of necessary disclosure requested and to be made within funding applications.*
- 5. Habitat Tuatēawa Incorporated asserts to have approval from Huarere Ruakatauri for use of residual toxins within their funding applications, please provide evidence to prove right of this claim and that this is not a mis-representation to procure funding.*

Council's response.

1. A full and comprehensive account of all funding granted by Waikato Regional Council to Habitat Tuatēawa Incorporated by way of any application or agreement with details and total for each and every grant for each and every year stating funding objective along with each amount contributed.

Habitat Tuatēawa has received funding from the Environmental Initiatives Fund (EIF) and the Small-Scale Community Initiatives Fund (SSCIF).

Fund	Amount granted	Description
EIF 2022	\$9,300	Maintaining and coordinating Habitat Tuatēawa's pest control and monitoring programmes. 1 year project – labour for Coordinator.
EIF 2020	\$23,754.56	Improving our network and recording systems for planned projects. 2-year project - \$20,000 – labour costs. Materials - \$3,754.56 – Baits, warning signs and monitoring materials etc.
SSCIF 2019	\$3,160.40	Giving fledging birds a chance. Pest control contractor \$980, Pest Feed for Decal \$358.80, Pest Off Decal \$1,518, Pest Off rat bait 50D \$303.60.
EIF 2018	\$39,143.68	Enhancing our predator trapping effort at Tuatēawa. 2-year project- Labour- pest control coordinator \$16,997.68 Materials – good nature rat and possum traps \$23,136.
SSCIF 2017	\$4,405.27	Conserving Tuatēawa's Bird Haven. Bird protection (good nature replenish pack, pre feed and bait – contractor did about 25% due to steepness of two lines).
SSCIF 2016	\$4,989.75	A project aimed at enhancing the level of pest control achieved within the Habitat Tuatēawa Pest Control Area (HTPCA). Materials only – Bait and traps.
SSCIF 2013	\$4,600	Improve pest control within the Habitat Tuatēawa pest control area. Materials only \$1,200 Brodifacoum, \$3,200 DOC200s, \$100 Rodent monitoring papers.
SSCIF 2012	\$4,800	Rodent control in the Habitat Tuatēawa Pest Control Area [HTPCA]. Winter/Spring 2012. Rodent control using striker bait and rat-a-bate.
SSCIF 2011	\$5,000	Rat control in the Habitat Tuatēawa Pest control Area. Materials only - Rat control using dipahcinone over the late winter to early summer.
SSCIF 2010	\$1,540	Materials for pest control operations 300kg pest off, 20 bait stations.
SSCIF 2009	\$3,460	
SSCIF 2009	\$5,000	Materials for pest control operations
SSCIF 2008	\$3,233	Materials for pest control operations

2. *A full list of any funding applications by Habitat Tuatēawa Incorporated that were declined or were unsuccessful, such information to state the funding amount required and its purpose along with the reason for being declined.*

Council records show that two applications by Habitat Tuatēawa have been declined:

- SSCIF 2017/2018 - declined – no reason stated.
- SSCIF 2014 – requested \$4970.35 for materials for pest control. Application unsuccessful due to oversubscription.

3. *Please provide information to show Waikato Regional Council holds evidence that Habitat Tuatēawa has sought and obtained prior written consent of all affected land owners for the incorporation to seek and obtain public funding for the distribution of poison, to nail plastic to native trees, counter sink traps and to spray paint fluorescent pink upon native trees within public conservation land.*

Council holds copies of landowner/occupier consent for 37 landowners covering 51 properties in the Habitat Tuatēawa project area and a copy of the DOC Community Agreement for works on public conservation land.

4. *Please provide information held by Waikato Regional Council notifying of any objection or any notice to cease and desist being issued or notified in relation to actions and activities of Habitat Tuatēawa Incorporated or any of their members by way of necessary disclosure requested and to be made within funding applications.*

Council does not hold this information.

5. *Habitat Tuatēawa Incorporated asserts to have approval from Huarere Ruakatauri for use of residual toxins within their funding applications, please provide evidence to prove right of this claim and that this is not a mis-representation to procure funding.*

It is not a requirement of Council's funding agreements for applicants to have hapū permission to carry out works, unless that hapū are landowners within the project area. To the best of Council's knowledge Habitat Tuatēawa are not carrying out works on land owned by Huarere Ruakatauri. However, Habitat Tuatēawa have indicated they have hapū and iwi support as shown below from the Habitat Tuatēawa 2018 EIF application.

How will the community be involved in your project?

It would be easy to overlook the importance of the consistent support we have from landowners to undertake our pest control regimes. Their granting permission to access their lands and, in many cases, being involved themselves, is a good measure of community support and involvement over the years. We have consistently reached out to local Iwi (Ngati Porou, Ngati Tamatera, Ngati Whanaunga) and Hapu (Raukatauri a Huarere) and we enjoy the continued support and advice of our own kaumatua.

Explain how you have collaborated with other project partners and stakeholders.

We keep local Iwi (Ngati Porou, Ngati Tamatera, Ngati Whanaunga and Raukatauri a Huarere (our local Hapu)) informed of our operations and seek their consent. In all these years they have always shown nothing but support and appreciation of our undertakings. Our kaumatua is a regular attendee at Habitat Tuatēawa meetings, and is actively involved in kiwi monitoring here.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,



Alyx McDonald
OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND PRIVACY ADVISOR
Waikato Regional Council