

08 August 2024

Official information request No. 8140014012
(Please quote this in any correspondence)

Sam Collins

By email: fyi-request-27328-12dfa191@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Sam

Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

Re: Funds from PLB to Puketāpapa Business Voice

Thank you for your email of 22 June 2024. Your specific request and our response are set out below.

I am requesting a breakdown of the funds spent by Auckland Council/Puketāpapa Local Board on the Puketāpapa Business Voice organisation during the last two terms of the board (2019 - Current). This should include, but not be limited to:

- Funds spent as part of the Climate Activator role to establish the group (including time charged by the coordinator to do this).*
- Grants allocated to Puketāpapa Business Voice, including but not limited to Local Grants, Quick Response Grants, and Strategic Relationship Grants.*

Further to this, I am enquiring as to whether Ella Kumar, current Chair of the Puketāpapa Local Board and longtime board member, has expressed any conflict of interest in terms of the decision-making process related to Puketāpapa Business Voice due to her role as initial Chair of organisation.

Please also advise whether any other board members expressed a conflict of interest regarding any decisions involving the Puketāpapa Business Voice group.

Our response

- Funds spent as part of the Climate Activator role to establish the group (including time charged by the coordinator to do this).*

In 2020/2021, Puketāpapa Local Board funded a Puketāpapa Low Carbon Network and Activator project. \$51,000 was allocated in total, with \$11,000 to establish and run a low carbon network and \$40,000 for the activator work.

In 2021/22, this project was renamed to Puketāpapa Climate Action Network Broker and Activator and was allocated the same budget as the previous year.

The Puketāpapa Low Carbon Network and Activator project (2020/2021) and Puketāpapa Climate Action Network Broker and Activator project (2021/2022) consisted of five parts.

One part of each project was to support the establishment of a business network.

Staff estimate that approximately 20 per cent of the budget of each of the two projects that were allocated to the activator work (\$40,000 per year) went towards establishing, and then working with, the Puketāpapa Business Voice business network in the financial years 2020/2021 and 2021/2022. Therefore, it is estimated that the Puketāpapa Local Board contributed approximately \$16,000 over the two years to the establishment of the business network.

- Grants allocated to Puketāpapa Business Voice, including but not limited to Local Grants, Quick Response Grants, and Strategic Relationship Grants.

Please find attached the combined workshop record, notes and materials for all grants across the terms (2020-2023) allocated to the Puketāpapa Local Voice this information also shows the approval of grants local grants, quick response, strategic relationship grants for the Puketāpapa Business Voice across the term (2020-2023) noting Ella Kumar's declaration as a member and then as Chair. The above minutes meets this request noting this information is also publicly available.

Further to this, I am enquiring as to whether Ella Kumar, current Chair of the Puketāpapa Local Board and longtime board member, has expressed any conflict of interest in terms of the decision-making process related to Puketāpapa Business Voice due to her role as initial Chair of organisation.

Please find attached Minutes which provides this information.

Please also advise whether any other board members expressed a conflict of interest regarding any decisions involving the Puketāpapa Business Voice group.

We have not found any other member declaring a conflict of interest at business meetings for Puketāpapa Business Voice.

Decisions relating to the information that is being released to you were made by **Samantha Hill, General Manager Environmental Services, Nina Siers Local Area Manager, and John Bishop Group Treasurer.**

Should you believe Auckland Council has not responded appropriately to your request, you have the right by way of complaint, under section 27(3) of the LGOIMA, to apply to the Ombudsman to seek an investigation and review of the decision.

Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you have any further queries, please contact me on 09 301 0101 quoting official information request number 8140014012.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Angela Hare', written in a cursive style.

Angela Hare
Senior Privacy & LGOIMA Business Partner
Customer Experience & Digital Services