

3 December 2024

File Ref: IRC-7343

James
fyi-request-28885-598dd379@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe James,

I refer to your email dated 23 October 2024 to Te Kaunihera o Pōneke | Wellington City Council (the Council). Please find a copy of your correspondence below, with the information you have requested highlighted in bold:

Today it was reported that Wellington Mayor Tory Whanau's Instagram account liked comments suggesting Govt intervention is a 'hit-job'.

Under the OIA please clarify who physically styled tapped the likes and subsequently removed the likes from the Mayor's Instagram account.

This is relevant due to the Mayor's speech detailing acceptance and unification of the council and its staff.

Please provide all communications if any, including but not limited to emails, texts, meeting details between the Mayor, her staff, and media regarding this issue.

Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA).

I have been advised by the Office of the Mayor, the comment on the Instagram post you refer to was liked, and subsequently unliked, by a staff member that monitors the Mayor's account. The decision to refuse the name of the staff member, and their position, has been refused under section 7(2)(f)(ii) of the LGOIMA as the withholding of the information is necessary to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of such members, officers, employees, and persons from improper pressure or harassment.

Attached to this response is a document titled 'Appendix 1' which on investigation is the only piece of information in scope of your request. Please note, some information has been redacted under section 7(2)(a) of the LGOIMA, as it contains personal information.

You have the right, by way of complaint under section 28(1) of the LGOIMA, to request an investigation and review of the Council's decision to withhold information by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you require further information, please contact official.information@wcc.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



Ollie Marchant
Senior Advisor
Official Information & Privacy
Wellington City Council