



24 April 2012

Official Information Request No. 9000115469  
(Please quote this in any correspondence)

Alex Harris

Via email: [requests@fyi.org.nz](mailto:requests@fyi.org.nz)

Dear Alex

## Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

### Auckland Council Meetings – Prayer

I refer to your email, which we received on 26 March 2012, requesting the following information:

**1. Does the Council open its meetings with a prayer?**

No, however Auckland Council Mayor Len Brown reads an “Affirmation” at the commencement of monthly meetings of the Governing Body.

**2. If the answer to the above is "yes", then I'd like a copy of that prayer (or examples, if more than one is used)**

- **when the practice was first established**

Not applicable.

- **whether the council has considered abolishing it in the wake of the Whanganui decision**

Not applicable.

- **and any advice the council may hold on the prayer's compatibility with both the Human Rights Act 1993 and Bill of Rights Act 1990.**

Again, not applicable.

The Auckland Council's affirmation, below, is included for your information:

“We seek wisdom, understanding, insights into the views and circumstances of others, strength to seek what we believe in, humility to accept the combined decisions of others, patience, good humour at all times, tolerance and courtesy, while working in the best interests of our community.”

If you have any further queries please contact me on 301 3810, quoting Official Information Request No. 9000115469.

Yours sincerely

Nicole Miell  
Information Advisor  
Public Information Office