



9 August 2023

File Ref: 5-IM-2

[REDACTED]
Via email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Local Government Official Information Request

Thank you for your request for information from Council. All requests to the Council for information are required to be considered in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA). More information about how the Council handles LGOIMA requests can be found in the Council's LGOIMA Request Policy, which is available on the Council's website.

Your request for information was received 2nd August 2023 and related to rising insurance premiums. Our response is below:

1. Can I please have a statement from the appropriate financial officer or mayor/council committee chair on how your council is being affected by rising insurance premiums? Eg how much have they gone up over the past two or three years? And what are you doing about it, or what steps are you considering?

Response:

Council's June 2022 Annual Report (available from our website www.rangitikei.govt.nz) shows the following (Page 76):

- 2021/22 premiums \$746k
- 2020/21 Premiums \$615k

The draft June 2022/23 premiums are expected to be in the \$760k-\$790k range once the year end is complete.

Council regards its Insurance Program as a Strategic (as opposed to transactional) matter and reviews items such as Self Insurance, levels of Deductible (which is a form self-insurance) and need for excess layers (which, again, is a form of self-insurance) every year.

2. Please give us examples of the sorts of risk/assets the council has cut cover on, or will consider cutting cover on?

Response:

Council has proactively assessed its insurance requirements regularly over the past three years. These reviews have resulted in the level of Council's Material Damage/Business Interruption (MDBI) insurance deductible increasing from \$25k to \$250k, Council has also stopped participating in the MDBI excess layer insurance cover. Council considered amending its fleet insurance cover and developing a more formal self-insurance model but decided against these strategies. Council will continue to consider its insurance needs.

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 or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests, where appropriate. Our response to your request will be published shortly at <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/council/about/contact-us/official-information> with your personal information removed.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Lisa Daniels on 06 327 0099.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carol Gordon', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Carol Gordon

Group Manager Democracy & Planning