



02 October 2024

File Ref: 5-IS-2

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 on 3 September 2024. Our full response is below:

1. The total spending on town centre upgrades. Please break this cost down and provide any documents showing any current plans for this area. Additionally, please provide any conflict-of-interest policies held by the council for elected members, contractors, and staff.

Response:

There was no upgrade work done in the most recent LTP period 2021-31. The budgeted spend for Town Centre upgrades in the current LTP 2024-34 is:

Year 1	\$100,000	Marton Town Centre Streetscape Design & Plan
Year 2	\$2,000,000	To begin the Marton Town Centre Streetscape upgrade implementation

Please refer to the Rangitikei District Council website for a copy of Council's Standing Orders where conflicts of interest are referred to [RDC-Standing-Orders-2023_Web.pdf \(rangitikei.govt.nz\)](#)

A copy of the RDC staff Conflict of Interest Policy is attached.

2. The original budget for the Bulls civic centre and a timeline of overall cost changes till construction was completed.

Response:

Please refer to the newsletters that were published during the project for more content:

[Newsletter & Reports: Rangitikei District Council](#)

Attached is document showing the timeline and costs.

3. The total budget for the Taihape town hall strengthening, how this has changed since the project began and whether this was from the Three Waters reform better off support package.

Response:

Refer to page 74 of the Council agenda - [Agenda of Ordinary Council Meeting - Thursday, 26 September 2024 \(rangitikei.govt.nz\)](#) - where detail on the funding (including the allocation from better-off funding) is outlined. The budget for this project has not changed since the project was approved by Council.

4. A breakdown of council and government spending on the Marton Rail Hub with any planned future spending. This can include but is not limited to court costs, land purchases or resource consents.

Response:

Development Plans, Design, Reports, Valuations	\$1,732,006.89
Project Management Services	\$573,575.30
Legal Expenses and reports (Includes: Consents, State of the Environment Report, Commissioner Fees and Environment Court Attendance and Representation)	\$616,727.87
Testing – Including Geotech, Soil, Air	\$445,762.70
Communications	\$24,129.01
Board Member costs	\$54,603.85
Expert Witness Facilitation and QS Peer Review	\$17,751.66
Administration Costs	\$1,987.77
TOTAL COST	\$3,466,545.05

Future spending against the Marton Rail Hub will be determined by a developer purchasing the land and progressing the construction of the Rail Siding. This is a combination of planned Council budget and Government budget. The remaining Council budget relates to a contribution towards infrastructure needs.

The remaining Government budget relates to the construction of the rail siding and is set against project milestones.

It should be noted any future spending is dependent on a range of factors and currently there are no open purchase orders relating to the Marton Rail Hub.

5. The total debt held by council and a breakdown of this changing over the last three years.

Response:

June 2022	June 2023	June 2024
\$19m	\$31m	\$44m

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 0800 422 522.

Yours sincerely

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

Carol Gordon

Deputy Chief Executive / Group Manager Strategy, Community & Democracy