

12 July 2022

Official Information Request No. 8140010371  
 (Please quote this in any correspondence)



[@ratepayers.nz](mailto:[redacted]@ratepayers.nz)

Dear [redacted]

**Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987**

**Re: Eke Panuku**

I refer to your email, which we received on 13 May 2022, requesting information about Eke Panuku.

As a Council Controlled Organisation, Eke Panuku is required by its shareholder to provide communication to and engagement with stakeholders and the public including Councillors, Local Boards and local organisations and associations. In addition, Eke Panuku provides a wide range of public information to media and via our own channels (such as our website and social media) to ensure that the public are not only aware of regeneration activities being undertaken in their neighbourhoods, but are also able to provide feedback on plans and proposals to the organisation.

The specific details of your request and our response are below.

- 1. Total expenditure on communications and engagement in the Financial Years 2017/18, 2018/19, 2020/21, 2021/22. Please include Actual vs. Budget.**

<b>Total Comms and Engagement expenditure</b>		
<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>
2017/18	\$1,707,898	\$1,736,384
2018/19	\$2,397,944	\$1,878,487
2019/20	\$2,273,443	\$2,323,365
2020/21	\$1,857,260	\$2,303,136
2021/22	\$2,188,998	\$2,276,040

- 2. The number of Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) staff employed for communications and engagement by Financial Year. Please include Actual vs. Budget.**

<b>Comms and Engagement staff (FTE)</b>		
<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>
2017/18	11.84	10.91
2018/19	14.80	11.00
2019/20	18.00	15.00
2020/21	16.25	19.00

2021/22	15.80	16.00
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**3. Total salary costs of communications and engagement by Financial Year. Please include Actual vs. Budget.**

Please note, these costs are also included in the costs provided in question 1.

<b>Comms and Engagement salary cost</b>		
<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>
2017/18	\$1,004,419	\$867,384
2018/19	\$1,417,497	\$1,034,487
2019/20	\$1,848,851	\$1,608,365
2020/21	\$1,597,676	\$1,741,136
2021/22	\$1,573,960	\$1,533,540

**1. How much Panuku has spent on professional services for communications and engagement by Financial Year. Please include Actual vs. Budget.**

Please note, these costs are also included in the costs provided in question 1. Budget figures are not provided as we do not budget at this granular level for communications and engagement.

<b>Professional services expenditure</b>		
<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>
2017/18	\$47,949	
2018/19	\$177,543	
2019/20	\$134,662	
2020/21	\$12,000	
2021/22	\$6,600	

- 4. The number of communications and engagement staff who currently receive salaries over \$100,000.**
- 5. The number of communications and engagement staff who currently receive salaries over \$200,000.**
- 6. A list of all existing communications and engagement roles by job title and reporting line.**

Questions 4-6 have been refused under Section 7(2)(f)(ii) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act to protect Eke Panuku staff from improper pressure or harassment.

We consider that the release of this information would enable more accurate guessing of individual staff salaries, as has occurred in the past. We consider the public interest in salary information is met by our release of the global figures for Eke Panuku, along with information that is publicly available in our annual report concerning all staff earning over \$100,000, which can be found at the following link:

<https://www.panuku.co.nz/downloads/assets/21386/1/eke-panuku-annual-report-2020-2021.pdf>

It is not apparent that there is a public interest in an organisational chart for Eke Panuku and we consider the likely harm of release to outweigh any limited public interest.

The decision by Eke Panuku to release the information contained in this response was made by a senior manager with the delegated authority from the Chief Executive of Eke Panuku.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you have any questions please contact me on 09 301 0101, quoting LGOIMA No. **8140010371**.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'GRACE RAY', with a stylized, cursive-like flourish at the end.

Grace Ray  
Senior Privacy & Official Information Business Partner  
Governance Services