

OIR: 2425/1025

26 July 2024

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Request for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) (the LGOIMA)

Thank you for your email of **15 July 2024** requesting the following information:

1. Do you feel that belonging to LGNZ benefits you and your role in democracy services and dealing with elected members?

As per Local Government New Zealand's (LGNZ) website, LGNZ represents the interests of local authorities in New Zealand and is the membership body for councils across the country. Being a member of LGNZ provides the following benefits to member councils:

- Advocacy on members' behalf to ensure all members are well-connected, supported, and have the skills they need.
- Forums and groups where members can connect, network, share knowledge, and be supported.
- Advocacy for active and inclusive democratic participation which forms the bedrock of a strong democracy.

LGNZ is primarily the advocacy and support body for elected members rather than Council staff and all guides, networks forums are geared towards elected members.

2. If council revoked its membership from LGNZ, would this effect the role of democracy services and make things more difficult?

As part of its membership services, LGNZ provides elected members with training and support to ensure they have the skills needed to discharge their roles. This resource does not exist internally at the Council and would have to be provided at an extra cost to the Council.

Please note that any information provided in response to your request may be published on the Council website, with your personal details removed.

3. Are you able to provide how much it costs council to be a member of LGNZ?

Annual membership costs for the Council to be a member of LGNZ and receive access to the relevant forums and events as well as its online training platform (Ākona), and any webinars and online sessions for the 2023/2024 financial year which was \$61,467.60. This total amount is made up of the following costs:

Annual LGNZ Membership	\$52,142.60
CBEC Membership	\$825.00
Ākona Platform	\$8,500.00

Ngā mihi,



Mark de Haast
Group Manager Corporate Services
Te Kaihautū Ratonga Tōpū