

Sent: Tuesday, 14 June 2016 5:54 p.m.

Subject: OIA consultants costs

I refer to your email of 16 May requesting information on the spend for external consultants by Rotorua Airport Ltd, Grow Rotorua, Destination Rotorua and other council controlled organisations over the past five years.

Attached is a spreadsheet showing the consultant name and the amounts per year for each of Destination Rotorua, Rotorua Airport Ltd and Grow Rotorua. These amounts are for the financial years July to June.

Note: The Destination Rotorua amounts were also included in the total Council consultant costs previously provided to you.

With regard to your request to itemise what these amounts were for, this would take a considerable amount of staff time to research and compile as each of the invoices would need to be recovered from records and a manager who holds knowledge of the activity at the time would need to identify what work each invoice related to. For this reason we have declined this part of your request under section 17(f) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Council controlled organisations

Terax 2013 Ltd - the Chair and CEO of Terax 2013 Ltd have notified Council that the release of information of this nature could be prejudicial to their commercial position and they are not prepared to release this information at this time. They have therefore declined your request under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Official Information Act and section 7(2)(b)(ii) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act *"the withholding of the information is necessary to – (b) protect information where the making available of the information – (ii) would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information."*

Rotorua Contracting Ltd – consultant costs prior to Rotorua Contracting Ltd recently being established (previously Castlecorp and an arm of Council), were included in the total Council consultant costs already provided to you.

Under legislation we are obliged to advise that if you have any concerns with the adequacy of our response you may contact the Ombudsman by writing to:

The Office of the Ombudsman
P O Box 10 152
WELLINGTON 6143

Or alternatively by email to complaint@ombudsmen.parliament.nz

Regards

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