

20 June 2016

File Ref: 09-05-005\12

Doc No: RDC-639396

I refer to your letter of 25 May 2016 in which you request evidence of the transactions by which Rotorua Regional Airport Ltd (RRAL) sought and received payment from the entity which covered the cost of the litigation for RRAL. The Chief Executive has referred your letter to me for reply.

Attached please find:

- Copy of Invoice 16242 from Rotorua Airport to Rotorua Lakes Council (RLC) for reimbursement of legal fees totalling \$542,360.46 (excluding GST).
- Spreadsheet from RRAL showing the transactions for legal expenses July 2009 through to June 2010 (excluding GST). The yellow and pink highlighted rows total the amount of the reimbursement invoice to RLC. The yellow highlighted rows are the eight invoices from Chapman Tripp that relate to your proceedings. The rows without highlighting were not included in the invoice or reimbursed by RLC. The source of all other invoices have been redacted under s2(b)(ii) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act.
- Extract from a Westpac transaction list for the RRAL bank account showing the line where the invoice amount was deposited into the RRAL bank account. All other information has been redacted under s2(b)(ii) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act.

There was one further invoice from Chapman Tripp related to your proceedings dated 30 July 2009 that was paid by RRAL which was not reimbursed by RLC.

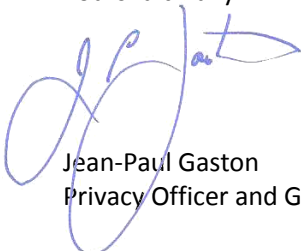
I have included a calculation at the bottom of the spreadsheet showing the total of invoices related to your proceedings that were reimbursed by RLC (A) plus the earlier invoice which was not reimbursed (B), giving a total of \$386,795 (including GST) (C) as referred to in my email to you of 7 September 2015.

We are obliged to advise that you may contact the Ombudsman at the address below if you have any concerns with the response provided by Council, by writing to:

The Office of the Ombudsman
PO Box 10 152
WELLINGTON 6143

Alternatively, you may email to: complaint@ombudsman.parliament.nz

Yours faithfully



Jean-Paul Gaston
Privacy Officer and Group Manager, Strategy and Partnerships