

29 October 2024

File Ref: OIAPR-1274023063-32007

By email: [REDACTED]@taxpayers.org.nz

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Request for information 2024-272

I refer to your request for information dated 21 October 2024, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 21 October 2024. You have requested the following:

“In each of the last 3 years since January 1, 2022 the figures for each of the following:

- *The total overall cost*
- *A breakdown of costs including but not limited to training, yearly fees, branding or any other relevant costs.*
- *Total number of training sessions*
- *Total number of staff training sessions*
- *Any certifications received”*

Greater Wellington’s response follows:

On 22 October 2024 you agreed to clarify/refine your request to include “Total number of staff who have been trained”. As the clarification of your request was done within the statutory seven working day timeframe provided for under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, Greater Wellington restarted the 20 working day timeframe to respond.

Greater Wellington took the Pride Pledge and began using Pride Pledge as a vendor in 2023. This explains why there is no information on any spending earlier than 2023.

We have therefore refused your request for information prior to 2023 under section 17(g) on the basis that that the information requested is not held by the local authority and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that the information is either—

- (i) held by another local authority or a department or Minister of the Crown or organisation; or
- (ii) connected more closely with the functions of another local authority, or a department or Minister of the Crown or organisation.

The total overall cost and breakdown of costs including but not limited to training, yearly fees, branding or any other relevant costs.

The total spend from Greater Wellington to Pride Pledge (South Pacific Pride LTD.) is outlined below, itemised based as per your request, and **attached** in an excel file for your convenience. This includes the two annual subscription fees, six training sessions, and the associated costs with those training sessions, and one fee for cancellation of flights. Please note that all costs are GST exclusive.

The costs invoice received on 23 October 2024 are currently being processed to be paid, but as of writing the payment has not yet been completed. The costs of the training held on 23 October 2024 are included in the table below, and in the attached excel file.

Invoice Date	Category	Description	Amount excluding GST
18/04/2023	Subscription	General Pride Pledge Annual Subscription for a Large Organisation	\$450.00
18/09/2023	Training	Rainbow Training in person 7 Nov 2023.	\$950.00
18/09/2023	Facilitator's travel	Air New Zealand Return Flights	\$239.65
18/09/2023	Facilitator's travel	Taxi and Parking Charges	\$150.00
7/03/2024	Training	Rainbow Awareness Training x 2 Workshops. 10% discount for 2 workshops in same day. 10 April, In Person. Wellington Offices.	\$2,250.00
7/03/2024	Facilitator's travel	Air NZ Return Flights	\$454.43
7/03/2024	Facilitator's travel	Taxi / Travel Charges	\$250.00
21/03/2024	Training	Rainbow Awareness Training. Workshop 1 2024 March 15, In Person	\$1,250.00
21/03/2024	Facilitator's travel	Air NZ Return Flights	\$437.90
21/03/2024	Facilitator's travel	Taxi / Travel Charges	\$250.00
12/04/2024	Subscription	General Pride Pledge Annual Subscription for a Large Organisation (501 - 1000 employees)	\$600.00

16/07/2024	Training	Rainbow Awareness Training. In Person 16 July 2024	\$1,250.00
16/07/2024	Facilitator's travel	Air NZ Return Flights	\$225.74
16/07/2024	Facilitator's travel	Taxi / Travel Charges	\$150.00
23/10/2024	Training	Rainbow Awareness Training. In Person 23 Oct 2024	\$1,250.00
23/10/2024	Facilitator's travel	Air NZ Return Flights	\$249.21
23/10/2024	Facilitator's travel	Taxi / Travel Charges	\$200.00
23/10/2024	Facilitator's Accommodation	Accommodation for one night	\$141.74
23/10/2024	Cancellation fee	Air NZ cancellation fee	\$69.57
		Total	\$10,818.24

Total number of training sessions

Pride Pledge have run six Rainbow Awareness Training sessions for Greater Wellington, three of which have been open to all staff and three which were organised for specific groups.

Total number of staff who have attended training

Because some Pride Pledge Rainbow Awareness Training sessions were organised by specific teams, we don't have an accurate record of who attended training. However, estimates based on RSVP responses suggests that 96 staff members have attended and completed in-person training.

Additional to the in-person trainings, our subscription with Pride Pledge allows us access to a free online version of the Rainbow Awareness training. While we have identified that the in-person training achieves better learning outcomes, some staff still prefer online based training. To date, eight staff have used the online training.

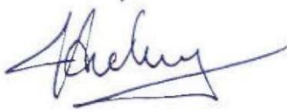
Any certifications received

Pride Pledge Rainbow Awareness Training does not come with a certification, however our subscription to Pride Pledge allows us to promote ourselves as having taken the pledge, and we received a small certificate to display in the office stating that we have taken the pledge.

If you have any concerns with the decision(s) referred to in this letter, you have the right to request an investigation and review by the Ombudsman under section 27(3) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

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 on Greater Wellington's website with your personal information removed.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Donna Hickey
Kaiwhakahaere Matua Whakamāhorahora | Group Manager People and Customer

PROACTIVE RELEASE