

From: [Lisa Balneaves](#) on behalf of [Kumaren Perumal](#)
To:
Subject: LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST - NOTIFICATION OF DECISION
Date: Thursday, 11 January 2024 2:31:00 pm
Attachments:

Dear

RE: Local Government Official Information Request – Notification of Decision - LGOIMA Reference 24-0001.

We refer to your Request for information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (**LGOIMA**) regarding Council debt, regional population and rating units which was received by the Bay of Plenty Regional Council (**Council**) on 8 January 2024 and acknowledged by Council on 8 January 2024 (**Request**).

Council has now made a decision on your Request.

Council has decided to provide the following information:

Question 1: How much debt has the Council had at the end of the last financial year?

Answer: \$216.7 million (Council only).

Question 2: What is the Council's current maximum limit for debt?

Answer: The council's quantified limit is set for borrowing within the following macro limits:

Finance covenant (1)	Limit
Net debt (2) / Total revenue (3)	<295%

1. Financial covenants are measured on Council only, not the consolidated group.
2. Net debt is defined as total debt less liquid financial assets and investments.
3. Total revenue is defined as cash earnings from rates, government grants and subsidies, user charges, interest, dividends, financial and other revenue and excludes non-government capital contributions (eg: vested assets).

Question 3: Does the Council have intentions (for example plans, drafts, resolutions, discussions) to increase the amount of debt in the future?

Answer: Council's Annual Plan 2023/24 has a budgeted increase in borrowings of \$55.3 million to \$272 million.

Question 4: How many people live in the area that the Council manages?

Answer: An estimated 307,000 people live in the Bay of Plenty Region as at June 30th, 2018. Population statistics from the 2023 Census are due to be released by Stats New Zealand in May 2024.

Question 5: From how many rating units does the Council collect rates?

Answer: There are 136,110 rating units within the region as at 30 June 2023.

Please note that you have the right to lodge a complaint with the Ombudsman under section 27(3) of the Act. The Ombudsman's Office can be contacted by calling 0800 802 602, emailing info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or online at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Our LGOIMA responses may be published on the Council website. If we do this, we will not publish the requester's personal or contact details. Please contact us if you have any concerns.

If you contact the Council about this Request, please quote the BOPRC reference number above.

Ngā mihi

Kumaren.

Kumaren Perumal

Chief Financial Officer

Bay of Plenty Regional Council Toi Moana

P: 0800 884 880 **DD:** 0800 884 881

E: Kumaren.Perumal@boprc.govt.nz

W: www.boprc.govt.nz

A: PO Box 364, Whakatāne 3158, New Zealand

Thriving together – mō te taiao, mō ngā tāngata