

14 February 2023

File Ref: OIAP-7-27039

[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Request for information 2023-007

I refer to your request for information dated 16 January 2023, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 16 January 2023. You have requested the following:

"Could I please request the following for 2021 broken down by month, or applicable reporting period.

- *The number of bonuses paid to bus service providers, and the name of the company they were paid to*
- *The number of abatements issued, and the name of the company they were issued to*

For 2021 can I please get the combined total dollar amount of:

- *Bonuses paid to bus companies*
- *Abatements issued to bus companies"*

Greater Wellington's response follows:

As you have requested, please refer to the tables on the following page that outline, for each bus operator, the number of occasions where bus operators have been abated (Table 1) or have received a bonus (incentive payment) (Table 2) under certain provisions of the Bus Partnering Contract, broken down monthly for the period 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021. Most operators hold multiple unit contacts, which is why they can be abated on multiple occasions in a month, for each of their units that did not meet the required performance thresholds. Likewise, a bus operator may be abated for one unit and receive a bonus for another unit in the same month.

Table 1. Count of Abatements Issued to Metlink Bus Operators (Jan – Dec 2021)

<i>Bus Operator</i>	<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Apr</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun</i>	<i>Jul</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>Sep</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>
Tranzurban	0	1	0	0	2	3	5	8	7	8	8	8
NZ Bus (Kinetic)	1	3	2	2	5	1	4	5	5	5	5	5
Mana	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
Uzabus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 2. Count of Bonuses Issued to Metlink Bus Operators (Jan – Dec 2021)

<i>Bus Operator</i>	<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Apr</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun</i>	<i>Jul</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>Sep</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>
Tranzurban	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0
NZ Bus (Kinetic)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mana	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	1
Uzabus	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1

You have requested the total dollar values of abatements issued and bonuses awarded to bus operators in 2021. The total dollar values of the abatements and the bonuses applied to bus operators in 2021 are withheld under section 7(2)(b)(ii) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) on the grounds that releasing the information would be likely to unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

The total dollar values of the abatements and the bonuses applied to bus operators in 2021 are therefore withheld under section 7(2)(b)(ii) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) on the grounds that releasing the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

When withholding information under section 7 of the Act, Greater Wellington acknowledges its requirement to assess the public interest of releasing the information. However, in this case, Greater Wellington does not consider that public interest in the information withheld outweighs our need to withhold the information.

If you have any concerns with the information referred to in this letter, you have the right to request an investigation and review by the Ombudsman under section 27(3) of the Act.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request will be published shortly on Greater Wellington's website with your personal information removed.

Nāku iti noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'sugan', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Samantha Gain
Kaiwhakahaere Matua Waka-ā-atea | General Manager Metlink

PROACTIVE RELEASE