

18 May 2023

File Ref: OIAPR-1274023063-2412

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Request for information 2023-089

I refer to your request for information dated 19 April, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 19 April. You have requested the following:

“Wellington City Council pays a water levy (along with other Councils in the region) to WRC. How much is the levy currently? How is it spent? Is any or all of it paid to Wellington Water by WRC? Does the amount paid to Wellington Water increase if WCC’s levy increases due to higher water volume use in the year?”

Greater Wellington’s response follows:

In the financial year 2022/2023, the water levy totalled \$42 million, of which Wellington City Council (WCC) were responsible for 51 percent, collecting \$21.5 million from WCC rate payers.

This percentage is based on WCC’s consumption compared to the other Wellington Water shareholding councils (Hutt City, Upper Hutt City and Porirua City). WCC consumption is heavily weighted due to its significantly higher population and larger business district, consuming more water than the other Territorial Authorities.

The total distribution of the water levy is as follows:

Territorial Authority	Value	Percentage
Wellington City	\$21.5 million	51%
Lower Hutt	\$11.1 million	26.4%
Upper Hutt	\$4.6 million	10.9%
Porirua City	\$4.9 million	11.8%

All of the levy that is collected from the Territorial Authorities is passed onto Wellington Water Limited.

How the funds are spent

As Wellington Water Limited manage the funds, how the funds are spent can be found in the Wellington Water Limited Annual Report. The Annual Report for Wellington Water Limited can be found on their website:

https://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz/assets/Reports-and-Publications/8048_WW_AnnualReport_Nov22_7-1.pdf

Additional information can be found on pages 38 to 41 of the Greater Wellington 2022/2023 Annual Plan which can be found on our website:

<https://www.gwrc.govt.nz/assets/Documents/2022/07/Greater-Wellington-Annual-Plan-2022-23.pdf>

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 possible. Our response to your request will be published shortly on Greater Wellington's website with your personal information removed.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Sue McLean

Kaiwhakahaere Matua, Ratonga Rangapū | General Manager, Corporate Services