Received by email July 25

Kia ora Peter

I refer to your official information request dated 3 July 2024 for the DCC spend with Allied Press and other local media platforms.

The information requested, together with our response is provided below (in blue).

• How much money has the DCC spent with Allied Press from January 1st 2023 to the present day - broken down by ODT and any other Allied Press titles.

The sum of invoices from Allied Press for the period 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2024 is:

Sum of Amount		
Years	Category	Total
2023	Advertising ODT	471,009
	Subscriptions	8,728
2023 Total		479,737
2024	Advertising ODT	205,567
	Subscriptions	5,239
2024 Total		210,806
Grand Total		690,543

• What was the exact procurement process used to support this expenditure and select the supplier?

We advise that Allied Press is part of the All of Government (AoG) contract for media services. For AoG contracts, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) conducts an open market procurement process via the Government Electronic Tender Services (GETS).

 Has DCC considered the consequences of this expenditure on the ability of these news publications to report fairly and accurately on council policy and decisions - what measures has DCC taken to address mitigate this risk?

The questions you ask requires the DCC to form an opinion and provide an explanation. This is not a request for official information, as it is not a request for information held, as defined in the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1087. We will therefore not be responding to the question you have asked.

• What amount of money has DCC spent with other local media platforms in the same time period?

A list of local media platforms and spend is provided below for the period 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2024:

Expenditure from 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2024

	Expenditure			
		To 30 June	To 30 June	
Supplier	2023	2024	Total	

Total	\$296.344	\$194,747	\$491,092.54
THE HILLS RADIO TRUST T/A OAR	\$4,701	\$4,405	\$9,106.24
OUSA T/A PLANET MEDIA DUNEDIN	\$23,460	\$20,088	\$43,548.00
NZME HOLDINGS LTD	\$128,692	\$85,263	\$213,955.64
MEDIAWORKS RADIO LIMITED	\$120,821	\$80,631	\$201,452.66
MEDIAWORKS OUTDOOR LTD	\$18,670	\$4,360	\$23,030.00

 Has the DCC considered that expenditure on print media may represent poor value to ratepayers given the decreasing physical distribution of local newspapers and the move of audiences to digital media?

The questions you ask requires the DCC to form an opinion and provide an explanation. This is not a request for official information, as it is not a request for information held, as defined in the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1087. We will therefore not be responding to the question you have asked.

 What specific audience and distribution data/business case has been used to support the spending decisions referenced in this request.

We select specific media platforms that target our audience segments and convey our key messages. We also occasionally use community newsletters.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz tena koutou

Lauren Riddle

Mana Whakahaere Kairuruku / Governance Support Officer Governance Group

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