

From: [BDC Lgoima](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Official information request for Bottled Water & Flowers Expenditure Ref: OIA 071/23
Date: Monday, 14 August 2023 8:49:00 pm
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

Dear [REDACTED]

We refer to your official information request dated 30 June for information related to bottled water and flowers expenditure.

We are unable to provide the exact amounts as you have requested as these are not easily identifiable in our ledgers, therefore we are refusing these portions of your request under section (f) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act - *that the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research*"

We have answered your questions as marked below in blue:

Total expenditure on bottled water in 2022:

Please provide the total amount spent on bottled water, including the cost of procurement, delivery and any other associated expense.

- Bottled water was acquired, and distributed to consumers on some council water supplies, during the February 2022 flood event when boil water notices had to be issued due to high turbidity in the water making treatment of the water not possible. To assist consumers, council made available bottled water for drinking, as did other welfare providers. Bottled water costs are not specifically identified in our ledgers and so are not able to be easily identified and reported on.

Total expenditure on flowers in 2022:

Please provide the total amount spent on flowers, including any cost related to procurement, arrangements and maintenance.

- Buller District Council doesn't code to a specific GL code for flowers. Any flowers that the council purchases are mainly for staff related issues eg a bereavement, an illness/accident, or a staff leaving gift.

[These purchases are infrequent and would be limited to an amount under \\$1000.00 in any financial year.](#)

- 2022 ANZAC Day Wreaths \$750.00

Similarly, please provide:

Total expenditure on bottled water from January 2023 up to and including June 2023.

- Bottled water is not a normal purchase made by BDC, however bottled water may occasionally be purchased when the water mains are turned off during council working hours. Again bottled water costs are not specifically identified in our ledgers and so are not able to be easily identified and reported on.

Total expenditure on flowers from January 2023 up to and including June 2023.

- 2023 ANZAC Day Wreaths \$900.00

If possible, I would appreciate a breakdown of the aforementioned expenditures by specific projects, programs, or categories within your department. This breakdown will aid in comprehending the context of these expenses and enable a more comprehensive analysis

As noted above, these costs are not specifically identified in our ledgers and so are not able to be easily identified and reported on.

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 or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact the Buller District Council by return email to lgoima@bdc.govt.nz.

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 at <https://bullerdc.govt.nz/district-council/your-council/request-for-official-information/responses-to-lgoima-requests/> with your personal information removed.

Kind regards

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