

Rebecca Watson

From: official information
Sent: Monday, 25 February 2019 16:32
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: official information
Subject: FW: LGOIMA 19019: HSBC NZ Sevens

Good morning,

Further to your information request of 31 January 2019 in respect of HSBC NZ Sevens, I am now able to provide Hamilton City Council's response.

You requested:

1. *Whether the Council or any Council Controlled Organisation (CCO), supplied tickets to any staff or guests at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens?*
2. *How many staff were supplied tickets to the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens by the Council (or any CCO), and the total cost incurred by supplying the tickets? Please also disclose the number of tickets supplied.*
3. *The names of any Elected Officials (Councillors or otherwise) that were supplied tickets to the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens by the Council or any CCO?*
4. *How many guests were supplied tickets to the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens by the Council (or any CCO), and the total cost incurred by supplying the tickets?*
5. *A list of names of all guests that were supplied tickets to the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens by the Council (or any CCO)?*
6. *A list detailing which organisation or agency each guest represented, including the number of guests from each organisation or agency.*
7. *Copies of any external or internal correspondence (including emails, text messages, meeting notes, or any other correspondence) in relation to the political risk and/or potential media coverage of:*
 - a) *The general practice of supplying tickets to staff, elected officials, or other guests at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens; and*
 - b) *Supplying tickets to any particular staff member, elected official, or guest at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens.*
8. *The reason for supplying tickets to staff, guests, or Elected Officials to the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens. What was the value to ratepayers for supplying the tickets?*
9. *The face value of any tickets supplied to staff, Elected Officials, or other guests.*
10. *The total cost of any catering or refreshments. Please ensure to include any catering/refreshments provided by the Council (or any CCO), and any catering/refreshments expenses that the Council (or any CCO) reimbursed.*

Our response:

1. Whether the Council or any Council Controlled Organisation (CCO), supplied tickets to any staff or guests at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens?

As mentioned in our initial response dated 30 January 2019 as part of the overall event agreement, the event organiser (NZ Rugby) provides a number of tickets for Council's use. In 2019, these were used for promotion of the event and client and council business relationship purposes. This is a standard practice when cities host major events. These are "seat only" tickets and are at no cost to the Council.

The breakdown of how these tickets were allocated is as follows:

- Two Council staff members received a total of five tickets to the event. These tickets were provided as recognition of services to the Major Events and Stadium Venue team in the preparation for the event above and beyond their usual working capacity.
- Seven Elected Members received a total of 14 tickets to the event on either Saturday (2) and Sunday (12).

- 17 external parties were supplied with a total of 81 tickets to the event across both days. They were provided these tickets because they were either a key commercial sponsor, a high-value client or potential new business client or a local school who provided access to their fields for training grounds during the event.
- The remaining tickets (100) were used for promotion of the event by way of specialised marketing campaigns to promote the event, social media competitions and giveaways at the official pre-event city launch party prizes.

2. How many staff were supplied tickets to the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens by the Council (or any CCO), and the total cost incurred by supplying the tickets? Please also disclose the number of tickets supplied.

As answered above, two staff members received a total of five tickets. There was no cost incurred in supplying the tickets as these are provided due to the agreement with NZ Rugby.

3. The names of any Elected Officials (Councillors or otherwise) that were supplied tickets to the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens by the Council or any CCO?

As per our response dated 30 January 2019, the tickets supplied to Elected members were not provided by the Council, but from NZ Rugby. Some of the tickets provided by NZ Rugby were offered to Elected Members, with seven of the Elected Members taking up the offer. These elected members were: Cr Angela O’Leary, Cr Ryan Hamilton, Cr Rob Pascoe, Cr Siggie Henry, Cr Dave Macpherson, Cr Geoff Taylor, Cr Paula Southgate. To reiterate, there was no cost to the Council incurred in supplying the tickets as these are provided due to the agreement with NZ Rugby.

4. How many guests were supplied tickets to the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens by the Council (or any CCO), and the total cost incurred by supplying the tickets?

As above, 17 external parties were supplied tickets to the event. There was no cost incurred in supplying the tickets as these are provided to the Council due to the agreement with NZ Rugby.

5. A list of names of all guests that were supplied tickets to the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens by the Council (or any CCO)?

As per the third bullet point under #1:

External Party	Number of tickets	Reason for ticket provision
Deloitte	8	FMG Stadium Waikato Commercial Sponsor
Mainfreight	8	FMG Stadium Waikato Commercial Sponsor
Porters	10	FMG Stadium Waikato Commercial Sponsor
Core Ed	4	Business relationship with H3 Group
APL	4	Business relationship with H3 Group
Netball NZ	3	Business relationship with H3 Group
Wintec	2	Business relationship with H3 Group
Waikato Dio	4	Business relationship with H3 Group
House of Travel	2	Business relationship with H3 Group
Torpedo 7 Group	2	Business relationship with H3 Group
ATEED	4	Business relationship with H3 Group
Warriors NZ	2	Business relationship with H3 Group
Bidfood	2	Business relationship with H3 Group
WRAL	2	Business relationship with H3 Group
Hamilton Girls’ High School	8	Recognition for use of school fields for training grounds for teams
Fairfield College	8	Recognition for use of school fields for training grounds for teams
St Pauls Collegiate	8	Recognition for use of school fields for training grounds for teams

6. A list detailing which organisation or agency each guest represented, including the number of guests from each organisation or agency.

Answered in #5.

7. Copies of any external or internal correspondence (including emails, text messages, meeting notes, or any other correspondence) in relation to the political risk and/or potential media coverage of:
- The general practice of supplying tickets to staff, elected officials, or other guests at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens; and
 - Supplying tickets to any particular staff member, elected official, or guest at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens.

There has been no correspondence in regard to political risk and/or potential media coverage.

8. The reason for supplying tickets to staff, guests, or Elected Officials to the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens. What was the value to ratepayers for supplying the tickets?

The reasons have been supplied the answers above.

Further to our earlier response dated 30 January 2019, in the instance where the Council's elected members and staff were hosted by NZ Rugby, this provided an ideal opportunity to both experience the event and network with other VIP guest of NZ Rugby who included major event sponsors, NZR Board members, Members of Parliament etc. During the event the Mayor was also required to meet with international guests and media seeking interviews on site. In regards to providing tickets for use in the promotion of the event, this provides value by ensuring an event is successful and contributes to the overall economic benefit to the city by increased visitation and additional financial spend across the city and at hotels, motels and hospitality providers. It also promotes a sense of pride in residents and provides further city liveability benefits.

Providing tickets for parties which H3 Group (Council's Venue business) have commercial relationships with is a justifiable and legitimate business practice and consistent with building relationships where there is clear business purpose (revenue) and within normal bounds.

As there was no cost incurred in supplying the tickets due to the agreement with NZ Rugby, it could be proposed this is of high value to ratepayers.

9. The face value of any tickets supplied to staff, Elected Officials, or other guests.
The tickets were supplied to the Council from NZ Rugby at no charge. We have however worked out a rough estimate of the tickets with a total value of \$14,800.
This is made up of 50 x blue zone double passes, 30 x amber zone double passes and 20 x family zone double passes for the total event.
10. The total cost of any catering or refreshments. Please ensure to include any catering/refreshments provided by the Council (or any CCO), and any catering/refreshments expenses that the Council (or any CCO) reimbursed.
As per our response dated 30 January 2019, the Council did not hold any hosting at the event and therefore there was no hosting expenses of catering or refreshments incurred. The tickets provided as listed in #1 were seat only tickets and catering or refreshments were not supplied by Council.

Kind regards,

Amy Viggers

On behalf of the Privacy Officer

DDI: 07 8386727 | Email: amy.viggers@hcc.govt.nz

This email and any attachments are strictly confidential and may contain privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient please delete the message and notify the sender. You should not read, copy, use, change, alter, disclose or deal in any manner whatsoever with this email or its attachments without written authorisation from the originating sender. Hamilton City Council does not accept any liability whatsoever in connection with this email and any attachments including in connection with computer viruses, data corruption, delay, interruption, unauthorised access or unauthorised amendment. Unless expressly stated to the contrary the content of this email, or any attachment, shall not be considered as creating any binding legal obligation upon Hamilton City Council. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender and may not necessarily reflect the views of Hamilton City Council.

From: official information
Sent: Friday, 1 February 2019 11:45 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: official information <officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: LGOIMA 19019: HSBC NZ Sevens

Good Morning,

I write to acknowledge your information request of 31 January 2019 in respect of HSBC NZ Sevens.

Please be advised that your request has been passed on to the relevant team within Council and you will be informed of the outcome.

The Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 requires that we advise you of our decision on whether the Council will provide the requested information or not “as soon as reasonably practicable”, no later than 20 working days after the day we received your request. We will respond to you no later than 1 March 2019.

Kind regards
Amy Viggers
On behalf of the Privacy Officer
DDI: 07 8386727 | Email: amy.viggers@hcc.govt.nz

<image007.png>

Hamilton City Council | Private Bag 3010 | Hamilton 3240 | www.hamilton.govt.nz

<image008.jpg>[Like us on Facebook](#) <image009.jpg>[Follow us on Twitter](#)

This email and any attachments are strictly confidential and may contain privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient please delete the message and notify the sender. You should not read, copy, use, change, alter, disclose or deal in any manner whatsoever with this email or its attachments without written authorisation from the originating sender. Hamilton City Council does not accept any liability whatsoever in connection with this email and any attachments including in connection with computer viruses, data corruption, delay, interruption, unauthorised access or unauthorised amendment. Unless expressly stated to the contrary the content of this email, or any attachment, shall not be considered as creating any binding legal obligation upon Hamilton City Council. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender and may not necessarily reflect the views of Hamilton City Council.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 31 January 2019 10:07 AM

To: official information <officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz>

Subject: Re: LGOIMA 19013: HSBC NZ Sevens expenses

Good morning,

Thank you for your prompt response yesterday to our request regarding expenses at the HSBC NZ Sevens.

As a follow up to yesterday's email, I would like to request the following information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987:

1. Whether the Council or any Council Controlled Organisation (CCO), supplied tickets to any staff or guests at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens?
2. How many staff were supplied tickets to the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens by the Council (or any CCO), and the total cost incurred by supplying the tickets? Please also disclose the number of tickets supplied.
3. The names of any Elected Officials (Councillors or otherwise) that were supplied tickets to the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens by the Council or any CCO?
4. How many guests were supplied tickets to the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens by the Council (or any CCO), and the total cost incurred by supplying the tickets?
5. A list of names of all guests that were supplied tickets to the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens by the Council (or any CCO)?
6. A list detailing which organisation or agency each guest represented, including the number of guests from each organisation or agency.
7. Copies of any external or internal correspondence (including emails, text messages, meeting notes, or any other correspondence) in relation to the political risk and/or potential media coverage of:
 - a) The general practice of supplying tickets to staff, elected officials, or other guests at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens; and
 - b) Supplying tickets to any particular staff member, elected official, or guest at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens.
8. The reason for supplying tickets to staff, guests, or Elected Officials to the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens. What was the value to ratepayers for supplying the tickets?
9. The face value of any tickets supplied to staff, Elected Officials, or other guests.
10. The total cost of any catering or refreshments. Please ensure to include any catering/refreshments provided by the Council (or any CCO), and any catering/refreshments expenses that the Council (or any CCO) reimbursed.

Please ensure that all figures disclosed are GST inclusive.

Please note these tournaments are broadcast both locally and internationally. As such, our request for names of all guests hosted by the Council (or any CCO) appears at face value to not breach any individual's right to privacy.

We do not wish to cause unnecessary expense or burden on your agency. If clarification of any of our requests is needed, please call or email. Likewise, if a request proves unnecessarily burdensome in form and we are likely to be able to adjust it to be more specific or better suited to your information systems without losing the benefit of what is sought, please also get in touch. If there is likely to be a delay in being able to assemble or provide some of the information requested, please provide the rest of the information as it becomes available.

To avoid unnecessary printing and postage costs, we ask that you send a **confirmation of receipt**, the response and any other correspondence related to this request to [REDACTED]

Please include the following reference in the subject line: **HSBC NZ Sevens expenses**.

Regards,

[REDACTED]
Research Intern | New Zealand Taxpayers' Union | Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance
[REDACTED]

New Zealand Taxpayers' Union Inc. | Main +64 4 282 0300 | Level 4, 117 Lambton Quay, Wellington | PO Box 10518, The Terrace, Wellington | www.taxpayers.org.nz
Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Ltd. | Main +64 9 281 5172 | PO Box 133099, Eastridge, Auckland | www.ratepayers.nz

We are 100% funded by people like you. If you like what we do, join the [Taxpayers' Union](#) or the [Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance](#).

From: official information <officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz>

Date: Wednesday, 30 January 2019 1:08 pm

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: official information <officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz>

Subject: Re: LGOIMA 19013: HSBC NZ Sevens expenses

Good Morning

Further to your information request of 28 January 2019 in respect of HSBC NZ Sevens expenses, I am now able to provide Hamilton City Council's response.

You requested:

1. *Whether the Council or any Council Controlled Organisation, hosted any staff or guests at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens?*
2. *How many staff the Council (or any CCO) hosted at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens, and the total cost incurred by hosting staff?*
3. *The names of any Elected Officials (Councillors or otherwise) hosted by the Council, or any Council Controlled Organisation, at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens?*
4. *How many guests the Council (or any CCO) hosted at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens, and the total cost incurred by hosting guests?*
5. *A list of names of all guests hosted by the Council (or any CCO) at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens.*
6. *A list detailing which organisation or agency each guest represented, including the number of guests from each organisation or agency.*
7. *Copies of any external or internal correspondence (including emails, text messages, meeting notes, or any other correspondence) in relation to the political risk and/or potential media coverage of:*
 1. *The general practice of hosting staff, elected officials, or other guests at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens; and*
 2. *Hosting any particular staff member, elected official, or guest at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens.*
8. *The reason for hosting staff and guests at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens. What was the value to ratepayers for them to host people at the tournament?*

Our response:

1. *Whether the Council or any Council Controlled Organisation, hosted any staff or guests at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens?*

No elected members of Council, staff or guests were hosted by Council or any of its CCOs. Official hosting at the event was arranged by the Event organisers primarily New Zealand Rugby (NZR). As part of the agreement, NZR provided stadium seats only to seven elected members over the course of the event. NZR also hosted the Mayor (and his wife) and three Council General Managers in their hospitality lounge during the event. To reiterate this was hospitality received at no cost to Council.

2. *How many staff the Council (or any CCO) hosted at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens, and the total cost incurred by hosting staff?*

As above, Council did not hold any hosting at this event. Therefore no cost was incurred to Council.

3. *The names of any Elected Officials (Councillors or otherwise) hosted by the Council, or any Council Controlled Organisation, at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens?*

As above, Council did not hold any hosting at this event.

4. *How many guests the Council (or any CCO) hosted at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens, and the total cost incurred by hosting guests?*

As above, no cost was incurred to Council.

5. *A list of names of all guests hosted by the Council (or any CCO) at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens.*

As above, Council did not hold any hosting at this event.

6. *A list detailing which organisation or agency each guest represented, including the number of guests from each organisation or agency.*

As above, Council did not hold any hosting at this event.

7. *Copies of any external or internal correspondence (including emails, text messages, meeting notes, or any other correspondence) in relation to the political risk and/or potential media coverage of:*

1. *The general practice of hosting staff, elected officials, or other guests at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens; and*
2. *Hosting any particular staff member, elected official, or guest at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens.*

There has been no correspondence in regard to political risk and/or potential media coverage of hosting.

8. *The reason for hosting staff and guests at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens. What was the value to ratepayers for them to host people at the tournament?*

Not applicable - there was no cost incurred to Council. In the instance where Council elected members and staff were hosted by NZR, this provided an ideal opportunity to both experience the event and network with other VIP guest of NZR which included major event sponsors, NZR Board members, members of Parliament etc. During the event the Mayor was also required to meet with international guests and media seeking interviews on site.

Kind regards,

Amy Viggers

On behalf of the Privacy Officer

DDI: 07 8386727 | Email: amy.viggers@hcc.govt.nz

<image010.png>

Hamilton City Council | Private Bag 3010 | Hamilton 3240 | www.hamilton.govt.nz

<image011.jpg>[Like us on Facebook](#) <image012.jpg>[Follow us on Twitter](#)

This email and any attachments are strictly confidential and may contain privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient please delete the message and notify the sender. You should not read, copy, use, change, alter, disclose or deal in any manner whatsoever with this email or its attachments without written authorisation from the originating sender. Hamilton City Council does not accept any liability whatsoever in connection with this email and any attachments including in connection with computer viruses, data corruption, delay, interruption, unauthorised access or unauthorised amendment. Unless expressly stated to the contrary the content of this email, or any attachment, shall not be considered as creating any binding legal obligation upon Hamilton City Council. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender and may not necessarily reflect the views of Hamilton City Council.

From: official information
Sent: Tuesday, 29 January 2019 7:45 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: official information <officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: LGOIMA 19013: HSBC NZ Sevens expenses

Good Morning,

I write to acknowledge your information request of 28 January 2019 in respect of HSBC NZ Sevens expenses.

Please be advised that your request has been passed on to the relevant team within Council and you will be informed of the outcome.

The Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 requires that we advise you of our decision on whether the Council will provide the requested information or not “as soon as reasonably practicable”, no later than 20 working days after the day we received your request. We will respond to you no later than 26 February 2019.

Kind regards
Amy Viggers
On behalf of the Privacy Officer
DDI: 07 8386727 | Email: amy.viggers@hcc.govt.nz

<image013.png>

Hamilton City Council | Private Bag 3010 | Hamilton 3240 | www.hamilton.govt.nz

<image014.jpg>[Like us on Facebook](#) <image015.jpg>[Follow us on Twitter](#)

This email and any attachments are strictly confidential and may contain privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient please delete the message and notify the sender. You should not read, copy, use, change, alter, disclose or deal in any manner whatsoever with this email or its attachments without written authorisation from the originating sender. Hamilton City Council does not accept any liability whatsoever in connection with this email and any attachments including in connection with computer viruses, data corruption, delay, interruption, unauthorised access or unauthorised amendment. Unless expressly stated to the contrary the content of this email, or any attachment, shall not be considered as creating any binding legal obligation upon Hamilton City Council. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender and may not necessarily reflect the views of Hamilton City Council.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 28 January 2019 10:38 AM
To: official information <officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz>; info.ew@govt.nz
Subject: LGOIMA Request: HSBC NZ Sevens expenses

Good morning,

This is a request for information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Please interpret any reference to “HSBC NZ Sevens” to cover both the men’s and women’s tournaments.

I request information that answers the following:

9. Whether the Council or any Council Controlled Organisation, hosted any staff or guests at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens?
10. How many staff the Council (or any CCO) hosted at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens, and the total cost incurred by hosting staff?
11. The names of any Elected Officials (Councillors or otherwise) hosted by the Council, or any Council Controlled Organisation, at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens?
12. How many guests the Council (or any CCO) hosted at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens, and the total cost incurred by hosting guests?
13. A list of names of all guests hosted by the Council (or any CCO) at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens.
14. A list detailing which organisation or agency each guest represented, including the number of guests from each organisation or agency.
15. Copies of any external or internal correspondence (including emails, text messages, meeting notes, or any other correspondence) in relation to the political risk and/or potential media coverage of:
 1. The general practice of hosting staff, elected officials, or other guests at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens; and
 2. Hosting any particular staff member, elected official, or guest at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens.
16. The reason for hosting staff and guests at the 2019 HSBC NZ Sevens. What was the value to ratepayers for them to host people at the tournament?

Please ensure that all figures disclosed are GST inclusive.

Please note these tournaments are broadcast both locally and internationally. As such, our request for names of all guests hosted by the Council (or any CCO) appears at face value to not breach any individual’s right to privacy.

We do not wish to cause unnecessary expense or burden on your agency. If clarification of any of our requests is needed, please call or email. Likewise, if a request proves unnecessarily burdensome in form and we are likely to be able to adjust it to be more specific or better suited to your information systems without losing the benefit of what is sought, please also get in touch. If there is likely to be a delay in being able to assemble or provide some of the information requested, please provide the rest of the information as it becomes available.

To avoid unnecessary printing and postage costs, we ask that you send a **confirmation of receipt**, the response and any other correspondence related to this request to [REDACTED]. Please include the following reference in the subject line: **HSBC NZ Sevens expenses**.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Research Intern | New Zealand Taxpayers' Union | Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance

[REDACTED]

New Zealand Taxpayers' Union Inc. | Main +64 4 282 0300 | Level 4, 117 Lambton Quay, Wellington | PO Box 10518, The Terrace, Wellington | www.taxpayers.org.nz
Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Ltd. | Main +64 9 281 5172 | PO Box 133099, Eastridge, Auckland | www.ratepayers.nz

We are 100% funded by people like you. If you like what we do, join the [Taxpayers' Union](#) or the [Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance](#).