

## Rebecca Watson

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**From:** official information  
**Sent:** Thursday, 15 August 2019 13:24  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** official information; Natalie Palmer  
**Subject:** RE: LGOIMA 19209: Mayor's trips to China

Kia ora,

Further to your information request of 22 July 2019 in respect of Mayor's trips to China, I am now able to provide Hamilton City Council's response.

**You requested:**

*All trips taken by the Mayor to China in the past 5 years. Please include where the Mayor travelled to during the trip, officials the Mayor met during the trip, how long the trip was, purpose of the trip and who paid for it. If it was Council funded, how much did it cost?*

**Our response:**

The Mayor's office has provided the following response:

Chengdu annually host a Global Innovation and Entrepreneurship Fair. A part of the Global Innovation and Entrepreneurship Fair is the Sister Cities of Chengdu Innovation Conference. The Sister Cities of Chengdu Innovation Conference includes presentations from a number of global companies.

Mayors or Deputy Mayors from Chengdu's sister cities are invited to the Global Innovation and Entrepreneurship Fair and the Sister Cities of Chengdu Innovation Conference, to share and discuss projects and initiatives that are happening their City. Hamilton is a sister city of Chengdu, and over the past five years, four trips have been taken by Mayors of Hamilton to Chengdu for the sister city conference.

On all occasions, accommodation, meals, airfares and transport cost were covered by the Chengdu Municipal Government. Hamilton City Council paid for travel visas for any Elected Member and staff that travelled. Council did not fund external delegates' visas. Any other costs incurred were covered personally by those who travelled.

Below you will find the overview of the of the four trips taken by the Mayors of Hamilton City in the last five years.

**8 – 13 June 2019**

Mayor Andrew King, Councilor Geoff Taylor and one member of staff attended the sister city conference in Chengdu, China.

The itinerary was as follows:

Sunday 9 June

- 06:00 arrive at Chengdu Airport by flight 3U8910
  - Pick up the delegation at the airport
  - Go to the InterContinental Hotel Century City Chengdu, No.88 Century City Boulevard, Chengdu
- 12:00-13:00 lunch at the hotel (buffet)
- 18.15: Dinner with New Zealand Consul General Stephen Wong and Deputy Consul General Xander Burns, Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor Waikato University Alister Jones and other business people

Monday 10 June

- 08:00 breakfast at the hotel
- 09:00 Leave for Tianfu New Area
- 09:30-10:00 Visit Tianfu New Area Exhibition Hall prior to the celebration ceremony meetin with Vice Mayor Nui Qingbao

- 10:30-12:00 Celebrating ceremony of the Chengdu Hamilton School Project and visited the Chengdu Hamilton school meeting with local area leaders, the school principals and education officials.
- 12:00-14:00 lunch With Mr Luo Qiang Mayor of Chengdu and his Senior governance leaders as well as New Zealand Consul General
- 15:00-16:00 meeting with Sichuan Airlines the General manager, head of international affairs and the Vice President of the board

Tuesday 11 June

- Morning attend the opening ceremony of 2019 Chengdu Global Innovation and Entrepreneurship Fair
- 12:00-13:00 lunch at the hotel (buffet)
- 14:00-18:00 attend the 2019 Innovation Forum for Mayors of International Sister Cities of Chengdu
- 19:00-20:30 attend the welcoming banquet for the Mayors of International Sister Cities of Chengdu

Wednesday 12 June

- All day site visits of the University and the Panda breeding Centre. No meetings
- 23:00 go to Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport

Thursday 13 June

- 01:30 take flight 3U8909 to Auckland

Total visas cost: \$555.00

**16-22 May 2018**

Deputy Mayor Martin Gallagher, Councilor Rob Pascoe attended the sister city conference in Chengdu, China. They also received a tour of Chengdu. The Deputy Mayor visited the site of the future Hamilton-Chengdu kindergarten and primary school.

Meet with New Zealand Consul General and the Vice Mayor of Chengdu

Total visas cost: \$400

**8-13 May 2017**

Mayor Andrew King and Hamilton Chief Council Executive attended the sister city conference in Chengdu, China. They also had a meeting with the Mayor of Chengdu to discuss collaborations opportunities and received a tour of Chengdu.

Total visas cost: \$400

**22-26 June 2016**

Mayor Julie Hardaker, a delegation from the university and other business people from Hamilton attended the sister conference in Chengdu, China. Mayor Hardaker also visited Wuxi, another of Hamilton's sister cities in China.

Wuxi Municipal Government covered the cost of Mayor Julie Hardaker's visit to the city.

If you would like context or background related to this LGOIMA response, or an interview with the subject matter expert, please contact the Communications Unit on 07 838 6699.

Kind regards,

**Amy Viggers**

*On behalf of the Privacy Officer*

DDI: 07 8386727 | Email: [amy.viggers@hcc.govt.nz](mailto:amy.viggers@hcc.govt.nz)



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**From:** official information  
**Sent:** Monday, 22 July 2019 3:15 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** official information <[officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz](mailto:officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: LGOIMA 19209: Mayor's trips to China

Kia ora,

I write to acknowledge your information request of 22 July 2019 in respect of Mayor's trips to China.

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 19 August 2019.

Kind regards,  
**Amy Viggers**  
*On behalf of the Privacy Officer*  
DDI: 07 8386727 | Email: [amy.viggers@hcc.govt.nz](mailto:amy.viggers@hcc.govt.nz)



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-----Original Message-----

**From:** "Information Request - Info" <[Info@waikatoregion.govt.nz](mailto:Info@waikatoregion.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 22 July 2019 1:37 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** "Info" <[INFO@HCC.GOV.T.NZ](mailto:INFO@HCC.GOV.T.NZ)>  
**Subject:** RE: RNZ LGMOIMA request

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request to Waikato Regional Council, as we don't have a Mayor, I have forwarded your email onto Hamilton City Council to see if your request should be for them.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Monday, 22 July 2019 12:17 PM

**Subject:** RNZ LGMOIMA request

Kia ora,

Under the LGOIMA, I would like to request the following information.

All trips taken by the Mayor to China in the past 5 years. Please include where the Mayor travelled to during the trip, officials the Mayor met during the trip, how long the trip was, purpose of the trip and who paid for it.

If it was Council funded, how much did it cost?

Please email the response and acknowledge you've received this request to this email address.

Cheers,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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