

18 September 2026

Radio New Zealand



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Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act request dated 21 August 2026 seeking the following information:

- The total value of rates relief sought for this year.
- The number of deferment requests received this year – and the combined value of all those deferment requests
- A comparison of both figures against the last five years, including the change in value and volume.

If possible, please present the year-on-year comparison in both absolute numbers and percentage terms

The Council administers the rates rebate programme for low income homeowners but does not have a rates deferment policy.

I can advise that for the 2025/26 financial year, the Council received 731 applications for a rates rebate, totaling \$583,483.54.

Information relating to the number of deferment requests received this year – and the combined value of all those deferment requests, and a comparison of both figures against the last five years, is refused under section 17(e) of the LGOIMA, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

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.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Straith".

Lornae Straith
GM Corporate Support / Chief Financial Officer