



14 May 2025

9(2)(a)

Dear 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your letter of 16 April 2025 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

1. *Which council West Coast Regional Council or the Grey District Council received the waste disposal levy return 50/50 to our community from the Ministry for the Environment.*
2. *How much weight/ volume money from each of the following private landfills*
 - a. *Maori Creek Road Disposal Facility*
 - b. *Tasman View Road, Paroa,*
 - c. *Greymouth Taylorville Resource Park (TRP)*
 - d. *West Coast Omoto*
3. *Which council Grey District Council or West Coast Regional Council has received the waste levy return to our community from the disposal of demolition materials from the Grey Hospital.*
4. *Have any of these above been audited.*

I have separated the parts of your question into four responses below.

1. ***Which council West Coast Regional Council or the Grey District Council received the waste disposal levy return 50/50 to our community from the Ministry for the Environment.***

The waste disposal levy (the levy) is paid to Territorial Authorities (TA's) that are either City or District councils across New Zealand. As a regional council, the West Coast Regional Council is not eligible for levy payments. As a TA, the Grey District Council, receives a share of the levy.

2. ***How much weight/volume money from each of the following private landfills***
 - a. ***Māori Creek Road Disposal Facility***
 - b. ***Tasman View Road, Paroa, Greymouth***
 - c. ***Taylorville Resource Park (TRP)***
 - d. ***West Coast Omoto***

The Ministry confirms that the 4 sites outlined above, have registered as disposal facilities with the Ministry and are regulated under the Waste Minimisation Act (WMA).

The Ministry is unable to share commercially sensitive information supplied individually by disposal facilities, including the weight or volume of waste collected, or money collected as part of the waste disposal levy.

Therefore, the specific waste data for each of the requested disposal facilities has been withheld under section 9(2)(ba)(i) of the Act to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority

of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied

However, waste data provided by disposal facilities registered with the Ministry is collected, aggregated and published as general waste data under the Ministry's waste dashboard.

This data is available on our website, here: environment.govt.nz/facts-and-science/waste/waste-statistics/.

3. Which council Grey District Council or West Coast Regional Council has received the waste levy return to our community from the disposal of demolition materials from the Grey Hospital.

The levy charged by levy liable disposal facilities throughout the country, for waste received at their sites, is paid to the government into a centralised fund. From this fund, 50% is paid (disbursed) to all 67 TA's every quarter as outlined above, using census population data.

If any waste from the demolition of Grey Hospital was disposed of into a levy liable facility, the levy would have been paid into the central fund and shared across all 67 TA's. It would not be specifically paid to the Grey District Council.

The levy payments received by TA's have no geographical relationship to the location that the waste was disposed of.

4. Have any of these above been audited.

The Ministry conducts a compliance program that incorporates all 67 TA's, and 183-levy liable waste disposal facilities. This involves inspections and audits of a selection of TA's and waste facility's every year.

The Grey District Council had a compliance audit undertaken in the 2019/20 period by Ministry auditors, and will be audited again, as part of our ongoing compliance program.

In 2024, Māori Creek Road Disposal Facility and Taylorville Resource Park (TRP) had compliance activities undertaken by Ministry auditors.

Tasman View Road Paroa Greymouth, and West Coast Omoto, will also be audited as part of our ongoing compliance program.

In terms of section 9(1) of the Act, I am satisfied that, in the circumstances, the withholding of this information is not outweighed by other considerations that render it desirable to make the information available in the public interest.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on their website at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely,



Shaun Lewis

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Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao