

18 June 2025

File Ref: OIAPR-1274023063-39769

By email: [REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED],

Request for information 2025-188

I refer to your request for information dated 7 June 2025, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 9 June 2025. You have requested the following:

“I'm a Wellington city resident. I was wondering why Wellington residents are paying 22% of the costs for Hutt City's Riverlink project.”

Greater Wellington's response follows:

The Riverlink programme of works aims to improve connectivity, flood resilience and urban liveability in Lower Hutt and Melling on the banks of the Hutt River. The programme has several sources of funding from central government and various councils.

Greater Wellington contributes to the programme using both targeted and general rates. The targeted rates are applied through the River Management Rate, as Greater Wellington's contribution to Riverlink is primarily flood protection. The General Rate collects up to 50% of the remaining balance. Wellington City has a considerably higher number of rateable properties, and higher property valuations, which results in a higher contribution than the other territorial authorities using the General Rate.

The use of these funding methods was determined by Council under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002. They concluded that the benefits of the flood protection work extend beyond the Hutt City area, safeguarding road access to the city and critical public transport links. As a result, all ratepayers in the Wellington Region contribute to the programme of work.

Ratepayers in Lower Hutt City area contribute 58.7 percent of the Greater Wellington funded portion, compared to Wellington City ratepayers who contribute 22 percent. See the following table for portion of funding contributed across the Wellington Region.

<i>Territorial Authority</i>	<i>Percentage of Greater Wellington's portion of Riverlink funding</i>
<i>Wellington City</i>	22%
<i>Hutt City</i>	58.7%
<i>Upper Hutt City</i>	3.6%
<i>Porirua City</i>	4.5%
<i>Kāpiti Coast District</i>	5.7%
<i>Masterton District</i>	2.4%
<i>Carterton District</i>	1.1%
<i>South Wairarapa District</i>	1.9%

** Tararua District also contributes, less than 1%*

If you have any concerns with the decision(s) referred to in this letter, you have the right to request an investigation and review by the Ombudsman under section 27(3) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where appropriate. Our response to your request will be published shortly on Greater Wellington's website with your personal information removed.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Alison Trustrum-Rainey

Kaiwhakahaere Matua, Pūtea me ngā Tūraru | Group Manager, Finance and Risk