

Reference Number: 2024/1097

29 May 2024

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for email of 14 May 2024 requesting under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA), information relating to the concreting of pathways through the rose garden. Please see outlined below a response to your request.

As a concerned ratepayer, given the current financial status of the Council I would appreciate it if you could advise me of the cost of the concreting project.

Council has received Better-Off Funding and is utilising some of this funding to update the interior of the Levin Court House to create space for a café, and a tenant has been identified to lease this site once the work has been completed.

The limestone pathway that was previously through the rose garden was scheduled for renewal. To improve health and safety in accessing the utilities area (gas bottle connections, rubbish and recycling bins), it was decided to replace the limestone with concrete. Having concrete would also stop limestone from being traipsed across flooring within the new cafe.

The new concrete pathway will be more accessible for wheelchairs and prams, making it easier for all visitors to navigate the area, including those visiting the cafe. With the anticipation of higher foot traffic on the paths due to the cafe, concrete provides a durable and low-maintenance solution, reducing the need for frequent repairs and ensuring a safe and pleasant experience for everyone. Although there is an initial cost associated with establishing the concrete paths, there are significant benefits in terms of accessibility, safety, and reduced long-term maintenance costs.

Additionally, a bike rack has been installed to accommodate cyclists, further promoting eco-friendly transportation options and enhancing the overall accessibility and convenience for all visitors

In total, the concrete path was \$41,870.90. This also included the removal and re-installation of the seats, to allow for the path to be laid.

You are entitled to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Horowhenua District Council publishes responses to Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) requests that we consider to be of wider public interest, or which relate to a subject that has been widely requested. To protect your privacy, we will not generally publish personal information about you, or information that identifies you. We will publish the LGOIMA response along with a summary of the request on our website. Requests and responses may be paraphrased.

If you would like to discuss this decision or any of the information provided as part of this request, please contact Brent Harvey (Group Manager Community Experience and Services) on brenth@horowhenua.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi



Nicki Brady
Interim Executive Sponsor