

Reference Number: 2024/1163

29 November 2024

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email dated 7 November 2024 requesting under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA), information relating to catering costs. Specifically, you requested:

**Information on how much is spent on catering within the council per annum compared to say the cost of berm mowing.**

Spending (excl. GST) on catering, planned mowing and edging & weed control for the previous two financial years incurred by the Council are shown in the table below:

	<b>2022/23 Financial year (1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023)</b>	<b>2023/24 Financial year (1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024)</b>
Berm Mowing (include Edging and Weed control)	\$229,067	\$243,949
Catering and food	\$97,676	\$66,035

\* This includes mowing for rural and urban berms, reserves, sportsgrounds, public toilets and halls. It excludes Rural roads maintained under the Roading contract.

As part of setting the 2024-44 Long term plan, Council resolved to remove \$240k budget to stop urban berm mowing (including edging and weed control) for 2024/25 financial year.

Council has now partially reinstated berm mowing. You can read more about it [here](#).

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](http://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 Jacinta Straker (Group Manager Organisation Performance) on [jacintas@horowhenua.govt.nz](mailto:jacintas@horowhenua.govt.nz), or [LGOIMAOfficer@horowhenua.govt.nz](mailto:LGOIMAOfficer@horowhenua.govt.nz).

Ngā mihi



Monique Davidson  
Chief Executive