



29 September 2025

Reg Gray

s7(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Reg,

**Request for Information – Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA) 1987**

We refer to your official information request dated 1 September 2025, seeking information about Council maintenance work undertaken for the Muritai Croquet Club in Eastbourne. Specifically, you requested:

*In recent years HCC has undertaken significant work on behalf of the Muritai Croquet Club. It would be appreciated if you could please advise the following:*

- 1. What year did HCC agree to maintain the greens and surrounding areas on behalf of the Muritai Croquet Club in Eastbourne?*
- 2. Who within HCC approved this work to be undertaken and did it have Council approval?*
- 3. What has been the annual costs (each year since this decision was made) in undertaking this work on behalf of a private club including, developing an access way, costs of staff, machinery, materials etc?*
- 4. Apart from major sports whose grounds are open to the public (Football Rugby, Netball, Cricket etc) how many private closed to the public clubs does the Council maintain greens for e.g. Tennis, Bowls etc?*



**Answer:**

Before responding to your request, we wish to clarify that Council does not hold a consolidated record of maintenance costs for the Muritai Croquet Club. To assist with your enquiry, staff manually reviewed individual contractor invoices and compiled the available information into a summary format. This was done specifically for the purpose of responding to your request and should not be interpreted as a dataset Council holds or routinely produces.

Council records show that maintenance of the Muritai Croquet Club lawn began in 2021. This is based on payments made to our sportsground’s contractor, which indicate regular maintenance activity from that year.

In relation to the approval process, we have not been able to locate any documentation confirming who within Council authorised this arrangement or whether it was formally approved through Council decision-making processes. As such, we are refusing this part of your request under section 17(g) of the LGOIMA, as the information requested is not held by Council.

The annual costs for maintaining the greens and surrounding areas since 2021 are set out below (excluding GST):

<b>Year</b>	<b>Cost (Excluding GST)</b>
2021	\$2,258.21
2022	\$9,333.22
2023	\$11,117.11
2024	\$9,525.46
2025 (to date)	\$8,881.31
Access way establishment	\$1,656.59

These figures reflect payments to Council’s sportsgrounds contractor for lawn care, garden maintenance, and seasonal treatments such as fertiliser application, weed control, and soil conditioning. Staff time is not included, as internal hours are not tracked in a way that allows for detailed reporting. The costs provided are based on available records and may not represent the full extent of expenditure.

Council also maintains the lawns for three other croquet clubs in Lower Hutt. Each of these clubs operates under a ground lease on Council-owned land and contributes to the cost of maintenance. While the land is public, the facilities are managed by the clubs and primarily used by their members. These arrangements are specific to croquet clubs; other private clubs, including tennis and bowls, are responsible for maintaining their own facilities.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at: [Office of the Ombudsman - Complaints](#), or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response to your information request may be published on Hutt City Council's website: [Proactive releases - Hutt City Council](#).

Ngā mihi nui



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