

9 February 2022

Farah Hancock

By email: [REDACTED]

Tēnā koe Farah,

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

We refer to your official information request dated 30 December 2021 in relation to CCTV cameras that are used for surveillance of public spaces.

For ease of reference, we have provided our responses beneath each of your questions.

**How much has been spent on the installation of CCTV cameras in the past five years, broken down by year?**

Hutt City Council’s five-year expenditure on new CCTV cameras is tabulated below. The Council does not generally distinguish Capital purchases less than \$2,500, so the total spend provided does not always include amounts less than that threshold.

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Lower Hutt city and community cameras – 45 cameras Cost (\$ excl GST)</b>	<b>CCTV associated with Hutt City Council facilities – 148 cameras Cost (\$ excl GST)</b>
2020-2021	27,300	1,204
2019-2020	36,428	4,763
2018-2019	24,228	1,116
2017-2018	49,550	9,700
2016-2017	64,851	0

**What is the cost to run CCTV cameras over a 12 month period? Please specify the dates of the period in your response. If the cost relates to indoor and outdoor cameras please specify the number of indoor versus outdoor cameras.**

Hutt City Council budgets \$153,000 for maintenance costs of Lower Hutt’s city and community and facilities cameras. This cost does not include the cost for electricity, as this is difficult to extract from the Council’s other electricity costs.

This covers the 193 cameras around the city and community.

Please note that Hutt City Council has two CCTV cameras in remote reserve land. Information about these two cameras has been considered to be out of scope of your request, so are not included in the above response.

**Were any outdoor cameras vandalised in 2021? If so, please list how many times this happened.**

No outdoor cameras were vandalised in 2021, however one community camera was stolen in 2021. It was subsequently replaced.

**If outdoor cameras were installed for crime prevention, security, or public safety, can you please include any the number of reported crimes in the year prior to camera installation, and the number of reported crimes in 2021. For ease of response, this can relate to an area rather than the viewport of specific cameras e.g. CBD.**

Hutt City Council does not hold statistics on the number of reported crimes in the Lower Hutt region. Your request for this information is therefore refused under section 17(e) of the LGOIMA, on the grounds that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

Lower Hutt Police may hold this information, so you may direct your query to them.

**Can you please list the number of times camera footage was used in solving a crime in 2021?**

Hutt City Council received 131 requests for CCTV footage from the Lower Hutt Police in 2021. Of these, 111 downloads were successful in showing the information requested.

**Does your organisation regularly review whether CCTV cameras are performing their objective? If so, please provide the results of the most recent review.**

Hutt City Council's Asset Team informally reviews its camera locations annually with the site managers and with our security camera provider. This review also covers any need for new cameras based on operational requirements and incidents. Regular maintenance checks consider camera clarity and image quality.

The location of Lower Hutt's city and community cameras is also regularly reviewed.

**Does your organisation have any policy regarding CCTV in place, which covers any of the following - If so, please provide a copy, or link to it:**

- a. Objectives of cameras**
- b. Data protection**
- c. Sharing of footage**
- d. Vetting of volunteers viewing footage**

This information is available from the Hutt City Council's website [here](#).

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 [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this letter may be published on the Council's website.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sales', written in a cursive style.

Susan Sales

**Senior Advisor, Official Information and Privacy**

**Hutt City Council**