

22 August 2025

Pijush Das

s7(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Pijush,

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

We refer to your official information request dated 27 July 2025, in which you requested information relating to Council revenue, rates, and expenditure on various services and projects.

On 4 August 2025, Council wrote to you to clarify part of your request. On 6 August 2025 you advised that you require information for the last 10 years, for questions 6 and 10.

Council is currently consulting with Wellington Water Limited in relation to questions 12 and 13 of your request. These consultations are necessary to determine whether the information held by Wellington Water can be provided in response to your request. As this process cannot reasonably be completed within the original timeframe, Council is extending the time limit for responding to these parts of your request under section 14(1)(b) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. We will provide a response to questions 12 and 13 as soon as possible and no later than 10 September 2025.

We have addressed each of your questions below.

1. The total annual rate collection in Lower Hutt for each of the past six years.

Answer: This information is publicly available in Council's Annual Reports, which can be accessed at: [Annual Reports | Hutt City Council](#).

Accordingly, we are refusing this part of your request under section 17(d) of the LGOIMA, as the information is publicly available.

2. There are now more houses in the city compared to 10 years ago, which should generate more revenue. Could you please explain why rates are proposed to increase by 12.6% despite this increased revenue base?

Answer: While there is growth and more houses contributing to the rates base, this also results in increased demand for services such as rubbish and recycling collection, road maintenance, water supply, wastewater and stormwater systems, and community services including libraries, pools, and parks.

The 12.6% increase reflects rising costs such as inflation, interest, and infrastructure maintenance. Further information is available in Council's [Annual Plan](#) and associated [FAQ document](#). This part of your request is refused under section 17(d) of the LGOIMA, as the information is publicly available.

3. Annual revenue collected by council from ground fees charged to sports clubs.

Answer: The total revenue collected from various user groups of Council sportsgrounds during the 2023–24 financial year was \$291,829.53 (GST exclusive).

This includes income from regional sporting organisations, community groups, event organisers, and others, as well as charges for associated facilities such as toilets, changing rooms, and long rooms.

Council does not hold a separate breakdown of revenue specifically collected from sporting clubs or solely derived from sportsground bookings. Accordingly, we are refusing part of this request under section 17(g) of the LGOIMA, as the information is not held by the Council.

4. Annual total amount collected from parking fees and fines - with a breakdown between parking fees and fines.

Answer: Parking infringement revenue for the 2024/25 financial year was \$3,669,170.46. Information regarding paid parking revenue will be published in the 2024/25 Annual Report once it has been finalised later this year. In the interim, paid parking revenue for the 2023/24 financial year is available on Councils website, in the 2023/24 [Annual Report](#).

5. The current monthly cost to ratepayers/households for rubbish collection.

Answer: Information about rubbish and recycling costs is available on Council's website at: [Rubbish, recycling and garden waste bins | Hutt City Council](#). Each household has one rubbish bin (with varying sizes), a recycling bin, and may optionally have a green waste bin.

Therefore, this part of your request is refused under section 17(d) of the LGOIMA, as the information is publicly available.

6. Total amount the council has spent to date on cycleways in the Hutt.

Answer: Council has undertaken several projects over the last 10 years to deliver shared pathways, for use by pedestrians and cyclists. The total cost for these projects for the 10 years to June 2025 is \$43.97M, net of central government funding.

If you would like further information on this, you may wish to review Councils current and previous Annual Plans/Long Term Plans. You can find this information at: [Annual Plans and Long Term Plans | Hutt City Council](#).

7. The ongoing annual maintenance cost of the Naenae Pool.

Answer: The forecast annual maintenance cost for Te Ngaengae Pool and Fitness Centre is \$211,479.00 (GST exclusive).

8. The total cost of establishing the temporary park on Daly Street and the rationale for creating it given its temporary nature.

Answer: The total cost of the project was \$295,000.00 (GST exclusive), which was within the allocated budget of \$300,000.00.

The purpose of the temporary activation is to draw people to the city centre and improve the amenity for local residents and visitors ahead of the RiverLink project. Further information is available at: [Te Tōpūnga Hapori i Daly Street | Hutt City Council](#).

9. The amount spent on replacing the LED lights in Eastbourne from 4000K to 3000K, along with the reason for this change.

Answer: The total cost for the lighting upgrade on Marine Drive and Marine Parade North was \$47,500.00 for new fittings, and \$37,400.00 for installation (Both GST exclusive).

The change to 3000K LED luminaires (from the standard 4000K) was made to meet resource consent conditions for the Tupua Horo Nuku project.

The upgrade is part of Council's broader streetlight replacement programme, which aims to reduce electricity consumption, lower maintenance costs, and improve lighting quality.

10. The cost of installing and subsequently removing the cycleways on Knights Road.

Answer: The cost for planning, design, and consultation was \$463,296.60 (GST exclusive). The painted cycle lane markings were sealed over as part of Council's planned chipseal resurfacing programme.

No additional cost was incurred specifically for the removal of the cycle lanes, and no separate record is held for this. Accordingly, we are refusing the part of your request relating to the cost of removal under section 17(g) of the LGOIMA, as the information is not held by the Council.

11. Details of the procurement process and current rates paid to various contracted service providers (e.g., plumbers, electricians, etc.).

Answer: Council's procurement activities are governed by a range of internal processes that align with the Hutt City Council Procurement Policy. These processes cover all stages of procurement, including planning, tendering, evaluation, negotiation, contract award, and contract management.

A copy of the Procurement Policy is publicly available and can be accessed here: [Procurement Policy](#). Accordingly, we are refusing this part of your request under section 17(d) of the LGOIMA, as the information is publicly available.

Council does not maintain a panel of contractors with standard or agreed rates. Rates are specific to each contract and are determined through competitive tender processes. As such, there is no central record of "current rates" paid to contractors. This part of your request is refused under section 17(e) of the LGOIMA, as the information is not held in the form requested and no document containing it exists.

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: [How to make a complaint | Ombudsman New Zealand](#), or freephone 0800 802 602.

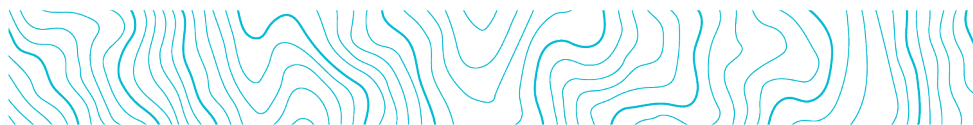
Please note that this response to your information request may be published on Hutt City Council's website: [Proactive releases | Hutt City Council](#).

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebekah'.

Rebekah van der Splinter

Senior Advisor, Official Information and Privacy



8 September 2025

Pijush Das

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

We refer to your official information request dated 27 July 2025, in which you requested information relating to Council revenue, rates, and expenditure on various services and projects.

On 22 August 2025, Council provided a partial response to your request, addressing questions 1–11. At that time, we extended the timeframe for responding to questions 12 and 13 under section 14(1)(b) of the LGOIMA, due to the need to consult with Wellington Water Limited (WWL).

Questions 12 and 13 asked for:

- 12. Number of water pipes replaced over the last three years and the total cost involved.*
- 13. An estimate of how many pipes urgently need replacement in the near term.*

Following consultation, WWL provided data on water, wastewater, and stormwater pipes installed between 1 July 2022 and 30 June 2025. This data includes new pipes funded through Council's capital works programme (CAPEX), but does not include private assets, works completed under the Hutt Valley Joint Venture, or pipes installed through subdivisions.

According to WWL, while all CAPEX-funded works are captured, some renewals funded through operational budgets (OPEX) may not appear in the records. They also noted that some recently completed projects have not yet had their final plans entered into the system, and in a few cases project data has not been supplied.

It is also important to note that the figures reflect pipes installed, which may include both new assets and replacements of existing ones. However, the system does not distinguish between new and replacement pipes in a way that allows us to report specifically on replacements.

WWL reported that between 1 July 2022 and 30 June 2025, a total of 1,938 pipes were installed across the drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater networks. This equates to just over 27 kilometres of pipe. The table below shows how this total is distributed across the three waters networks:

Network Type	Number of Pipes	Length of Pipes (KM)
Drinking Water	1680	17.82
Wastewater	235	8.65
Stormwater	23	0.57
Total	1938	27.04

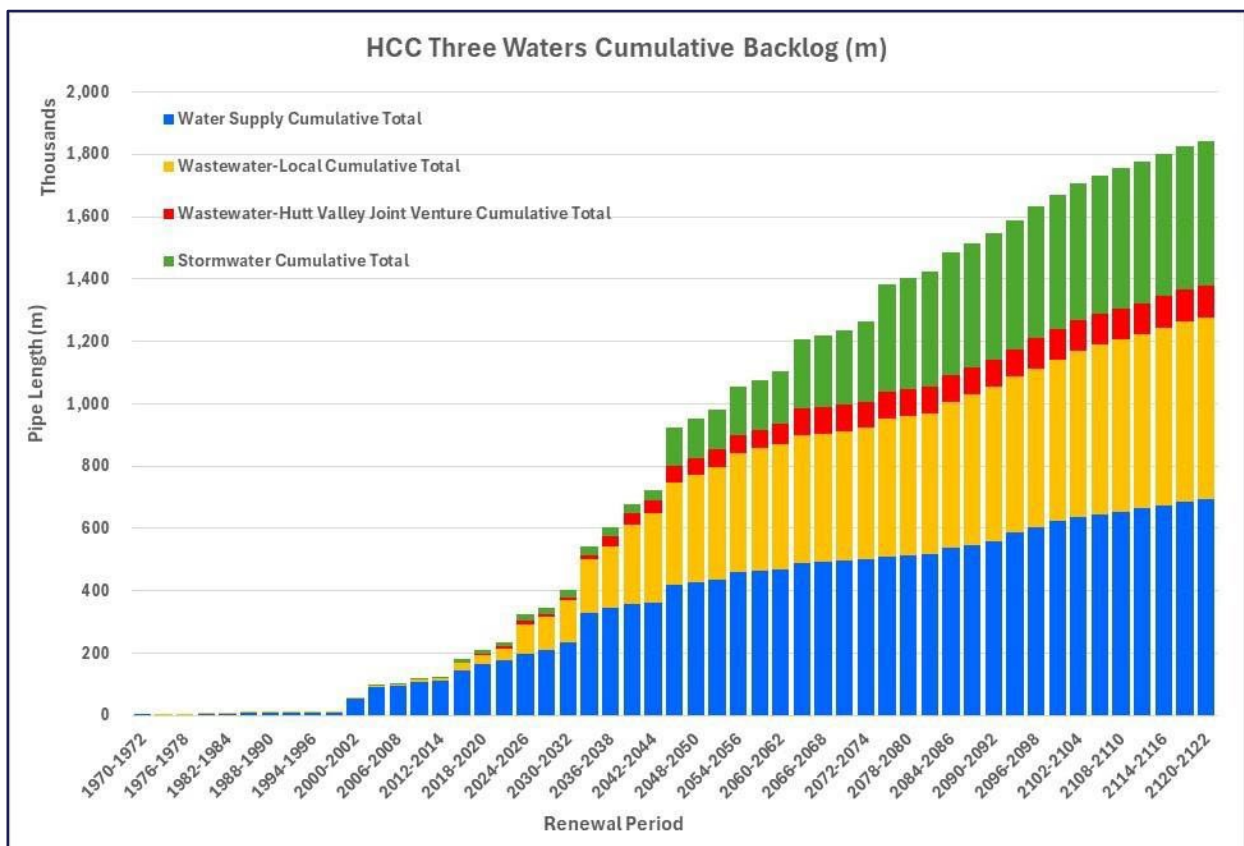
WWL’s capital delivery programme records provide further detail on planned projects completed during the same period. The table below shows the metres of pipe renewed or laid and the associated costs, broken down by financial year:

Financial Year	Metres of Pipe Renewed/Laid	Cost (\$000)
2022-23	14,531	49,720
2023-24	15,280	47,627
2024-25	9,355	27,803
Total	39,166	125,150

These figures cover planned capital works, but do not capture all reactive renewals undertaken in response to leaks, breaks, or failures. While costs are available for planned capital projects, WWL has explained that total costs across

the network cannot be fully reported because reactive renewals funded through operational budgets are not consistently recorded.

Regarding question 13, WWL also prepared a renewal profile to support Council’s Long-Term Plan 2024. This profile shows that as at 30 June 2024, there was a backlog of approximately 233,500 metres of pipes across the three waters networks that had exceeded their expected economic lives. A further 89,700 metres are forecast to reach the end of their lives between 2024 and 2026. This amounts to a cumulative total of around 323,300 metres of pipes considered to be at or beyond their service lives in the near term. The graph below illustrates this cumulative backlog:



WWL explained that the definition of “urgently needing replacement” involves some subjectivity. While ratepayers may reasonably expect that all pipes past their expected lives should be renewed to ensure reliability, they apply a prioritisation framework.

This framework considers the condition of the pipe, the criticality of its function within the network, and the confidence in the available data. These factors are used to guide renewal programmes and to direct available budgets to areas of greatest need.

They further highlighted that as-built data from several recent projects is still being processed, and some project information has not yet been supplied. Projects currently awaiting entry into the asset management system include Regional Pressure Management (Wellington Road and Wise Street; Main Road and Hine Road), Wainuiomata and Stokes Valley GI Ridemain Renewals, HCC Watermain Renewals (Rata and Sunville DMA Rezoning), Kamahi Street Pressure Control Valve Installation, Wainui Road Bridge Watermain Renewal, and Western Hills Main Sewer Urgent Works. The Barber Grove to Seaview Wastewater Treatment Plant Duplication project is also excluded, as it was delivered under the Hutt Valley Joint Venture.

Further detail, including WWL's full renewal profile table and accompanying graph, is attached below for reference.

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: [How to make a complaint | Ombudsman New Zealand](#), or freephone 0800 802 602.

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Ngā mihi nui



Rebekah van der Splinter

Senior Advisor, Official Information and Privacy

Table 3: Pipe Renewal Profile Advice to HCC LTP 2024

Renewal Period	Water Supply (m)	Wastewater - Local (m)	Wastewater - Hutt Valley Joint Venture (m)	Stormwater (m)	Total for Three Waters (m)	Three Waters Backlog (m)
Backlog as at: 2023/24	175,506	39,752	6,872	11,391	233,521	233,521
2024 - 2026	24,121	54,585	1,747	9,308	89,762	323,283
2027 - 2029	8,939	14,658	14	452	24,063	347,346
2030 - 2032	25,875	25,958	1,952	91	53,876	401,222
2033 - 2035	96,343	36,685	1,520	4,832	139,381	540,603
2036 - 2038	15,421	25,225	20,958	795	62,398	603,001
2039 - 2041	13,653	56,457	3,167	1,882	75,159	678,160
2042 - 2044	2,683	32,542	6,196	2,921	44,342	722,502
2045 - 2047	56,770	44,298	7,253	92,157	200,477	922,979
2048 - 2050	7,277	16,113	3,622	1,878	28,890	951,869
2051 - 2053	10,845	12,774	3,123	3,554	30,296	982,164

Renewal Period	Water Supply (m)	Wastewater - Local (m)	Wastewater - Hutt Valley Joint Venture (m)	Stormwater (m)	Total for Three Waters (m)	Three Waters Backlog (m)
From: 2054	255,912	224,989	44,487	334,297	859,684	1,841,849
Grand Total	693,345	584,036	100,911	463,556	1,841,849	-

Graph 2: HCC Three Waters Renewal Profile (m)

