



19 November 2025

Reg Gary

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 27 October 2025, seeking clarification on Council's lease and maintenance arrangements for Croquet clubs in Lower Hutt. Specifically, you requested:

- 1. I note your response states that the Council maintains the lawns for an additional three croquet clubs in Lower Hutt as each of the clubs operates under a ground lease on Council- owned land however my understanding is the Muritai club has no such agreement with Council with the land being leased by the local ESSC (Eastbourne Sports and Services Club) and as such the rules stated should not apply?*
- 2. What percentage of costs do Croquet clubs contribute to the costs of maintenance as stated in your response?*
- 3. In what year did Council make the decision to have one rule for leased land specific for Croquet clubs versus other sports who are responsible for maintaining their own facilities?*

**Answer:**

Before responding to your request, please note that while LGOIMA allows requests for official information, it does not require Council to create new information, compile information it does not hold, respond to hypothetical questions, or provide opinions.

The Muritai Croquet Club is located on land owned by Hutt City Council and holds an active land lease with Council through a combined lease arrangement with the Eastbourne Sports and Services Club Incorporated.

All four croquet clubs pay Council annual maintenance charges. These charges vary by club and are based on the size of their lawns. Council holds information on the charges paid by each club; however, we do not hold information showing what proportion these contributions represent compared to Council's overall maintenance costs. Producing this would require compiling and analysing existing data into a new format, which as noted above, the LGOIMA does not require us to do. As such, this part of your request is refused under section 17(e) of LGOIMA, as the information is not held in the form you have requested.

Council does not apply rules that prioritise one sporting code (a specific sport, such as croquet, rugby, or football) over another. Any organisation or individual can approach Council for assistance with a range of challenges as part of the democratic process, and such requests are generally considered through the annual and long-term planning processes. Council does not hold specific information on when a decision may have been made to support croquet clubs with maintenance costs. This part of your request is therefore refused under section 17(e) of LGOIMA, as the information is not held.

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



Rebekah van der Splinter

**Senior Advisor, Official Information and Privacy**