



27 February 2025

Benn Bathgate

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Dear Benn

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

We refer to your official information request dated 17 February 2025:

*“...To provide some background, it will soon be a year since a man called Jonathan Hall was jailed for building consent sign-off frauds:  
<https://www.stuff.co.nz/nz-news/350274744/jail-engineer-forger-behind-largest-scale-fraud-professional>*

*We're aware his offending spanned councils up and down the country, and we thought enough time had passed since the frauds were detected to enable the various authorities to have a pretty good handle on how much it cost to rectify.*

*So to that end I wanted to ask, under the LGOIMA:*

- 1. Can you tell me how much Hutt City Council has had to spend to rectify issues from Hall's offending?*
- 2. Can you tell me how many Building Consents were affected by Hall's offending?”*

**Answer:**

1. Hutt City Council has not recorded the specific costs associated with the work undertaken to assess the possible impacts of Jonathan Hall's offending.

2. From the previous work undertaken, Hutt City Council determined that Hutt City was not directly impacted by Jonathan Hall's offending.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. 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 response to your information request may be published on Hutt City Council's website. Please refer to the following link:  
[www.huttcity.govt.nz/council/contactus/make-an-official-information-act-request/proactive-releases](http://www.huttcity.govt.nz/council/contactus/make-an-official-information-act-request/proactive-releases)

Yours sincerely

Lakna Siriwardena

Legal Operations Advisor