



11 May 2026

Toni McDonald

s7(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Toni,

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

We refer to your official information request dated 10 April 2026, seeking information about Hutt City Council's use of a mobile Licence Plate Recognition (LPR) vehicle.

Our responses to your questions are set out below.

1. *information on the known set-up costs associated with Council's LPR system, including hardware and vehicle purchase*

**ANSWER:** Capital expenditure costs directly attributable to the Licence Plate Recognition (LPR) system were limited, with initial system setup expenses being less than \$8,000 in total. The vehicle used to operate the LPR system was sourced from the existing Parking Services fleet and was not acquired specifically for LPR purposes, meaning no additional capital outlay was required for a dedicated vehicle.

2. *details of any ongoing operational costs*

**ANSWER:** The LPR system operates on a subscription-based model, with a fixed monthly fee of less than \$3,000. This fixed cost varies depending on factors such as the number of cameras deployed and their specification or quality. In addition to the base subscription, a processing fee of \$1.50 is incurred for each infringement issued through the system.

Taking both components into account, total monthly operating costs typically fall within the range of approximately \$5,000 to \$6,000 (excluding GST), with the overall figure fluctuating in line with system usage and the volume of infringements processed.

3. *the advantages and disadvantages of using an LPR vehicle*

**ANSWER:** Council does not hold information that sets out the specific advantages and disadvantages of the LPR system. While general information about the use of LPR technology was considered during Council's decision-making process, this was not consolidated into a specific document or assessment comparing advantages and disadvantages. Responding to this question would therefore require Council to create new information or provide evaluative commentary, which it is not required to do under the Act. As such, this part of your request is refused under section 17(g) of the LGOIMA as the information requested is not held by Council.

4. *how long Hutt City Council has been operating an LPR system*

**ANSWER:** Council's LPR system became operational in February 2025, following a trial period of approximately six months.

5. *whether there has been any increase in revenue from parking infringements since its introduction*

**ANSWER:** Council does not separately report revenue attributable specifically to the introduction of the LPR system. However, parking related revenue is reported through Council's Annual Reports, which are publicly available on Council's website at: [Annual Reports | Hutt City Council](#).

6. *whether the LPR system is considered more effective than on-street manual enforcement*

**ANSWER:** The Aero Ranger system forms one of several tools Council uses to support parking compliance across the city. While the technology enables parking staff to cover a wider area more efficiently and identify instances of non-compliance that may previously have gone undetected, it operates alongside, rather than in place of, on-street wardens.

On-street wardens continue to play a key role in the overall compliance approach. They are able to engage directly with the community, respond to enquiries, and provide guidance and compliance advice in real time. Wardens also exercise judgement in situations where discretion or an educational response is more appropriate, and contribute to broader customer service outcomes by helping to build awareness and understanding of parking rules at a local level.

7. *whether Council would recommend the use of an LPR system to other regions*

**ANSWER:** Council recognises that Aero Ranger is one of several options available to local authorities looking to modernise parking compliance monitoring. That said, there is no single solution that suits every region. Other councils will need to consider their own parking environments, community expectations, service levels, and the level of investment that is appropriate for their circumstances. There are different technology options available on the market, each with varying costs, capabilities, and operational implications. Decisions regarding selecting a service provider are best made by individual organisations based on their local needs, priorities, and resources.

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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