

From: [Official Information](#)
To: [REDACTED]@stuff.co.nz
Cc: [Official Information](#)
Subject: Final response - LGOIMA 475907 - [REDACTED] - Graffiti at Hamilton Gardens entrance
Date: Tuesday, 13 May 2025 9:12:43 am
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image003.jpg](#)
[image004.jpg](#)

Kia ora,

We refer to your information request below. Hamilton City Council provides the following response.

Your request:

Yes that's assuming all graffiti removal goes through tag busters? I'm wanting to get an idea of how much it costs total to remove graffiti each year- so any costs that come outside of tag busters if significant would be good too. Is there a budget for tag removal? Or does the money have to be redirected to cover costs?

Also could I please have the case number for the job raised with the police? Usually they ask us for a case number in order to provide an update of an incident.

Our response:

Tag Busters is a service Hamilton City Council offers to remove and reduce graffiti and tagging from public and private property.

The total annual cost to run this service is approximately \$450,000. This figure includes staff, plant, fleet and materials. Tag Busters is a funded activity so work and costs are not recovered from other Council departments or those that receive the service.

2024 FY	2025 (year to date)
\$ 452,879	\$ 307,550

There is also income from service level agreements to external organisations. This equates to approximately \$30,000 per annum.

The non-emergency 105 online reporting property damage reference number is **OR-1956826N** (submitted 25 April 2025).

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 or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngaa mihi

Keeley Faulkner

Official Information Advisor & Legal Support Officer

Legal services

Governance & Assurance Team | Partnerships, communication & Maaori

Email: officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz



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I support flexibility at work. While it suits me to send this email now, I don't expect a response outside of your own working hours.

From: [REDACTED] [@stuff.co.nz](mailto:[REDACTED]@stuff.co.nz)>

Sent: Monday, April 28, 2025 9:54 AM

To: [REDACTED] [hcc.govt.nz](mailto:[REDACTED]@hcc.govt.nz)>

Subject: Re: Graffiti at Hamilton Gardens entrance

Hi [REDACTED],

Yes that's assuming all graffiti removal goes through tag busters? I'm wanting to get an idea of how much it costs total to remove graffiti each year- so any costs that come outside of tag busters if significant would be good too. Is there a budget for tag removal? Or does the money have to be redirected to cover costs?

Also could I please have the case number for the job raised with the police? Usually they ask us for a case number in order to provide an update of an incident.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

On Mon, 28 Apr 2025 at 09:36, [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@hcc.govt.nz> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED]

The graffiti numbers you're asking for, are they for graffiti removal right across the city by Tagbusters?

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: Lauradanna Radesic <Lauradanna.Radesic@hcc.govt.nz>

Sent: Monday, April 28, 2025 9:28:04 AM

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@stuff.co.nz>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@hcc.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: Graffiti at Hamilton Gardens entrance

Moorena [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email.

Nicola (cc'd in) will be able to help with this request.

Ngaa mihi

Lauradanna

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@stuff.co.nz>

Sent: Monday, 28 April 2025 9:06 am

To: Lauradanna Radesic <Lauradanna.Radesic@hcc.govt.nz>

Subject: Graffiti at Hamilton Gardens entrance

Hi Lauradanna,

I'm doing a follow-up story about the graffiti on the Nga Uri o Hinetuparimaunga

sculpture at the entrance to Hamilton Gardens and would like to put the following questions to council for a response by midday today please.

-When was it removed

-Who removed it

-How did they remove it?

-How long did it take to remove?

-How much did it cost to remove/how was it funded?

-What is being done to find the person who did it?

Also, if possible I would like to know how much is spent on graffiti removal annually by HCC, with costs from 2023, 2024, and so far in 2025 if possible.

Thank you,

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[REDACTED]

Reporter

[REDACTED]

71 London Street,

Hamilton 3204

Hamilton



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Madeleine Powers

Reporter

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Hamilton



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