

**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](#)

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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](http://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](mailto:officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz)



**Hamilton City Council | Private Bag 3010 | Hamilton 3240 | [www.hamilton.govt.nz](http://www.hamilton.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.*

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**From:** [REDACTED] [@stuff.co.nz](#)

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

**To:** [REDACTED] [hcc.govt.nz](mailto: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,



On Mon, 28 Apr 2025 at 09:36, [REDACTED] [@hcc.govt.nz](mailto:@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]

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**From:** Lauradanna Radesic <[Lauradanna.Radesic@hcc.govt.nz](mailto:Lauradanna.Radesic@hcc.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 28, 2025 9:28:04 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED] [@stuff.co.nz>  
\*\*Cc:\*\* \[REDACTED\] \[@hcc.govt.nz>  
\\*\\*Subject:\\*\\* RE: Graffiti at Hamilton Gardens entrance\]\(mailto:@hcc.govt.nz\)](mailto:@stuff.co.nz)

Moorena [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email.

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

Ngaa mihi

Lauradanna

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**From:** [REDACTED] [@stuff.co.nz>  
\*\*Sent:\*\* Monday, 28 April 2025 9:06 am  
\*\*To:\*\* Lauradanna Radesic <\[Lauradanna.Radesic@hcc.govt.nz\]\(mailto:Lauradanna.Radesic@hcc.govt.nz\)>  
\*\*Subject:\*\* Graffiti at Hamilton Gardens entrance](mailto:@stuff.co.nz)

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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