


5 September 2023



Kia ora 

## Graffiti Costs

Thank you for your request made under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act), received on 8 August 2023. You requested the following information:

**How much the WCC has spent in the past Financial Year on the management of graffiti in the City. This includes and preventative measures as well as the removal of graffiti and any other associated costs.**

Wellington City Council has **granted** your request for information.

In the 2022/2023 financial year, the Council spent \$683,076.17 on the management of graffiti. This figure includes contracts, services, materials, and general expenses related to removal of graffiti.

Council's graffiti management programme has a current focus on removal of graffiti, which accounts for majority of the amount spent last year. Preventative measures taken in the last financial year include the installation of two 'graffiti style' murals in the central city – one temporary and one permanent – and a research project undertaken over the summer period to identify possible opportunities to implement a more effective and responsive approach to graffiti in the city. The cost of these initiatives was \$17,200.00 and is included in the amount above.

A wide range of Council staff spend time on graffiti management as part of their day-to-day tasks. This includes Contact Centre staff who receive and triage reports of graffiti, and many roles in our Connected Communities business unit who undertake relationship management with our graffiti contractor, respond to reports of graffiti that is out of the agreed scope of the contractor, undertake preventative initiatives, and improve safety in the city. These staff costs are not included in the figure above.

The Council also looks at interventions to address issues such as graffiti before they happen, improving the perceptions of safety within our community and improve environments such as lighting to assist with prevention alongside CCTV. There is separate funding available for safety improvements and as such these costs are not reflected in the figure above.

**Right of review**

If you are not satisfied with the Council's response, you may request the Office of the Ombudsman to investigate the Council's decision. Further information is available on the Ombudsman website, [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Please note, we may proactively release our response to your request with your personal information removed.

Thank you again for your request, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Kind regards

Amber Smith

**Senior Advisor Official Information**