

From: Official Information
Sent: Monday, 23 April 2018 2:39 p.m.
To:
Subject: Response to LGOIMA request

Dear

Thank you for your email, received on April 13th 2018. You requested the following information, under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA):

1. Please list all city council water fountains that have had bubbles/foam/food colouring etc put into them since January 2017.
2. Please include where the fountain is, what was put into the water and what reaction it caused, when, what had to be done to remedy the problem, what repairs needed to be made if any, and what it cost each time.
3. I'm also after comment on why people should not put anything into water fountains and the reasons for that.

The Council has responded to your questions below:

1. Since January 2017 Shands Fountain is the only Christchurch City Council fountain to have had a substance put into it.
2. It is located in Shand Crescent Reserve, Riccarton.
3. There have been six incidences of a substance being put into the fountain since January 2017, definitive dates for these are not available.
4. Although oftentimes it is not possible to identify the substance there has been a recent case when soap powder was placed in the fountain.
5. Each time the cost is \$280 to drain, clean and refill.
6. The reasons as to why substances should not be put into fountains are:
 - a) It damages the pump and the pipework system which costs to repair
 - b) There is cost to clean up the fountain and the scum that forms from the material
 - c) There can be contamination of the environment
 - d) The resources that are used to clean up and repair mean other works that the community would like to see done are not being done
 - e) Resources – budget is relocated from maintaining other assets to cover this cost

A note in regards to the Bowker fountain in Victoria Square. This is Council owned. However, it is currently being maintained by Ōtākaro while the Victoria Square development takes place. There have been 2 incidences since Victoria Square reopened, the most recent being last week. The first time laundry powder was put into the fountain. It is not known what was used the second time. To counteract the bubbles produced an anti-foaming solution was used and no repairs were required.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review our decision. Complaints can be sent by email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz, by fax to (04) 471 2254, or by post to The Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Publication of responses to LGOIMA requests

Please note: our LGOIMA responses may be published on the Christchurch City Council website a month after they have been responded to, with requesters' personal details withheld. If you have any concerns about this please contact the Official Information team on officialinformation@ccc.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely,

Ana

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