

[REDACTED]

From: Official Information
Sent: Friday, 25 November 2016 5:04 p.m.
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: LGOIMA 16/0448 response - [REDACTED] - Christmas decorations
Attachments: LGOIMA 16-0448 response - City Promotions Decorations Spend.pdf

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email, received on 11 November 2016. You requested the following information, under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA):

*"How much money has been spent on Christmas decorations by the council each year from 2012 onwards?
Where does the biggest portion of money go? E.g lights, trees, etc.
I'm interested in seeing if costs to bring the Christmas spirit to Christchurch have gone up or down over the last few years.
How much is budgeted/expected to be spent on decorations this year?
Have there ever been any issues with decorations or with putting up the decorations that has caused a significant overspend?
Please feel free to add in any other information you think would be useful or interesting."*

Release of information

Please find attached a response to your LGOIMA request.

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 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,

Anna Sinclair

Public Information Adviser
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Christchurch City Council
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Christchurch City Council's City Promotions cost of Christmas decorations for Christchurch

Q: How much money has been spent on Christmas decorations by the council each year from 2012 onwards?

2012

Buying decorations: \$31,718.50

Installation/Removal: \$23,187.31

2013

Buying decorations: \$30,000

Installation/Removal: \$44,494.21

2014

Buying decorations: \$86,473.33

Installation/removal: \$0. There was no cost to Christchurch City Council. Stars in Worcester Boulevard were installed by Treetech, and City Care kindly sponsored the remaining installation/removal costs.

2015

Buying decorations: \$88,075

Installation/Removal: \$44,067.30

There may also be some Community Board grants made to community groups for Christmas-related activities, but these have not been included.

Q: Where does the biggest portion of money go? E.g lights, trees, etc.

The purchase of new decorations varies according to the item being purchased. We do not have one large Christmas tree, or lights en masse in one location.

The cost of installing and removing Christmas decorations is fairly evenly spread.

Q: I'm interested in seeing if costs to bring the Christmas spirit to Christchurch have gone up or down over the last few years.

There was less spent on decorations immediately following the February earthquake, due to a lack of access to sites and lack of visitors to the Central City for the two years after the earthquakes. As the Central City has been rebuilt and has more activity, the spend has increased.

Please note, the cost of decorations in 2014 and 2015 was higher than the average spend on decorations, due to decreased spending in the previous years. The cost of decorations is also different from year to year as items have varying lifespans before repair or replacement is necessary.

Q: How much is budgeted/expected to be spent on decorations this year?

Costs are yet to be confirmed, but are expected to be in line with 2015 spend.

Q: Have there ever been any issues with decorations or with putting up the decorations that has caused a significant overspend?

No.