

02 September 2021

Official Information Request No.8140009003
(Please quote this in any correspondence)

By email - anna@radford.co.nz

Tēnā koe Anna

Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA)

Ōwairaka Tree Judicial Review

Thank you for your information request dated 9 August 2021 for information relating to the Albert/Ōwairaka judicial review proceeding. We transferred the first part of your request to the Tūpuna Maunga Authority. The second part of your request and our response are set out below.

Please provide the following information, requested under LGOIMA:

- 1) Auckland Council's legal costs in relation to**
 - a) the Ōwairaka tree judicial review; and**
 - b) judicial review appeal**

Please also advise whether or not these costs are considered to be the full and final costs as they pertain to the appeal application and 20/21 July hearing. If further invoices are expected, then please provide this information as it comes to hand.

The council's total legal costs for the Mt Albert/Ōwairaka judicial review in the High Court are \$190,555.54 (excluding GST). This includes external legal fees, disbursements, witness costs and attendance at a two-day hearing in the High Court. These costs are full and final.

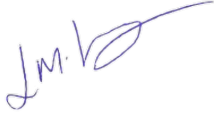
The council's total legal costs for the Mt Albert/Ōwairaka judicial review in the Court of Appeal, billed to date are \$70,048.23 (excluding GST). This includes external legal fees, disbursements, and attendance at a two-day hearing in the Court of Appeal on 20 and 21 July 2021. These costs are not full and final. There may be a further bill for these proceedings.

The decision by Auckland Council to release the information contained in this response was made by **Meredith Webb, Manager of Public Law, Legal Services.**

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you have any questions please contact me at joanne.kearney@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or Ph 09 977 1702.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J.M. Kearney', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joanne Kearney
Senior Privacy & Official Information Business Partner
Governance Services