

OIR: 2526/272

11 February 2026

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED],

Request for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) (the LGOIMA)

Thank you for your email of **26 January 2026** requesting the following information:

1. A full breakdown of your art collection, including, but not limited to:

- **The total number of artworks and for each the:**
 - **Known or estimated value.**
 - **Status of display (publicly or privately).**
 - **Year of acquisition.**

We currently have 123 pieces of artwork recorded on the Council's Art Register.

Where the Register has recorded a value, these are based on devaluation from initial cost rather than valuation by an art expert, so are often not reliable. We are carrying out an audit of the collection in preparation for valuation in this calendar year. This will determine a truer estimate of individual artworks and the collection as a whole.

Status of display:

- 26 pieces of work are on public display outside of Council buildings.
- 51 pieces of work are on public display within Council buildings including libraries.
- 5 pieces of work are on view within Council offices.
- 41 pieces of work are in storage (archived within public libraries).

Only a small number of the artworks have a recorded acquisition date or method (such as purchase or commission).

Please note that any information provided in response to your request may be published on the Council website, with your personal details removed.

As we are unable to provide all the information requested in this question, this part of your request is refused under section 17(e) of the Act as the documents alleged to contain the information requested does not exist, or despite reasonable efforts to locate them, they cannot be found.

However, we have provided a detailed list (attached) with the information we do hold in relation to our artwork collection and hope that this will be of assistance.

2. The number of roles that involve working with your art collection, including:

- **Their job title or role.**
- **Their annual salary or salary band.**

We have one role working with the art collection, as a portion of their role - the Advisor, Arts and Heritage.

Information in relation to this staff member's annual salary or salary band is withheld under section 7(2)(a) of the Act which allows for Council to withhold information in order to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons. I am satisfied that the withholding of this information is not outweighed by public interest considerations in section 7(1) favouring release.

3. How much is allocated in your yearly budget to be spent on art, (not including Creative NZ funding) broken down by:

- **Upkeep or acquisitions of new artwork.**
- **The last time this amount was reviewed.**

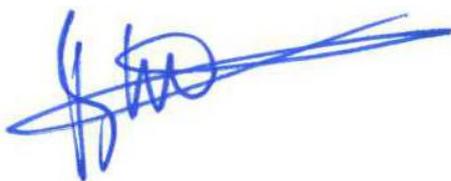
In 2025/26, the allocations were:

- Upkeep of new artwork: \$33,583.45 including GST
- Acquisitions of new artwork. \$52,300.85 including GST

The last time this was reviewed was in 2025.

You have the right to request the Ombudsman to review this decision. Complaints can be sent by email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz, or by post to The Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Ngā mihi,



Brendan Owens

Group Manager Customer and Community
Kaiwhakahaere Rōpū - Kiritaki me te Hapori