

From: [Lauren Riddle](#)
To: benn.bathgate@stuff.co.nz
Subject: LGOIMA Response - sale of properties under section 77
Date: Thursday, 10 September 2026 11:51:00 a.m.

Kia ora Benn

I am writing in response to your official information request (see below) received on 28 August 2026 seeking - "For each year from 2016 to 2026 to date, can you tell me how many houses the council has sold under Section 77 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002?"

We advise that the section you refer to relates to the sale or lease of abandoned land and we can confirm that there have been no sales or leasing of abandoned land for the period 2016 to date.

I trust this information responds to your request.

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

kā mihi
Lauren

Lauren Riddle
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From: Benn Bathgate <benn.bathgate@stuff.co.nz>
Sent: Friday, 28 August 2026 11:37 a.m.
To: Official Information <officialinformation@dcc.govt.nz>
Subject: Waikato Times OIA

Morning,

Benn Bathgate from the Waikato Times here, getting in touch to request some information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act.

By way of background, we ran a story about a council on our patch that put a number of properties up for sale, using powers under Section 77 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, mostly over issues of non rates payment: <https://www.waikatotimes.co.nz/nz-news/361063766/last-resort-property-sales-over-rates-non-payments-waitomo-district>

This got us wondering how many sales of this sort are happening across New Zealand? So to answer that, we wanted to ask, under the OIA:

For each year from 2016 to 2026 to date, can you tell me how many houses the council has sold under Section 77 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002?

Please let me know if I can assist or clarify anything related to this OIA query.

Kind regards,

Benn

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Benn Bathgate

Senior Reporter

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