

From: Lynne Adamson
To: ["sophie.cornish@stuff.co.nz"](mailto:sophie.cornish@stuff.co.nz)
Subject: Response to LGOIMA requesting library book information
Date: Thursday, 29 October 2020 12:07:00 p.m.
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear Sophie

I refer to your request below dated 5 October 2020 for information regarding library books.

Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (1987) (LGOIMA) with the following responses under each of your questions:

What is the largest fine for an overdue library book?

The largest fine charged is \$7.50, then people are charged the replacement cost for the item if the book is lost. The replacement cost varies due to taking into consideration age and wear of item.

In terms of "the most anyone has paid", we do not have that historic information due to aged-out data and data loss after change of library management systems.

What are the top five most overdue books and how long has each been overdue for?

After 25 days at overdue status, the items move from overdue to a 'lost' status. Since 2014, our top five most lost titles include:

The official New Zealand road code (29 copies lost)
Harry Potter series (21 copies lost)
Pokemon (9 copies lost)
Hairy Maclary's rumpus at the vet (7 copies lost)
George's marvellous medicine (7 copies lost)

What were the top 10 most popular books to be checked out this year?

May, Peter,	A silent death
Morey, Trish,	One summer between friends
Patterson, James,	Lost
Steel, Danielle,	Moral compass
Allende, Isabel,	A long petal of the sea
Seymour, Gerald,	Beyond recall
Hadlow, Janice,	The other Bennet sister
Keyes, Marian,	Grown ups
Leather, Stephen.	The runner
Preston, Douglas J.	Crooked river

What books were removed from the library shelves this year and what were the main reasons for removing them?

We do not keep a list of the books that have been removed from the library or the reasons why therefore your request for the above information is declined under Section 17(e) of LGOIMA as the information does not exist.

In explanation though, we constantly monitor the collections for damage and condition, and children's books are mostly removed for this reason.

There are books being added to the collections every year with staff constantly assessing and making decisions about retention, removal to stacks, or dispersal.

When an item is no longer being used and staff can predict there is no reason to keep it (i.e. future use, NZ author, niche topic etc) it may be sold in our book sale, also assuming the needs of the library users at all our branches are being met by other items.

Our collections policy is available at

<https://www.dunedinlibraries.govt.nz/about/policies/collections-policy> and includes all of our policies on management.

As some information requested has been declined you have the right to seek a review of this decision by the Office of the Ombudsman.

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Request Text

Hi there,

I would like to submit an OIA for information from your council regarding library books.

What is the largest unpaid fine for an overdue library book? What are the top five most overdue books and how long has each been overdue for? What were the top 10 most popular books to be checked out this year? What books, if any, were removed from library shelves this year and what were the main reasons for removing them? E.g. were they inappropriate or controversial, received complaints etc?