

From: [Rebecca Murray](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: LGOIMA - Information Request from [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 10 September 2020 10:47:18 a.m.

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your e-mail requesting the number of unauthorised vegetation clearances in the last three years. The Senior Planner – Monitoring and Compliance, Helen Dempster, has provided the following in response to your questions raised.

Reported incidents of unauthorised vegetation clearance (i.e. 'Complaints'/COM): A search of the Council's records indicates that the Planning Compliance team have received the following five complaints during the period of 2017 to present-day (inclusive) regarding vegetation clearance that was subsequently determined by Council staff to be unauthorised*:

* there have been other complaints received by the Council Planning Compliance team *alleging* vegetation clearance that were received during the last 3 years, however investigations by Council staff found that the clearance was permitted by the District Plan rules or a resource consent (and therefore the clearance was not 'unauthorised').

DCC Complaint (COM) number	Type of vegetation cleared	Number of hectares known or estimated to be involved	Compliance response
COM-2019-1	Indigenous vegetation	Approx. 0.1 hectare	Application for an Enforcement order has been lodged with the Environment Court; hearing to decide application scheduled for mid-August 2020
COM-2019-246	Indigenous wetland vegetation	Approx. 0.98 of a hectare	Site inspected. Compliance response ongoing.
COM-2020-66	Indigenous vegetation	Approximately 0.024 of a hectare	Site inspected. Compliance response ongoing.
COM-2020-57	Indigenous coastal vegetation	Approximately 0.015 of a hectare	Site inspected. Compliance response ongoing.
COM-2020-99	Indigenous wetland vegetation	Approximately 0.0819 of a hectare	Site inspected. Compliance response ongoing.

The Council has, very recently received a further complaint alleging indigenous vegetation clearance. Council staff have not yet had a chance to inspect the property in question to determine if unauthorised vegetation clearance has been undertaken; here are the particulars for this COM:

COM-2020-132	Alleged indigenous vegetation	Unknown – still under investigation	Site inspection yet to be undertaken, so it is presently unclear if unauthorised vegetation clearance
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			has been undertaken. Compliance response to be determined following inspection.
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I would like to add that I have not included complaints regarding alleged pruning of/works on scheduled/significant trees (as identified in our District Plan); 'Vegetation clearance' and works on a 'scheduled/significant tree' are separate activities under the rules in the Council's District Plan.

I trust this answers your request.

Kind regards

Rebecca Murray

**GOVERNANCE SUPPORT OFFICER
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-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, 31 July 2020 12:49:15 p.m.

To:

Subject: Information Request from [REDACTED]

31 July 2020

Official Information Request

From: [REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam

Under the local Government Official Information and Meetings Act, please provide the following information:

For each year for the last 3 years:

- The number of incidents of unauthorised vegetation clearance reported to the council, identified through monitoring, or otherwise logged by the council.
- The type of vegetation cleared.
- Number of hectares known or estimated to be involved in each incident.
- The compliance response to each incidence.

If you have any questions about this request please feel free to contact me on my details below.

Yours,

[REDACTED]

On behalf of

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]