

16 July 2019

Emma Hatton
Reporter
Radio New Zealand
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Dear Emma

OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST - COUNCIL SPEND ON EARTHQUAKE RELATED EXPENSES.

I apologise for the late response to your email request dated 19 June 2019, requesting information about spending by Council since 1 July 2017, on earthquake related expenses, number of buildings to be assessed and the anticipated spend.

Your information request is declined, pursuant to Section 17(f) of the Local Government Information and Meetings Act 1987 – *that the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.*

As Dunedin is in a low seismic zone the Building (Earthquake-prone Buildings) Amendment Act 2016 provides a 15-year period (effective from 1 July 2017) for the Council to identify potentially earthquake buildings. There is currently no collated information held. However, the Edgar Centre in Dunedin has been identified as an earthquake-prone building. Strengthening work currently underway, with a budget of \$2 million, and is targeted for completion by March 2020.

We have estimated that it would require a minimum of 11 hours to undertake the substantial collation work (of which, the first 3 hours are free). The cost estimate for 8 hours at \$76.00 per hour, totals \$608.00.

As we have decided to decline your information request, I advise that you have the right to have this decision reviewed by the Office of the Ombudsman (0800 802 602) or e-mail: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely



Lauren McDonald
GOVERNANCE SUPPORT OFFICER