

Laura Bowman

From: official information
Sent: Wednesday, 17 November 2021 12:48 pm
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: official information
Subject: FINAL RESPONSE: LGOIMA 21305 - [REDACTED] - Noise complaint statistics for 2020 to 2021.

Kia Ora,

I refer to your **information request below**, Hamilton City Council is able to provide the following response.

1. In the form of a tally, a list of the top 20 Hamilton streets with the highest number of noise complaints in the year to October 20, 2021

Our Response:

Mansel St	46
Lake Rd	47
Victoria St	47
Dorchester St	49
Rutherford St	49
Campbell St	50
Fox st	51
Carrington Rd	53
Grandview Rd	53
Byron Rd	54
Peachgrove Rd	56
Knighton Rd	57
Boundary Rd	60
Greensboro St	63
Wellington St	77
Cameron Rd	79
Hogan St	83
Mahoe St	91
Sheila Pl	111
Beaumont St	116

2. For the three streets with the highest number of noise complaints that were recorded in that timeframe, what were the nature of the noise complaints (eg: loud music, cars revving, etc)?

Our response: Mostly amplified music - in most cases from a stereo (other = TV, Bluetooth speakers, vehicle stereo); also people noise to a lesser extent.

3. In that timeframe, and across Hamilton, how many seizures of equipment (stereos and other items) were made by noise control officers? What were the most numerous items of equipment seized? (ie: any particular kind, or brand of stereo)?

Our response: 74 items seized. Mostly stereos or speakers of no particular sort or brand. A further 69 seizures were attempted but did not happen due to unavailability of the Police to assist.

4. How many of the seized items have since been returned?

Our Response: 21 items have been claimed by the property owner; others have not yet been claimed

5. How many of those item seizures were subject to a second or subsequent seizure following further complaints? And how many of those seized items, if any, since returned?
Our Response: Second or subsequent seizures were made, or attempted subject to Police availability, during the same noise event, following further complaints at 15 addresses. Three seized items have been released to the owner on application. All others may be released on application by the owner.
6. In that timeframe, how many formal abatement notices were issued?
Our Response: 2 abatement notices were issued during the 12-month period
7. How many \$500 immediate fines were issued in that timeframe?
Our Response: 0
8. How many \$750 immediate fines were issued in that timeframe?
Our Response: 0
9. With regards to the person who accrued the highest number of noise complaints in the 2020/21 financial year, which street do they live in?
Our response: Sheila Pl
10. And what were the nature of the complaints against them?
Our response: Alleged excessive noise
11. What kind of enforcement action has been taken against that person? Has it worked? Is it still ongoing?
Our response: No enforcement action has been taken as the noise was not excessive in all instances.
12. The maximum fine for unreasonable or excessive noise is \$10,000. What, in the history of the Hamilton City Council, has been the greatest fine incurred by a noise-maker in the city? Who was this person? And what was the fine for?
Our response: A person is liable on summary conviction to a maximum fine of \$10,000 for failure to comply with an abatement notice. This is achieved through prosecution. Council has not prosecuted any person for this offence, so no maximum fine can be reported. An alternative to prosecution is the issue of an infringement notice, which carries an infringement fee of \$750. Several infringement notices for failure to comply with an abatement notice have been issued in the past to different people and each of them received an infringement notice which carries the \$750 fee.

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 or freephone 0800 802 602.

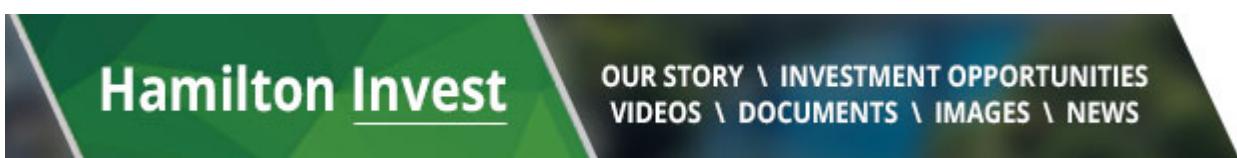
Kind Regards,

Tatiyana | Official Information & Legal Support Advisor
Legal Services & Risk | People and Organisational Performance
Email: officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz



Hamilton City Council | Private Bag 3010 | Hamilton 3240 | www.hamilton.govt.nz

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From: official information <officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz>

Sent: Wednesday, 20 October 2021 4:09 pm

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: official information <officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz>

Subject: LGOIMA 21305 - [REDACTED] - Noise complaint statistics for 2020 to 2021.

Kia Ora,

I write to acknowledge your information request of Wednesday 20 October 2021 as below.

Please be advised that your request has been passed on to the relevant team within Council and you will be informed of the outcome.

The Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 requires that we advise you of our decision on whether the Council will provide the requested information as soon as reasonably practicable, and no later than 20 working days after the day we received your request. We will respond to you no later than Thursday 18 November 2021.

In light of the recent announcement regarding COVID-19 and New Zealand's Alert level 3, the safety of our employees is paramount. We've made necessary changes to our working environment and operations that may result in limited availability of some of our staff members. We appreciate your patience during this time. Please allow some extra time for a response to your request as we are all doing our best to accommodate the new circumstances.

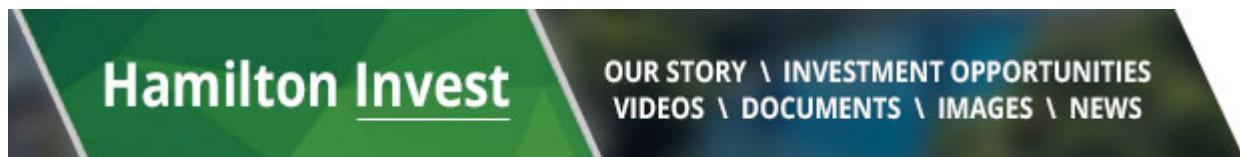
Kind Regards,

Tatiyana | Official Information & Legal Support Advisor
Legal Services & Risk | People and Organisational Performance
Email: officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz



Hamilton City Council | Private Bag 3010 | Hamilton 3240 | www.hamilton.govt.nz

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, 20 October 2021 3:43 pm

To: Nicole Nooyen <Nicole.Nooyen@hcc.govt.nz>; Simone van Asbeck <Simone.vanAsbeck@hcc.govt.nz>; [REDACTED]

>; Rebecca Robinson <Rebecca.Robinson@hcc.govt.nz>

Subject: LGOIMA request for information: Noise complaints

Hi chaps,

This is the first of a wee flurry of these LGOIMAs, which we send off at this time of the year in order to stock up the story larder for the Christmas silly season.

Herewith, can I formally request under the auspices of the LGOIMA Act 1989, the following information:

- 1) Can you please provide, in the form of a tally, a list of the top 20 Hamilton streets with the highest number of noise complaints in the year to October 20, 2021?
- 2) For the three streets with the highest number of noise complaints that were recorded in that timeframe, what were the nature of the noise complaints (eg: loud music, cars revving, etc)?

3) In that timeframe, and across Hamilton, how many seizures of equipment (stereos and other items) were made by noise control officers? What were the most numerous items of equipment seized? (ie: any particular kind, or brand of stereo)?

4) How many of the seized items have since been returned?

5) How many of those item seizures were subject to a second or subsequent seizure following further complaints? And how many of those seized items, if any, since returned?

6) In that timeframe, how many formal abatement notices were issued?

7) How many \$500 immediate fines were issued in that timeframe?

8) How many \$750 immediate fines were issued in that timeframe?

9) With regards to the person who accrued the highest number of noise complaints in the 2020/21 financial year, which street do they live in?

10) And what were the nature of the complaints against them?

11) What kind of enforcement action has been taken against that person? Has it worked? Is it still ongoing?

12) The maximum fine for unreasonable or excessive noise is \$10,000. What, in the history of the Hamilton City Council, has been the greatest fine incurred by a noise-maker in the city? Who was this person? And what was the fine for?

The information sought in this request is to be used as part of a report by the Waikato Times into public disturbances. As the information will be used to inform readers about the issue of noise complaints, I ask that any fee is waived.

I anticipate receiving the information under the terms of the act, which stipulates a maximum period of 20 business days. Written confirmation of receipt of this request would be appreciated.

If I can be of any assistance – or you would like to clarify this request - please contact me at [REDACTED]

Cheers,

[REDACTED]
Senior Reporter

Physical address: 500 Anglesea St, Whitiora, Hamilton 3240, New Zealand
Postal address: Private Bag 3086, Hamilton, New Zealand

[REDACTED]

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