

Laura Bowman

From: official information
Sent: Friday, 4 March 2022 11:12 am
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: official information
Subject: Final Response: LGOIMA 254721 [REDACTED] - Research substantiating the "Your Help May Harm Web" page

Kia Ora,

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

You requested:

On the 'Your Help May Harm' web page of the Council site, it is stated that 'research... shows begging is often associated with supporting an addiction.' Which research paper is this exactly - can Council cite the source of this?

Our response:

See below for all relevant papers and websites which aided in the forming of our "Your Help May Harm" webpage:

Horn, M & Cooke, M (June 2001) *A Question of Begging. A Study of the extent and nature of begging in the City of Melbourne*, Hanover Welfare Services, Melbourne

[Here to Help - Substance Use: Pathways to homelessness? Or a way of adapting to street life?](#)

[Addiction Center - The Connection Between Homelessness And Addiction](#)

[National Coalition for the Homeless - Substance Abuse and Homelessness](#)

[Michael's House - The Connection Between Homelessness and Addiction](#)

[World Habitat - Should we give to people who beg?](#)

[TFN News - Research into begging shows root causes](#)

You requested:

On the same page, it is also stated that 'giving money keeps people trapped in a cycle of begging.' Can this claim be substantiated by any research? Does this information come from additional research, or is it made up?

Our response:

Please see below, substantiating research:

Thompson, D (2011) *Should You Give Money to Homeless People*, www.theatlantic.com

Thames Reach Organisation n.d. *Why giving to those who beg does more harm than good*, www.thamesreach.org.nz

Bath Chronical (May 8, 2014) *Your hand outs can kill Bath's Beggars...keep your money, urges campaign*, www.bathchronical

Bath & North East Somerset Council, n.d. *Street Begging – Your Kindness Can Kill*, www.bathnes.govt.uk

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,

Official Information Team

Legal Services & Risk | People and Organisational Performance

Email: officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz



User

[REDACTED]

Email Address

[REDACTED]

Contact Method

Email

Full Details of Request *(Required)*

Comment: 1. On the 'Your Help May Harm' web page of the Council site, it is stated that 'research... shows begging is often associated with supporting an addiction.' Which research paper is this exactly - can Council cite the source of this? 2. On the same page, it is also stated that 'giving money keeps people trapped in a cycle of begging.' Can this claim be substantiated by any research? Does this information come from additional research, or is it made up? <https://www.hamilton.govt.nz/our-city/citysafe/Pages/Your-Help-may-Harm.aspx>