

From: [Official Information](#)
To: fyi-request-23664-01372226@requests.fyi.org.nz
Cc: [Official Information](#)
Subject: Final response - LGOIMA 340542 - S 7(2)(a) - Information about Opito Devices
Date: Tuesday, 29 August 2023 2:18:41 pm
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image003.jpg](#)

Kia ora,

We refer to your information request below. Hamilton City Council provides the following response.

Your request:

1. *The opito-branded devices attached to light poles and traffic lights in Hamilton city are the property of which organisation?*
2. *Can the Hamilton City Council release any permits, memorandums, agreements and/or contracts between Hamilton City Council and the company branded as opito or opito.io?*
3. *What types of data are the opito devices recording?*
4. *Where is the data from the opito devices recording stored?*
5. *With which other organisations is the data collected from the opito devices shared?*
6. *Do any of the opito-branded devices installed on Hamilton city streets have cameras or microphones?*
7. *Are those opito devices monitoring Bluetooth signals from Hamilton residents?*
8. *Do those opito devices connect to, or attempt to connect to, Hamilton residents' personal or vehicle-mounted devices?*
9. *What are frequencies that the opito devices are transmitting on?*
10. *How has the Hamilton City Council notified people about what types of data the opito devices are collecting and how that data is being used?*

Our response:

1. The opito-branded devices attached to light poles and traffic lights in Hamilton city are the property of which organisation?

There are two types of devices. Most of them are Bluetooth devices, these are leased from Opito who are a local company specialising in electrical systems.

The other devices are 'pathway' devices, which Council purchased from a local tech company, Aware group, however these were manufactured by Opito and therefore have Opito branding on them.

More information about Opito can be found [here](#).

2. Can the Hamilton City Council release any permits, memorandums, agreements and/or contracts between Hamilton City Council and the company branded as opito or opito.io?

Attached is the contract technical specification for the Bluetooth devices which provides an overview of the product. Also attached is an agreement permitting Opito to install devices on Council assets such as streetlight poles.

3. What types of data are the opito devices recording?

Most of the devices are Bluetooth radios which observe the unique identifier (MAC address) of passing Bluetooth signals, these are passed on to a service that processes the data for traffic operations. Note the MAC address is replaced by an anonymous number to ensure that the stored data does not contain any personal information. Some devices that have Opito branding are 'pathway' counters which count the number of passing pedestrians, cyclists and scooters. No images are recorded or transmitted, only the number of pedestrians, cyclists, and scooters that pass by.

4. Where is the data from the opito devices recording stored?

The Bluetooth data is sent to the 'Addinsight' cloud-based platform where it is processed to provide traffic insights such as congestion levels. Council also store a local copy of some of the insights and make that available to the public via the CoLab open data portal.

'Pathway' counters forward the number of pedestrians, cyclists, and scooters to a cloud-based storage for Council to access.

5. With which other organisations is the data collected from the opito devices shared?

Processed data insights are made available to the public via the CoLab Open Data Portal. Raw Bluetooth data is only accessible by Council and Sage Automation (Sage own the Addinsight traffic operations platform that processes the data). Note that this raw data does not contain any personal information because the MAC address is removed.

6. Do any of the opito-branded devices installed on Hamilton city streets have cameras or microphones?

No devices have microphones. The 'pathway' devices use a camera to count the number of pedestrians, cyclists and scooters that pass by. Images are not stored, nor kept, nor transmitted. Only the number of people passing by is transmitted from the device. No personal information is recorded.

7. Are those opito devices monitoring Bluetooth signals from Hamilton residents?

The Bluetooth devices relay the MAC address that is broadcast by radio equipment such as Bluetooth car stereos passing by, and filtered to only include moving vehicles.

8. Do those opito devices connect to, or attempt to connect to, Hamilton residents' personal or vehicle-mounted devices?

The Bluetooth devices do not connect nor attempt to connect with any residents or vehicle-mounted equipment.

9. What are frequencies that the opito devices are transmitting on?

The devices use the cellular network (e.g. 3G) in order to transmit data to the Cloud storage. The Bluetooth devices also transmit on the 2.4ghz band which is the Bluetooth band.

10. How has the Hamilton City Council notified people about what types of data the opito devices are collecting and how that data is being used?

Council created Facebook posts when the Bluetooth system and the 'pathway' counters were deployed.

Council provides the data insights from both the Bluetooth system and the 'pathway' counters to the public on the CoLab open data portal [here](#).

The Council website has a page on the collection of cycling and Micromobility volumes [here](#).

We have had to withhold some information from the documents which we are releasing in response to your request. We have applied digital black redactions over the withheld information and have supplied the code to identify the section of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) which we are relying on. We have withheld information on the basis that it is necessary to protect information where if made available it would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information per [section 7\(2\)\(b\)\(ii\)](#) of LGOIMA.

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.

Ngaa mihi

Keeley Faulkner

Official Information Coordinator

Governance & Assurance Team | Business Services

Email: officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz



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



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I support flexibility at work. While it suits me to send this email now, I don't expect a response outside of your own working hours.

-----Original Message-----

From:  [<fyi-request-23664-01372226@requests.fyi.org.nz>](mailto:fyi-request-23664-01372226@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Sent: Tuesday, 1 August 2023 8:30 pm

To: Official Information [<officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz>](mailto:officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz)

Subject: CM: [Mass email/Possible SPAM] Official Information request - Opito devices

To the Hamilton City Council,

This notification is a request for information through the Official Information Act 1982.

I note that since 2019 a large number of devices branded with opito or opito.io have been attached to light poles and traffic lights around the streets of Hamilton city.

This is a request that the Hamilton City Council release official documentation and correspondence relating to the following questions:

1. The opito-branded devices attached to light poles and traffic lights in Hamilton city are the property of which organisation?
2. Can the Hamilton City Council release any permits, memorandums, agreements and/or contracts between Hamilton City Council and the company branded as opito or opito.io?
3. What types of data are the opito devices recording?
4. Where is the data from the opito devices recording stored?
5. With which other organisations is the data collected from the opito devices shared?
6. Do any of the opito-branded devices installed on Hamilton city streets have cameras or microphones?
7. Are those opito devices monitoring Bluetooth signals from Hamilton residents?
8. Do those opito devices connect to, or attempt to connect to, Hamilton residents' personal or vehicle-mounted devices?
9. What are frequencies that the opito devices are transmitting on?
10. How has the Hamilton City Council notified people about what types of data the opito devices are collecting and how that data is being used?

Can the Hamilton City Council provide all the correspondence and official documentation which relates to the matters raised in the above ten questions?

Sincerely,

§ 7(2)(a)

This is an Official Information request made via the FYI website.

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fyi-request-23664-01372226@requests.fyi.org.nz

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