

**From:** [Official Information](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [Official Information](#)  
**Subject:** Final response - LGOIMA 438010 - [REDACTED] - Legal costs of Council vs Shaws Bird Park, Murray and Margaret Shaw  
**Date:** Wednesday, 27 November 2024 2:18:14 pm  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.jpg](#)  
[image003.jpg](#)

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Kia ora,

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

**Your request:**

*Could you please provide legal costs pertaining to Shaw's Bird Park, Murray and Margaret Shaw from 2020 to the current date with Council and non-Council staff. This would include costs of documents, letters, memoranda, emails, drafts, including minutes of meetings, confidential meetings, and non-written information such as videos or tape recordings.*

**Our response:**

You requested legal costs pertaining to Shaw's Bird Park, Murray and Margaret Shaw from 2020 to the current date with Council and non-Council staff. Your request stated that this would include costs of documents, letters, memoranda, emails, drafts, including minutes of meetings, confidential meetings, and non-written information such as videos or tape recordings.

The costs of legal services pertaining to Shaw's Bird Park, Murray and Margaret Shaw from 2020 to the end of October 2024 total \$427,875.07. This includes legal services for the Public Works Act processes, the Environment Court hearing that dismissed in all respects the Shaws' Objection to the taking of the land, and Land Valuation Tribunal hearing. that confirmed that Council's assessment of compensation was correct.

For context, it should be noted that in addition to the expected legal costs of the Public Works Act processes, a significant portion of Council's legal costs were incurred responding to new litigation brought by Mr and Mrs Shaw some years after they were formally consulted.

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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

**Nga mihi**

**Keeley Faulkner**

Official Information Advisor & Legal Support Officer

Legal services

Governance & Assurance Team | Partnerships, communication & Maori

Email: [officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz](mailto:officialinformation@hcc.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.*

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 1, 2024 4:32 PM  
**To:** official <[information@hcc.govt.nz](mailto:information@hcc.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** Legal costs of Council vs Shaws Bird Park, Murray and Margaret Shaw

Dear OIC Staff

Could you please provide legal costs pertaining to Shaw's Bird Park, Murray and Margaret Shaw from 2020 to the current date with Council and non-Council staff.

This would include costs of documents, letters, memoranda, emails, drafts, including minutes of meetings, confidential meetings, and non-written information such as videos or tape recordings.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]