

From: [Official Information](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [Official Information](#)
Subject: Final response - LGOIMA 446767 - [REDACTED] - Founders demolition
Date: Tuesday, 28 January 2025 6:20:03 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:

[REDACTED], I'm after a few bits of information.

** What was the final cost of / bill for the demolition of Founders' Theatre?*

**There was a 'playground'? proposed on the former theatre site costed at about \$4 million?.. Has that been shelved/postponed?, was there a reason given for that?*

**Prior to the theatre's demolition, a group of kaumatua were engaged in November '23, to provide prayers to "put the building to sleep".(pic below). - what was this group? and were they paid for their services?, if so how much?*

**Where any other people or groups approached to perform a similar service?*

Make this an OIA request if necessary. I realise we might not get a reply 'til January sometime as we are heading into the 'beach 'n BBQ' season!..

Help appreciated, have a great Christmas!

Our response:

The total costs for demolition of Founders Theatre including physical works, professional fees, monitoring and reinstatement to lawn are \$2,893,027.

The balance of funds is still intended to complete the park redevelopment which includes renewal of Dame Hilda Ross Fountain, interpretive signage to acknowledge the history of place, planting and connecting paths. This work is expected to be delivered next summer. The 2023-34 Long Term plan approved funding for a central city play space, staff are working with an elected member working group to confirm the site(s) and funding allocation for this which may include Boyes Park.

Te Haa o Te Whenua o Kirikiriroa are the group who were asked to complete the site blessing prior to demolition. Council works directly with them as they are mandated to protect the views and interests of their respective hapuu and provide cultural advice. There were no additional costs to the project for this service.

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 Advisor & Legal Support Officer

Legal services

Governance & Assurance Team | Partnerships, communication & Maaori

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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.

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, December 9, 2024 11:35:57 am

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Giddyay [REDACTED] Founders' details..

[REDACTED] here, I'm after a few bits of information.

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[REDACTED]