

20 February 2025

Official information request 8140015294  
(Please quote this in any correspondence)

Pen Parker

By email: [fyi-request-29879-729a4455@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-29879-729a4455@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Pen

### **Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987**

#### **Re: Vandalism acts of pro-Palestinian activists**

Thank you for your email dated 25 January 2025, in which you requested information about acts of vandalism attributed to pro-Palestinian protesters. The specific details of your request and our response are below.

***I am writing to request detailed information regarding acts of vandalism attributed to pro-Palestinian protesters within Auckland since October 7, 2023. Specifically, I am seeking:***

- 1. Number of Recorded Incidents: The total count of vandalism events linked to pro-Palestinian protests during this period.***
- 2. Description of Each Incident: For each recorded event, please provide:***
  - Date and location***
  - Nature of the vandalism (e.g., graffiti, stickers, flyers, or other defacement)***
  - Any available details on the content or messages conveyed***
- 3. Associated Remediation Costs: An itemized breakdown of the costs incurred by the council to address and remediate each incident, including:***
  - Cleaning or removal expenses***
  - Repairs to damaged property***
  - Any additional administrative or enforcement costs***

***I understand that such acts may primarily involve the application of stickers, flyers, graffiti, or similar forms of defacement. I am interested in understanding the scope and impact of these activities on public spaces and resources.***

The Parks and Community Facilities department are unable to provide an accurate report on number, details and costs of incidents of vandalism or wilful damage resulting from protests, rallies, or marches. When incidents are reported through a Request for Service (RFS), there

is no specific category or prompt to indicate and record the reason for the request and whether the issue is caused by vandalism, wilful damage or protest for example.

Reports on any RFS would need also to include a wide range of service categories due to the variety of issues and types of damage potentially linked to protests. For more accurate reporting, specific information such as the dates and locations of protests would need to be provided. However, it's important to note that we still wouldn't be able to confirm if the RFS was specifically as a result of wilful damage.

Between January 2024 and January 2025, a total of 114,044 graffiti tags were removed by our dedicated graffiti vandalism contractors, and whilst technically all graffiti vandalism is wilful damage, as per above, we wouldn't be able to accurately confirm the cause due to a protest.

Reporting of the RFS would also not include any damage or issues linked to protests which are identified and repaired by our contractors as part of scheduled maintenance which is included within the outcome-based full facility maintenance contract as no Request for Services are raised.

We are therefore unable to provide you with the specific information requested under section 17 (e) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987; *that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.*

Decisions relating to the information that is being released to you were made by **Taryn Crewe, General Manager - Parks and Community Facilities.**

You have the right to complain to the Ombudsman if you believe we have not responded appropriately to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you have any further queries, please contact me on 09 301 0101 quoting official information request number 8140015294.

Ngā mihi



Amanda Pillay  
Privacy and Official Information Business Partner  
**Customer Experience and Digital Services**