

[REDACTED]

From: Official Information
Sent: Friday, 25 November 2016 10:24 a.m.
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: LGOIMA 16/0446 response - [REDACTED] - littering fines

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email, received on 11 November 2016. You requested the following information, under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA):

*"Please tell me if your council has a means by which to fine people for littering.
If so, please tell me what the penalty is, and how many people/entities have been fined in the years:
2011-2012
2012-2013
2013-2014
2014-2015
2015-2016".*

Release of information

The Territorial Authority (Council) has adopted Infringement Notice provisions that shall not exceed \$400. This came into effect on 13 June 2016, after Council approval. The Council public notice can be found at:
<https://ccc.govt.nz/the-council/public-notices/show/145>.

The Council has scheduled a graduated infringement regime depending on the seriousness of the litter offence witnessed, which ranges between \$100 and \$400.

In February 2016 a person was observed and filmed depositing rubbish generated by his business into the public rubbish bins at Ferrymead. An infringement notice was issued for \$100 and subsequently paid without issue.

In most circumstances complaints received by the Council in relation to dumping of rubbish are not accompanied by evidence that would support the immediate issuing of an infringement notice. Evidence is collected where possible by the Officer in the form of identifying correspondence or from a vehicle registration number recorded at the time of the offence. Enquiries into the owner of the rubbish or vehicle usually result in establishing the owner has moved or the vehicle is not registered to a local address. On some occasions the owner of the rubbish has been identified and they have been requested to remove the rubbish which has occurred.

Infringement Notice books are now being printed but unless the depositing of litter is witnessed at the time by an Officer or irrefutable evidence is supplied, the investigation will take time to achieve an outcome.

You may be interested in the following article about litter fines: <http://www.stuff.co.nz/the-press/news/79896772/Christchurch-litterers-to-face-fines-of-up-to-400> which also mentions that the Council hadn't been issuing infringement notices for the past few years.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review our decision. Complaints can be sent by email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz, by fax to (04) 471 2254, or by post to The Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Publication of responses to LGOIMA requests

Please note: our LGOIMA responses may be published on the Christchurch City Council website a month after they have been responded to, with requesters' personal details withheld. If you have any concerns about this please contact the Official Information team on officialinformation@ccc.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely,

Anna Sinclair

Public Information Adviser

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