

[REDACTED]

From: Official Information
Sent: Friday, 19 May 2017 5:22 p.m.
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: LGOIMA 17/155 response - [REDACTED] - street lights
Attachments: LGOIMA 17-155 response - [REDACTED] - Street lights.docx

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email, received on 14 April 2017. You requested information relating to street lights in Christchurch, under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA).

Extension of timeframe

On 16 May 2017, we extended the timeframe on our response to you by an additional five working days.

Release of information

Please find attached a response to your request.

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

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To whom it may concern,

This is an Official Information Request relating to the street lights in Christchurch.

I'm interested in knowing how much money is spent on the street lights in Christchurch, broken down by how much the electricity costs to run them, how much the maintenance would cost for them on average over a year, and how much it costs to erect a new street light or replace one.

The 2016/17 Annual Plan shows \$1.533M for road lighting renewal. There is also an additional \$0.916M for repairing earthquake damage.

Some lights are on power poles which are owned by Orion, others are on Council-owned poles. The location of the light also has a large impact on the cost due to the level of traffic management required (e.g. in median or residential cul-de-sac). The cost to install a light can range between \$750 and \$10,000.

How much does it cost to replace a bulb in each street light (broken down by the cost of the bulb and the cost of the labour to replace it)?

The maintenance contract does not contain this level of breakdown. The cost to replace a lamp can also vary significantly depending on the type of light and location (including whether traffic management is required), and if it is planned or unplanned maintenance. The estimated average cost to replace a lamp is \$45, based on replacing several lights in the same street/area, and including traffic management.

How often on average would one bulb last?

The majority of lamps last between 3 and 4 years; LED lights are expected to last 15-20 years.

How often does council have to replace a bulb?

The maintenance programme replaces lamps when they fail or if they have reached the end of their life (i.e. 3 or 4 years, depending on lamp type).

How often is a new street light put up or an old street light replaced with a new one?

Most of the new lights are installed in conjunction with subdivision development. There is a lighting renewal programme that replaces old lights; there are 1,100 lights planned for replacement this financial year (2016-17).

How many street lights are there in Christchurch throughout the whole city?

There are 38,164 Council-owned street lights.

Has the cost of running and maintaining the street lights in Christchurch decreased or increased over the last 10 years?

The costs are reasonably consistent due to the efficiency improvements being offset by more lights being added to the network and upgrading others to higher output lights to improve safety. The amount of accident damage is variable.

What is the total running and maintenance cost for each year from 2007-present?

| Financial year | Power | Maintenance | Total |
|----------------|--------|-------------|--------|
| 2007/08 | \$3.5m | \$770.7k | \$4.2m |
| 2008/09 | \$3.4m | \$974.3k | \$4.3m |
| 2009/10 | \$3.4m | \$980k | \$4.3m |
| 2010/11 | \$4.3m | \$1m | \$5.3m |
| 2011/12 | \$4.3m | \$1.1m | \$5.4m |
| 2012/13 | \$4.8m | \$1.1m | \$5.9m |
| 2013/14 | \$4.3m | \$1.1m | \$5.4m |
| 2014/15 | \$4.2m | \$1.1m | \$5.3m |
| 2015/16 | \$4.6m | \$1m | \$5.6m |
| 2016/17 | \$4.7m | \$1.1m | \$5.8m |

Have there been any measures introduced over the past 10 years to reduce costs?

Council has continually monitored developments in technology and introduced them as appropriate.

If so, what are these measures and when were they introduced? How have the costs changed since these measures were introduced, if they were?

LED lights have been used on Council-funded projects since the start of 2012 and in subdivisions since mid-2012. These lights have significantly reduced energy and maintenance costs.

Are there any further plans for the future to decrease costs?

The Council will continue with installation of LED lights. Options for future consideration are to accelerate the LED replacement and introduce smart controls to switch and dim lights to make further energy savings. These will be discussed as part of the next LTP.

Is there any particular month of the year that on average proves to be the most expensive for street light running and maintenance costs?

Winter months are the most expensive, due to increased operating hours of lighting.

Anything else you can think to add would be appreciated.

Thanks,



Reporter
New Zealand Herald