

06 August 2019

Official Information Request No 8140005142
(Please quote this in any correspondence)

Edwin Hollier

By email: fyi-request-10676-a4028a26@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Edwin,

Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

Re: Use of Aotea Square

I refer to your email, which we received on 4 July 2019, requesting information about the number of days of the year in which Aotea Square is closed off for private events such as the recent ice -skating event.

Auckland Live coordinates the use of the Aotea Square for a large range of events and public gatherings for community enjoyment aligned with the Aotea Arts Quarter Framework with a focus to balance hosting programmed events with enabling local cultural groups, arts students and independent performance collectives to showcase their work in this civic (community) environment. The coordination by one party (through a centralised booking service) also assists in the management of community activity including protests/rallies.

There are no private events held on Aotea Square, however there are on occasion ticketed activity. In the last financial year 70 booked events took place, for just over 200,000 people. Of these events, the summer activation 1000 doors, winter activation Aotea Ice Rink and events held in the Spiegel tent for Auckland Arts Festival and Auckland Writers Festival were ticketed. In the previous year those events would total 112 event days.

Those events are on the paved area of Aotea Square (known as the Marae Aotea) and are enclosed spaces with ticket entry. All these events are subject to standard consent requirements.

The rest of the Aotea Square (upper terrace, grassed area, the Queen Street Stage and surrounding areas) are continuously open to the public.

If you believe Auckland Council has not responded appropriately to your request, you can apply to apply to the Ombudsman, to seek an investigation and review of the decision, under section 27(3) of the LGOIMA,. Information about how to make a complaint is available at 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 No 8140005142.

Yours sincerely



Samantha Sinclair
Privacy & LGOIMA Business Partner
Democracy Services