

31 March 2026

Official information request 8140018686  
(Please quote this in any correspondence)

Harry

By email: [fyi-request-31721-0232ce05@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-31721-0232ce05@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Harry

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

**Re: Legal Time and Cost Estimate**

Thank you for your email of 10 March 2026, requesting information about dog access rules at Monte Cecilia Park.

The specific details of your request and our response are below.

*How much time has been spent on this issue by the council's legal team—rough estimates to the nearest couple of hours are acceptable.*

*What's the approximate average salary of the legal team either overall or working on this matter.*

*How much has been spent on external input on this matter whether on legal advice or other consultation.*

For the period July 2025 to 25 March 2026, the Council has incurred \$109,768.41 (excl. GST) in legal fees in responding to the judicial review brought against it by Dog Lovers of Monte Cecilia Incorporated. The average salary of staff who report to the Auckland Council General Counsel, and work in the Legal Services department is \$148,056. The Legal Services Department does not record internal time spent on individual matters; accordingly, the Council does not hold information on the amount of time has been spent on the issue by the Legal Services Department.

The decision by Auckland Council to release the information contained in this response was made by Katy Bexley, Associate General Counsel – Public Law.

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 us quoting official information request number 8140018686.

Ngā mihi

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