

6 October 2021

L Chen

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Kia ora L Chen

### **COVID Level 3 Parking Decisions**

Thank you for your request made under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act), received on 6 September 2021. You requested the following information:

- All documents, correspondence and advice on this year's Alert Level 3 parking services/enforcement.
- Breakdown of parking infringements issued by location (suburb) and the number of parking wardens working between 1 September 2021 to 5 September 2021.

Wellington City Council has partly **granted** your request for information.

Some information is already publicly available regarding the Council's decision which may help with your request, please see below.

In response to the country moving to COVID-19 Alert Level 3 on 23 March 2020 and subsequently into Alert Level 4 on 25 March 2020, the Council held a virtual extraordinary meeting on 9 April 2020. Discussions focused on the Council's Pandemic Response Plan actions for ensuring Wellington gets through and recovers from the lockdowns, as effectively and quickly as possible.

At the meeting it was agreed to return to full parking fees and enforcement two weeks after a return to Alert Level 3. Due to the length of time the country was in Alert Level 4 lockdown, two weeks were required to bring all the parking systems back online, by then the city had moved to Alert Level 2. The meeting minutes, including the voting structure on this decision, are available on the Council website at: <https://wellington.govt.nz/-/media/your-council/meetings/council/2020/april/2020-04-09-minutes-extraordinary-council.pdf> (Refer to pg 10).

For the lockdowns which began in August 2021, the Council had posted on the Council website, social media and on parking meters, advising that the Council would resume enforcing and charging for on-street parking, as per the decision made in April 2020. As this lockdown was fortunately much shorter, two weeks were not required to bring all the parking systems back online and we were able to resume paid parking and enforcement this time within three days into Alert Level 3.

The Council has assessed your request for all documentation, correspondence, and advice to the COVID-19 Alert Level 3 Parking Services enforcement decisions. As your request stands it would take considerable time to collate the information. The Council would need to review over four months' worth of information from the last two years and between 15-19 different council officers (including Councillors) were involved with advising and making the parking decisions.

To refine your request, you may want to consider refining the:

- time period

- scope of people involved
- types of documents such as final report/decisions, non-administrative correspondence.

Without refining your request, the Council can either refuse your request under section 17(f) (substantial manual collation or research) of the Act, or we may consider charging. The first four hours is free, but will be charged at \$38.00 per half hour thereafter. We estimate it would take up to 14 hours (total estimate cost \$760.00). Please let me know how you would like to proceed.

**Parking infringements issued by location (suburb) between 1 September 2021 to 5 September 2021.**

Suburb	Number of infringements issued
ARO VALLEY	13
BROOKLYN	4
CHURTON PARK	2
HATAITAI	22
ISLAND BAY	1
JOHNSONVILLE	5
KAIWHARAWHARA	3
KARORI	5
KELBURN	8
KHANDALLAH	6
KILBIRNIE	5
KINGSTON	5
LAMBTON	319
MAUPUIA	1
MIRAMAR	11
MOA POINT	3
MT COOK	78
MT VICTORIA	47
NEWLANDS	1
NEWTOWN	62
ROSENEATH	13
SEATOUN	1
STRATHMORE PARK	1
TAWA	2
TE ARO	520
THORNDON	72
WADESTOWN	8
WATERFRONT	4

**Note:** Of the 1,222 infringements issued, 202 of these were warnings.

**Number of parking wardens working between 1 September 2021 to 5 September 2021 across Wellington city.**

Date	Staff working
1 September 2021	25
2 September 2021	32
3 September 2021	34
4 September 2021	25
5 September 2021	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>126</b>

**Note:** This includes staff in compliance vehicles who attended complaints raised by members of the public.

Please note, we may proactively release our response to your request with your personal information removed.

**Right of review**

If you are not satisfied with the Council's response, you may request the Office of the Ombudsman to investigate the Council's decision. Further information is available on the Ombudsman website, [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Thank you again for your request, if you have any question please feel free to contact me.

Kind regards

Asha Harry

**Senior Advisor**

**Official Information Team**