

**From:** [Allie Dunn](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** CM: Response to request for information re Beech Tree Removal, Pahiatua  
**Date:** Thursday, 15 May 2025 4:10:00 pm  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)

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Kia ora

I refer to your official information request dated 14 May 2025, that requested the following:

*“ Could you please tell me the cost of removing the Beech tree in the square of Pahiatua today please. Also the name of the Arborist and his cost? I believe the ratepayers should know these costs.”*

We have outlined below the full costs for the work undertaken to remove the damaged tree, the traffic management required for this work (due to the work being undertaken within the roading corridor), the stump grinding and re-grassing of the site. The cost of the work undertaken by the arborist is only a part of this total cost.

The total cost of these works is: \$6411.10.

With regard to your request for the name of the Arborist and their cost, we advise that the amounts paid to individual contractors is treated as commercially sensitive. For this reason, we have decided to withhold this information in accordance with section 7(2)(b)(ii). In making this decision we have considered whether public interest in being provided with this information would outweigh the need to maintain commercial sensitivity for businesses contracting with the Council, and concluded that the public interest was not greater. We note that the community are provided with Council's audited financial statements at an appropriate level of detail each year through the publication of Council's Annual Report. Budget information is also available to the public at the appropriate level through the Council's Long Term Plan and the Annual Plan, upon which the community is consulted on each year.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.  
Ngā mihi



**Allie Dunn | Manager Democracy Services**  
**Democracy Services | Tararua District Council**

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