

Port Hills Costs

The Port Hills Fire (2017) was one of the biggest and most severe in terms of the number of houses burned and people evacuated in recent New Zealand history. Significant infrastructure was either threatened or lost (major power lines, radar, communications infrastructure, sugarloaf tower and Christchurch Adventure Park).

It took significant resources to combat and due to the scale, there was significant loss associated with this event. While it is difficult to calculate the total cost of the fires, partly because the recovery and impact is still ongoing for those most affected, we have calculated some of the costs associated with the firefighting activities.

Costs do not include Fire and Emergency NZ/New Zealand Fire Service start time.

Costs paid to other fire agencies from the Rural Fire Fighting Fund

Selwyn District Council - \$6.2m
Contractors - \$737k

Total paid out of the Rural Fire Fighting Fund - \$6.9m

Note: any costs directly paid by the NZ Fire Service are recorded for a readiness perspective, not at the incident suppression or type of fire level, therefore we are unable to provide this information.

Costs associated with Port Hills Fires 2017 Operational Review

Travel - \$22k
Advisory services - \$11k
Misc - \$3.5k

Total - \$37k

Costs associated with the Origin and Cause reviews

Estimated at \$59k as not all costs have been finalised.

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