

19-E-0451 / DOC 6046228

22 August 2019

Hannah Enderby via fyi.org.nz

Dear Ms Enderby

We refer to your information request to the Department of Conservation dated 4 July 2019, regarding tracking devices that are used to monitor kiwi.

In our 7 August 2019 response to a previous information request from you (request 19-E-0457), we asked that you provide evidence of your eligibility to make requests under the Official Information Act 1982 ("the OIA") by 14 August 2019.

We did not receive the evidence we requested within that prescribed timeframe. Therefore, we have decided to decline this request on the basis that it does not meet the eligibility criteria set out in section 12 of the OIA. I have made this decision in consideration of the resources we have available to respond to requests and our obligation and ability to respond to legitimate OIA requests in a timely manner.

We are however happy to provide a response to this request outside of the OIA process and on the basis that you pay for the costs incurred by the Department in preparing that response.

We estimate that the Department will incur a minimum cost of \$1,064 (New Zealand dollars) in preparing a response. Schedule 1 (attached to this letter) contains information on how we have fixed this charge. If you wish to make this payment and receive a response, please get in touch with us via replies@doc.govt.nz. Please note that you will need to pay the full amount of \$1,064 to the Department before we begin preparing a response.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how you can make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

Amber Bill Director Threats, for Director-General

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Schedule 1 – calculation of minimum cost

Table 1: chargeable activities

Chargeable activities required	 Search and retrieval of relevant documents Research (reading and reviewing to identify relevant information) Drafting and editing the response Reasonably required peer review to ensure that the response accurately captures the requested information
Minimum estimated total time to complete chargeable activities	15 hours

Table 2: calculation of total cost payable

Total hours	Charging rate* (NZD)	Total chargeable hours	Total cost** (NZD)
15 hours	\$38/half hour, with the first hour free	14 hours	\$1,064.00

^{*} The charging rate is consistent with the rate prescribed in the Ministry of Justice Charging Guidelines for Official Information Act 1982 Requests.

^{**} The total cost is inclusive of GST