

21 March 2022

John Trafalgar  
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REF: OIA-9597

Dear John

**Request made under the Official Information Act 1982**

Thank you for your request of 23 February 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*Please provide information on the sections of New Zealand state highways where the speed limit has increased to 110km/h since the 6th Labour government came into power (i.e. from 26 October 2017), including when the speed limit increase was implemented - exact dates not required, the month and year for each one suffices.*

*Please also provide your definition of "recently" if that is at all possible under the Official Information Act.*

Two corridors on the state highway network have a posted speed limit of 110km/h. These are on State Highway 1 (SH1) on the Cambridge section of the Waikato Expressway between Tamahere and Cambridge Southern interchanges, and on SH2 Tauranga Eastern Link Toll Road between the Paengaroa roundabout and Domain Road interchange. Both of these were implemented on 11 December 2017.

These roads have a higher posted speed limit because they have been designed with safety features such as median barriers and two lanes in each direction, which significantly reduces the risk of head-on collisions. Waka Kotahi is considering changing the posted speed limit of other sections of the Waikato Expressway 110kph and are making infrastructure changes to support this on older sections. An announcement on this is expected by mid-2022.

The Minister, in his comments at the launch of the Road to Zero public awareness campaign on 22 February 2022, used the word 'recently' to describe the time since the start of the sixth Labour Government.

Yours sincerely



**David Van Staden**  
Programme Director – Speed and Infrastructure Programme