

13 February 2023

Mark Williams  
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Our ref: OIA 99473

Tēnā koe Mark

### Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 19 September 2022, in which you request information relating to unpaid fines and reparations, and Driver Licence Stop Orders (DLSOs). Specifically, you requested:

*“1. How many people currently have unpaid fines/reparations owing to the Courts and what is the dollar value owing for each of the last five years.*

*2. Could you please advise how many Driver Licence Stop Orders you have issued in each of the last five years, and how many have been lifted during this period.*

*3. How much have the recipients of DLSO's eventually paid, in each of the last five years?*

*4. What is the Ministry's evaluation of the success [sic], or otherwise, of this programme. Do the fines received from DLSO's well and truly [sic] cover the Ministry's own costs in administering it (eg, staffing, salaries, IT systems, etc).”*

Your request has been referred to me for a response, as it falls within my responsibilities as Group Manager, National Service Delivery, and is being managed in accordance with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

On 14 October 2022, the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry) informed you that we had decided to grant your request but needed more time to finalise the information for release. I apologise for any inconvenience this delay may have caused you.

On 1 November 2022, the Ministry contacted you to clarify question 1 of your request. You confirmed that question 1 of your request could be clarified to the following:

*“the total amount of unpaid fines owing in each of the last five years for those issued a drive licence stop order (and not each individual's dollar value)”*

Please note that all data provided is drawn from an operational database that is subject to change, as new data is continually recorded and/or recoded.

In response to question 1, please refer to Table 1 in the Appendix which provides the outstanding balance of in force DLSOs.

In response to question 2 and 3, please refer to Table 2 and Table 3.

In response to question 4, the Ministry has not completed an evaluation of DLSOs as they are part of a set of options available under legislation (Land Transport Act 1998) for the collection of fines and reparation. The Ministry does not maintain a separate register of costs relating to specific actions regarding the collection of fines. This question is therefore refused under section 18(e) of the Act, as this information does not exist. You can find more information about fines enforcement at: [justice.govt.nz/fines/about-fines/fines-enforcement/](http://justice.govt.nz/fines/about-fines/fines-enforcement/)

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phone on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tracey Baguley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tracey Baguley  
**Group Manager, National Service Delivery**

## Appendix

**Table 1: Outstanding Balance of in force DLSOs, for the last five financial years**

Financial Year	Outstanding Balance	Number of Profiles
2017/18	\$640,419.71	80
2018/19	\$690,387.23	83
2019/20	\$780,851.28	86
2020/21	\$433,681.01	53
2021/22	\$296,695.67	37

### Notes for Table 1:

- Financial years start in 1 July and end 30 June.
- We have interpreted "Those issued a drive licence stop order" as profiles where the DLSO is currently in force.
- "In force" DLSOs are those that have been served and not withdrawn.
- One profile might have an in force DLSO at the end of multiple financial years and will be counted twice.

**Table 2: Number of served and lifted DLSOs, for the last five financial years**

Financial Year	Served DLSOs	Lifted DLSOs
2017/18	92	37
2018/19	68	52
2019/20	70	55
2020/21	53	72
2021/22	8	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>237</b>

### Notes for Table 2:

- Lifted DLSOs are counted by the year they were lifted in, which may be different from the year in which the DLSO was served.

**Table 3: Total amount paid by recipients of DLSOs, for the last five financial years**

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Payment Receipts</b>
2017/18	\$69,268
2018/19	\$71,584
2019/20	\$82,566
2020/21	\$144,127
2021/22	\$145,684
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$513,229</b>

**Notes for Table 3:**

- Financial year refers to the year in which payment was made, this may include payment where the DLSO was served in previous years.
- Payment receipts include payment in full, part payment or payment arrangements. It does not include receipts that were overpaid and refunded.