

22 November 2022

Chris McCashin
fyi-request-20954-00f6bf07@requests.fyi.org.nz

REF: OIA-11297

Dear Chris

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 25 October 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Can you please provide the following across the years 2014 - 2022

1. *Total Number of Employees*
2. *FTE*
3. *Fixed Contracts*
4. *Contractors*
5. *Can you also please provide the total wage cost for those years and amount that these people are being paid broken into salary bands / and or tax brackets - what ever is easiest.*

Please also provide

6. *Any and all memos formal & informal, email, correspondence, input involved, reports and recommendations associated with the closure of the Marsden Refinery specifically associated with Bitumen - correspondence to include National Security, Costs for Bitumen, correspondence with the Minister - I am specifically after all the input associated with Bitumen and the Marsden refinery*
7. *If the Transport Agency did not have input please let me know why*
8. *Costs of bitumen from 2016 and onwards per month that the Transport Agency paid up until todays date*
9. *Please provide the date Marsden refinery*

I have numbered each part of your request and will answer each in turn.

1. *Total Number of Employees*

The total number of Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency employees per financial year from 2012/13 to 2016/17 is publicly available on page 101 of the *2016/17 Annual review of the New Zealand Transport Agency - New Zealand Transport Agency responses to annual review questions 1 to 106* document, found on the New Zealand Parliament website at:

www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/submissions-and-advice/document/52SCTI_EVI_75261_TI254/new-zealand-transport-agency-responses-to-annual-review.

The total number of Waka Kotahi employees per financial year from 2017/18 to 2020/21 is publicly available on page 122 of the *2020/21 Annual review of the New Zealand Transport Agency - Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (Responses to written questions 1-215)* document found on the New Zealand Parliament website at:

www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/submissions-and-advice/document/53SCTI_EVI_116640_TI2301/waka-kotahi-nz-transport-agency-responses-to-written-questions.

I am therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Act as the information you seek is already publicly available.

2. *FTE*

The total number of full-time equivalent permanent Waka Kotahi employees per financial year from 2014 to 2022 can be found in the relevant Waka Kotahi annual report. All annual reports since 2009 are publicly available on our website here: www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/annual-report-nzta/. I am therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Act as the information you seek is already publicly available.

3. *Fixed Contracts*

The number of fixed term staff employed by Waka Kotahi per financial year from 2012/13 to 2016/17 can be found on page 87 of the publicly available *2016/17 Annual review of the New Zealand Transport Agency responses to annual review questions 1 to 106* document, available on the New Zealand Parliament website at:

www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/submissions-and-advice/document/52SCTI_EVI_75261_TI254/new-zealand-transport-agency-responses-to-annual-review.

The number of fixed term staff employed by Waka Kotahi per financial year from 2016/17 to 2021/2022 can be found on page 249 of the publicly available *2022/23 Estimates for Vote Transport supplementary questions* document, found on the New Zealand Parliament website at:

www.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/53SCTI_EVI_123937_TI2729/2fbffc69f70a3cd261c474e6a3bc99e790242fa4.

I am therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Act as the information you seek is already publicly available.

4. *Contractors*

The number of contractors/consultants employed by Waka Kotahi per financial year from 2012/13 to 2016/17 can be found on page 80 of the publicly available *Annual review of the New Zealand Transport Agency - New Zealand Transport Agency responses to annual review questions 1 to 106*

document, found on the New Zealand Parliament website at:
www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/submissions-and-advice/document/52SCTI_EVI_75261_TI254/new-zealand-transport-agency-responses-to-annual-review.

The number of contractors/consultants employed by Waka Kotahi per financial year since 2016/17 can be found on page 234 of the publicly available *2022/23 Estimates for Vote Transport supplementary questions* document, found on the New Zealand Parliament website at:
www.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/53SCTI_EVI_123937_TI2729/2fbffc69f70a3cd261c474e6a3bc99e790242fa4.

I am therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Act as the information you seek is already publicly available.

5. *Can you also please provide the total wage cost for those years and amount that these people are being paid broken into salary bands / and or tax brackets - what ever is easiest.*

The total cost of wages for all employees per financial year from 2014 to 2022 can be found in the relevant Waka Kotahi Annual report. All annual reports since 2009 are publicly available on our website here: www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/annual-report-nzta/. I am therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Act as the information you seek is already publicly available.

The salary levels of all Waka Kotahi employees per financial year from 2012/13 to 2016/17 is publicly available on page 100 of the *2016/17 Annual review of the New Zealand Transport responses to annual review questions 1 to 106* document, found on the New Zealand Parliament website at:
www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/submissions-and-advice/document/52SCTI_EVI_75261_TI254/new-zealand-transport-agency-responses-to-annual-review.

The salary levels of all Waka Kotahi employees per financial year from 2017/18 to 2020/21 is publicly available on page 121 of the *2020/21 Annual review of the New Zealand Transport Agency (Responses to written questions 1-215)* document, found on the New Zealand Parliament website at:
www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/submissions-and-advice/document/53SCTI_EVI_116640_TI2301/waka-kotahi-nz-transport-agency-responses-to-written-questions

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On 26 October 2022, we contacted you to seek clarification of what timeframe your request for correspondence and documents covers, we also invited you to specify the particular documents you seek, since as it stands, this part of your request is not specified with due particularity as required under section 12(2) of the Act.

As we have not received a response from you, we are unable to answer this part of your request.

Waka Kotahi has received Official Information Requests for specific documents and correspondence relating to bitumen previously. We have published a response, and the documents that fell within

scope of the request, on our website. You can find this under the *New Zealand bitumen supply* response from 8 April 2022 on our website at:
www.nzta.govt.nz/about-us/official-information-act/media-official-information-act-oia-responses/.

7. If the Transport Agency did not have input please let me know why

While Waka Kotahi holds correspondence and documents regarding bitumen, we were not directly involved in discussions about the Marsden Point Oil Refinery being closed down.

8. Costs of bitumen from 2016 and onwards per month that the Transport Agency paid up until today's date

Waka Kotahi does not pay for bitumen directly. Bitumen, used on Waka Kotahi works projects, is purchased by the contractor that Waka Kotahi has employed for a project or by a sub-contractor. The cost to supply, for example, a square metre of chip seal or asphalt surfacing, is commonly known, but the cost of the individual materials required to deliver it, such as bitumen, is not.

While Waka Kotahi does not know what its contractors pay for bitumen, the monthly Z Energy bitumen list price per tonne is supplied to Waka Kotahi by Z Energy to allow us to calculate our 'bitumen cost adjustment series'. The Z Energy list price is commercially sensitive due to Z Energy being in a competitive market, we are therefore withholding this cost of bitumen under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Act to protect information where making it available would be likely to unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

With respect to the information that has been withheld, I do not consider there are any other factors which would render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

9. Please provide the date Marsden refinery

When we contacted you on 26 October 2022, to seek clarification of your request, we also asked that you clarify this question as it appears the sentence is not complete. As we did not receive a response from you, we are unable to answer this part of your request.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to withhold certain information. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

If you would like to discuss this reply with Waka Kotahi, please contact Ministerial Services, by email to official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Brett Wood
Manager, People Experience