

8 October 2014

Mr Anthony Jordan  
Via email at: [fyi-request-2009-56fb70c4@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-2009-56fb70c4@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Mr Jordan

### Official Information Act 1982

I refer to your email of 11 September 2014 seeking the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 ("the Act"):

*1/ Does the Corporation use the services and/or opinions of any professional that specialises in the field of Neuro-Optometry? The names of either individuals or clinics that are used and/or contracted would be appreciated.*

*2/ Please provide guidelines and any other useful resource information back to the first date that the ACC was founded, that solely relates to the prevention, care and recovery of mTBI and post-concussion complications.*

*3/ Is there at present or intend to be any investigations into mTBI and post-Concussion complications that are likely to either compliment the current July 2006 Guidelines or establish a separate set of Guidelines for mTBI altogether.*

*4/ Is there at present or intend to be any investigations into mTBI and post-Concussion issues with the intentions to be more in-line with modern day scientific evidence. for example: Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE)*

*5/ If any of the above mentioned is unavailable due to information already available in public arena or no initiatives taken to investigate and research such Injuries and Impairments by the Corp, would the Corporation please provide the appropriate Archive centre to obtain Information and person(s) to submit recommendation to investigate such Injuries and Impairments for the purpose of insuring ACC are up-to-date and in line with Modern scientific research/findings*

*6/ Please provide Statistical Information supporting the rehabilitation success rates where either maintaining independence in a vocational sense and/or complete rehabilitation back to fulltime employment by partly or solely using Neuro-optometric and Neuro-Ophthalmologic services/clinicians*

### Size and nature of your request

ACC is considering your request under the terms of the Act. However, question 2 as detailed above is a request for a large quantity of information. Even if ACC were to extend the time limits for responding to your request under the Act, the amount of documentation to be looked at, the time required and the necessary diversion of resources may unreasonably interfere with ACC's operations.

ACC is of the view that question 2 of your request for information is likely to require substantial collation and research in its current form. ACC is therefore considering declining your request under section 18(f).

ACC may be able to avoid declining your request if you refine the amount of information you are seeking. If you return with a narrowed request, ACC will be able to consider it under the terms of the Act. It is important to note that ACC applies all of the provisions of the Act to refined requests, including any relevant withholding grounds.

### **Levy a Charge**

If your refined request is still for a large quantity of information, ACC may also consider levying a charge to avoid a decline decision. When calculating a charge, ACC uses the Ministry of Justice Charging Guidelines which provide for an initial charge of \$38 for the first chargeable half hour or part thereof of staff time and then \$38 for each additional half hour or part thereof. ACC will also levy a charge of 20 cents per page after the first 20 pages for photocopying.

Section 15(3) of the Act allows ACC to ask for whole or part of the charge to be paid in advance.

### **Next Steps**

Please advise ACC by 15 October 2014 whether you wish to take up the option of refining question 2 of your request. If ACC has not heard from you within 5 working days, ACC will proceed with considering its decision under section 18(f) of the Act.

### **Notification of Time Extension**

Additionally, ACC needs an extra 20 working days until 7 November 2014 to complete your request for information.

This extension complies with Section 15A of the Act.

I wish to assure you that ACC will do all it can to respond to your request before the new due date, if that is at all possible.

Please contact us at [GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz](mailto:GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz) if you have any queries regarding this letter.

You may make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman. You can call them on 0800 802 602, 9am to 5pm weekdays, or write to:

The Office of the Ombudsman  
PO Box 10 152  
WELLINGTON 6143

Yours sincerely

*Government Services Team*

**Government Services Team**