



1 May 2019

Julie Nevin
fyi-request-10105-318f4a86@requests.fyi.org.nz

Reference: OIA-2018/19-0556

Dear Julie Nevin

Official Information Act request relating to the costs of putting out the Pigeon Valley fires

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act (the Act), received on 13 April 2019. You requested:

"I'd like to know what it took to put out the fires around Pigeon Valley, Tasman, this summer. Specifically:

- 1. what the response cost civil defense (and other responding organisations, if possible)*
- 2. how much fresh and marine water was used*
- 3. how much fuel was used by helicopters and other vehicles*
- 4. how many hectares of forest were destroyed*
- 5. the expected compensation to landowners for damage caused by the response."*

The Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management, within the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC), does not hold all of the information you have requested relating to the Pigeon Valley fires. However, I believe this information is held in part by the New Zealand Police, Fire and Emergency New Zealand, the Tasman District Council (TDC), and the Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI). Accordingly, I have decided under section 14(b)(i) of the Act to partially transfer part 1 of your request to all of the agencies referenced above and to transfer parts 2 through 4 to Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ). DPMC will still respond to parts 1 and 5 of your request.

Please note that we have interpreted part 3 of your request as relating to fuel used by helicopters and other vehicles in the firefighting efforts, and therefore have determined this should be transferred to FENZ. However, we note that this could also be interpreted to include all vehicles fuel usage in the response, including those belonging to New Zealand Police.

The New Zealand Police, FENZ, TDC and MPI have the regular timeframes from receipt of this transfer to make a decision on your request.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Corbett
Manager, Ministerial Services