



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

19-E-0822 / DOC 6137843

9th December 2019

S Carter
Email: via fyi.org.nz

Dear Ms Carter

Thank you for the Official Information Act (“OIA”) request you submitted to the Department on 21 November 2019. You requested the following:

In regards to the recent discovery of 600 - 700 animal carcasses on a Westport beach, please supply the following information:

1. Total PR/marketing spend to date on this incident.

Please break this down into the following:

- i. Spend prior to the discovery of the carcasses*
- ii. Spend between the taking of samples from the beach to the release of the media release by DOC that either there was no 1080 found or the results were inconclusive*
- iii. Spend after the media release to the date of providing this information*

2. Within the above information please also breakdown payments made to Awaroa Partners and or any other PR/marketing and or similar companies and please include the names of the companies.

The Department’s inhouse communications team dealt with media and social media inquiries on this matter and has not engaged Awaroa Partners (or any other PR or marketing agency) in respect to the incident you have referred to in your request. The Department has not paid money to any such agencies.

Therefore, we are refusing this request under section 18(e) of the OIA because the information you requested does not exist.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complain is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heather Peacocke".

Heather Peacocke
Director, Customer Engagement