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27 February 2020

Alan Thompson

By email: fyi-request-12113-08811df9@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Alan

Information Request – Deep Creek Fire Costs

I refer to your official information request dated 29 January 2020 asking for the following information in relation to a fire at Deep Creek on 9 November 2019:

- *A breakdown of the total costs FENZ incurred responding to and suppressing this wildfire.*
- *The charges that were billed to the Dept of Conservation for this specific fire under the terms of the agreement with them and the requirements of the FENZ Act.*

The following table shows a breakdown of the costs as at 12 February 2020. We anticipate the total will increase as final labour costs are received.

F2879764 - Old Dunstan Road	Costs as at 12.02.2020
Hire of Aerial Services	426,059
External Firefighting Services*	98,430
Labour costs	17,184
Travel & Accommodation & Meals	5,254
Incident Catering	2,019
Miscellaneous costs	1,579
Plant & Equipment Hire - Operational	1,350
Other Supplies	112
Total	551,986


* External firefighting services are those resources that are not owned or, in the case of people, are not Fire and Emergency personnel. They may include forestry company or Department of Conservation personnel, and operators of heavy equipment such as diggers, bulldozers, water tankers, etc.

At this time, we do not have information about the costs the Department of Conservation incurred in relation to the suppression of this fire. Pending the provision of that information, no decision has been made about how costs will be apportioned between the Department and Fire and Emergency.

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

Note also that this response (with your personal details removed) may be published on the Fire and Emergency website.

Yours sincerely



Raewyn Bleakley
Deputy Chief Executive, Office of the Chief Executive