

Blaize McCabe

By email: [fyi-request-13168-83607937@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-13168-83607937@requests.fyi.org.nz)  
Ref: H202004839

Dear Blaize McCabe

### **Response to your request for official information**

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 28 June 2020 for:

*"1. Please provide a list of every Hotel or other facility that has been or is currently being used by the Government as a Managed Isolation Facility in New Zealand. Please also provide information about the number of people who have stayed in each facility since March 25th 2020.*

*2. The current cost occurred so far for each facility, in regards to room cost, food etc. Please also provide the estimated cost per person to stay in a Managed Isolation Facility."*

On 24 July 2020, the first part of your request was transferred to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) under section 14 of the Act, as the information requested is more closely aligned with its functions.

In response to the second part of your request, the total amount spent on managed isolation facilities is \$81.973 million (GST inclusive) up to 30 June 2020. This covers food and accommodation for guests, security, transfers, health and wellbeing wraparound services, and direct costs that are not covered in All-of-Government staff baselines, which are met by the respective organisations who provide those staff.

Costs per facility and individual room rates are withheld under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Act, as the release of this information is likely to unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the businesses subject of the information.

The Ministry is unable to provide an average cost per person. Managed isolation facilities are operating to ensure that there is sufficient capacity at any point in time. The facilities do not operate on an 'as required' or 'per person' basis.

It is also important to note that for the period of mid-March 2020 to 9 April 2020, people returning could go into self-isolation at a location of their own choosing if an isolation plan was in place on arrival and met health requirements. Managed isolation was not compulsory until 11.59pm on 9 April 2020. Those individuals who returned from overseas before 10 April 2020 and did go into managed isolation and quarantine were not required to remain there for 14 days.

From 9 April 2020 to 1 July 2020, 24,350 people have stayed in managed isolation facilities. No accurate calculation can be made by dividing the number of people who have stayed in a managed isolation facility by the cost as this calculation does not reflect the current cost of a full 14 day stay.

Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Natalie Richardson', with a long, sweeping underline.

Natalie Richardson  
**Director**  
**COVID-19 Health System Response**