

28 FEB 2014



Mr Ben Moore
www.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Moore

Official Information Act 1982 – EQC legal fees for the period 2009 – 2013

On 19 November 2013 you requested the following information from the Earthquake Commission (EQC) under the Official Information Act 1982:

'I am interested in ascertaining the cost of external legal advice received by your organisation over the past five years.'

Ideally I would like to receive this data as a table or spreadsheet dividing the expenses per month and business purpose, and including data on both amount invoiced and the amount paid (or yet to be paid).

I am particularly interested in the costs of legal advice and representation incurred by your organisation in direct relation to the Canterbury Earthquake e.g. where above I specify a business purpose, a distinction between 'BAU', 'Canterbury Earthquake', 'other operational' etc would be suitable....'

The attached table contains the information requested for the calendar years 2009 – 2013. Please note the monthly figures reflect the amount Paid in that month, not invoiced in that month.

Monthly figures are broken down by Canterbury and non-Canterbury (BAU – business as usual) events, although the Cook Strait event has been separately identified.

Right of review

This response fully addresses your request. You have the option of approaching the Office of the Ombudsman for a review of EQC's decisions and/or processes relating to your enquiry. The Ombudsman can be contacted at PO Box 10 152, Wellington 6143, or on Freephone 0800 802 602, or visit <http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz>.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Ford', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jeremy Ford
Chief Legal Advisor

EQC LEGAL EXPENDITURE 2009 – 2013

	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		
	Canterbury	BAU	Canterbury	BAU	Canterbury	BAU	Canterbury	BAU	Canterbury	Cook Strait	BAU
January	\$ -	\$966.14	\$ -	\$4,206.30	\$ -	\$1,500.00	\$ -	\$3,193.00	\$435,908.00		\$15,415.04
February	\$ -	\$8,413.04	\$ -	\$20,583.50	\$9,180.96	\$5,491.00	\$477,025.52	\$68,837.39	\$ -		\$ -
March	\$ -	\$760.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,187.87	\$147,271.72	\$ -	\$460,699.96		\$27,932.26
April	\$ -	\$17,444.55	\$ -	\$9,462.32	\$270,262.79	\$11,274.00	\$ -	\$150,391.25	\$1,687.50		\$466.10
May	\$ -	\$2,340.17	\$ -	\$ -	\$153,594.89	\$ -	\$594,527.88	\$7,721.99	\$650,126.82		\$77,139.76
June	\$ -	\$2,775.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$325,303.33	\$30,238.15	\$16,955.77	\$5,013.75	\$210,245.18		\$56,924.85
July	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$7,350.08	\$391,608.30	\$12,772.73	\$958,936.31	\$38,632.39	\$252,760.96		\$4,654.00
August	\$ -	\$430.54	\$ -	\$11,541.70	\$55,574.81	\$15,510.77	\$185,523.38	\$2,214.00	\$300,934.95		\$43,932.61
September	\$ -	\$7,806.74	\$ -	\$6,422.58	\$276,884.10	\$29,730.76	\$173,999.78	\$7,400.00	\$404,010.95		\$6,566.43
October	\$ -	\$2,439.04	\$1,210.00	\$ -	\$219,536.18	\$14,062.59	\$2,544.81	\$14,052.00	\$466,626.14	\$1,913.04	\$50,006.25
November	\$ -	\$9,186.50	\$152,026.29	\$5,781.04	\$139,765.66	\$27,926.49	\$427,036.13	\$5,047.00	\$415,253.89	\$7,496.00	\$18,988.10
December	\$ -	\$14,018.00	\$278,038.41	\$53,213.36	\$ -	\$87,368.11	\$3,096.75	\$25,726.60	\$510,184.92	\$4,494.50	\$48,084.61
Total	\$66,579.72	\$549,835.58	\$2,078,773.49	\$3,315,547.42	\$3,909,688.79						