



Office of the Attorney General

13 February 2014

Alex Harris

By email: fyi-request-1439-221bf015@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Harris

I refer to your email of 5 February 2014 seeking information about the costs of the civil proceedings against Mr Murnane, Mr Leason and Mr Land.

The civil proceedings were conducted by Crown Law. Crown Law Office staff are salaried workers and only present invoices for their work in certain circumstances. While legal staff generally record their time, not all time within Crown Law is recorded nor billed. There is no record at all of the time spent by legal support staff and other non-legal staff.

In this particular case, the Government Communications Security Bureau (GCSB) was billed for much of the work conducted by Crown Law, but not all of it, the remainder being written off.

With those caveats in mind the GCSB was billed the following amounts in each financial year:

Year ending	Amount
30 June 2011	\$22,605.43
30 June 2012	\$36,681.85
30 June 2013	\$23,361.30
30 June 2014	\$4,408.97
Total	\$87,057.55

The most recent bill sent to the GCSB was dated 22 January 2014 and billed for time spent to the end of December 2013. As of 7 February 2014 Crown Law staff have recorded additional time spent to the value of \$6,363.00 but some of that time may be written off and therefore not billed to the GCSB.

In accordance with s 19 of the OIA I advise you have a right, by way of complaint under s 28(3) of the OIA, to seek an investigation and review of this decision by the Ombudsman.

Yours sincerely



Zach Castles
Private Secretary (Advisory)