

# Hon Stuart Nash LLM, MMgt, MForSc

MP for Napier

Minister for Economic and Regional Development  
Minister of Forestry  
Minister for Small Business  
Minister of Tourism



02 AUG 2021

Luke

[fyi-request-15900-ea232806@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-15900-ea232806@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Luke,

Thank you for your email of 25 June 2021, requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*I am requesting a break down of the cost involved in the negotiations for hosting the next America's Cup.*

*I would like a break down paid to the negotiators directly for their services plus a break down of any expenses reimbursed.*

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) engaged the services of the law firm Chapman Tripp to conduct negotiations for the government, between the Crown and Auckland Council and Team New Zealand.

Chapman Tripp invoiced the following amounts to MBIE for their services rendered:

- \$ 1,488.25 (GST inclusive)
- \$ 8,750.88 (GST inclusive)
- \$ 14,227.60 (GST inclusive).

MBIE's own internal legal counsel also supported the negotiations. The costs involved in this include return flights for an MBIE senior solicitor between Wellington and Auckland on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of May 2021 and taxi costs to and from the respective airports. Total flight costs are \$838.60 and total taxi costs are \$398.50.

I am unable to extrapolate the costs for the MBIE senior solicitor as they are a salaried employee of MBIE and supporting the negotiations falls under their day-to-day responsibilities.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of my decision to withhold information relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found at: [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision, please feel free to contact [s.nash@ministers.govt.nz](mailto:s.nash@ministers.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely,



Hon Stuart Nash

**Minister for Economic and Regional Development**