



21 March 2022

Nathaniel Manning

By email: fyi-request-18618-67c08ba5@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Nathaniel

Official information request for costs associated with occupation of Pipitea Campus

I refer to your request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) dated 21 February 2022:

- 1) *As of 21/02/2022, what has the overall cost of the protests been on the university, and how are these costs broken down? For example, categories could be (but not limited to);*
 - extra security or infrastructure
 - reallocating staff and resources to other campuses
 - marketing and comms
 - Cost to service providers/delays of services.
- 2) *What is the forecasted cost of closing Pipitea campus until mid-April, and of cleaning up vandalism and damage after the protest?*
- 3) *How are these costs covered financially (e.g. insurance, student services levy, academic costs, government funding etc.)?*

The total costs associated with the occupation of the Pipitea campus are not currently known. The work to restore the campus to a safe environment for students and staff is ongoing and the final costs associated with this work will not be known until the work is complete. It is anticipated that costs relating to the clean-up and repair of the campus will be approximately \$46,000 including GST. This includes removing rubbish, cleaning and waterblasting, replacing broken doors and glass panes, and maintenance to the grounds around Pipitea campus which were damaged during the occupation by protestors.

Currently the University has received invoices for the following expenditure associated with the protest:

Security costs	\$26,322.10
Legal Advice	\$3,399.62

In addition, the University has incurred significant internal costs such as those relating to reallocating staff and classes to other campuses, retaining staff to work additional security shifts and overtime, marketing and communications regarding the occupation, costs regarding delays of services, and rental and utility costs incurred despite not being able to utilise the campus for University purposes are not recorded distinctly and therefore cannot be provided without substantial collation and research. In many cases the information does not exist or is not held in a form that allows the University to calculate the true cost of the occupation of the Pipitea campus. Therefore, this aspect of your request is refused in accordance with s18(f) of the Act as the information cannot be made available without substantial collation and research ; s18(e) of the Act as the information does not exist; and s18(g) of the Act as the information is not held by the University.

Costs incurred due to the protest will be funded through the University's usual operating budgets and not through the Student Services Levy.

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

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact me at oiarequests@vuw.ac.nz.

Ngā mihi nui

Blair Doherty
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Legal Services
Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington