

17 May 2022

Mine Rogers

Dear Mine,

CAS-543083-B7Q7R2- Request for information

Thank you for your LGOIMA request dated the 18 April 2022. In your request you referred to 'hush money'. Auckland Transport does not pay hush money. However, as in all other organisations, we occasionally pay settlement agreements. Therefore, the response below refers to settlement agreements.

This request is declined on the grounds specified in s 7(2)(c)(ii) of the LGOIMA. Section 7(2)(c)(ii) of the LGOIMA applies when releasing information that is 'subject to an obligation of confidence' would be likely to 'damage the public interest':

- i. Withholding of the information is necessary to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information –
- ii. Would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest

The requested information is subject to an obligation of confidentiality. Disclosure of any detail of it would damage the public interest within the meaning of section 9(2)(ba)(ii) of the LGOIMA.

There is a clear public interest in agencies being able to enter into out of court resolution and settlement of complex employment disputes. Disclosure of the information requested would damage this public interest as it would create mistrust in confidential discussions to achieve solutions. Further, disclosure would affect the legal rights of parties to rely on the mutually agreed terms of agreement.

We appreciate this is not the outcome to your request that you were looking for, however for the reasons above you are not legally entitled to receive this information.

Yours sincerely



Antony Hall

Head of People Experience Delivery