

OC220903

07 November 2022

Kate Day
fyi-request-20806-894a41f2@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Kate

I refer to your email dated 9 October 2022, requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

“....all information prepared for the Minister of Transport about the impacts of the half price public transport policy which began on 1 April 2022.

I am interested in all impacts, including on ridership levels; carbon emissions and air pollution; social wellbeing and cost of living; and regional economies”.

Twenty three documents fall within the scope of your request and are detailed in the document schedule attached as Annex 1. The schedule outlines how the documents you requested have been treated under the Act.

Certain information is withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 9(2)(a) | to protect the privacy of natural persons |
| 18(d) | the information requested is or will soon be publicly available. The website links to access these documents are included Annex 1. |

With regard to the information that has been withheld under section 9 of the Act, I am satisfied that the reasons for withholding the information at this time are not outweighed by public interest considerations that would make it desirable to make the information available.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on the Ombudsman’s website www.ombudsman.parliament.nz

The Ministry publishes our Official Information Act responses and the information contained in our reply to you may be published on the Ministry website. Before publishing we will remove any personal or identifiable information.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Helen White', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Helen White
Manager – Mobility and Safety

Annex 1 - Document Schedule

Doc#	Date	Document	Decision on release
1	10 March 2022	Email chain – Ministry of Transport, Waka Kotahi, and office of the Minister of Transport – “Total PT revenue across NZ - info by COP today please”	Refused in full under section 18(d). The information requested is publicly available and can be accessed at: https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/revenue/rates-of-petrol-excise-duty-and-road-user-charges/
2	undated	Email attachment – Waka Kotahi – “PT revenue for each region”	Refused in full under section 18(d). The information requested is publicly available and can be accessed at: https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/revenue/rates-of-petrol-excise-duty-and-road-user-charges/
3	11 March 2022	Talking points and background information – “Temporarily reversing increases to petrol excise duty and road user charges for six months due to heightened fuel prices”	Refused in full under section 18(d). The information requested is publicly available and can be accessed at: https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/revenue/rates-of-petrol-excise-duty-and-road-user-charges/
4	13 March 2022	Email chain – Ministry of Transport – “Urgent short Cabinet paper needed for tomorrow”	Refused in full under section 18(d). The information requested is publicly available and can be accessed at: https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/revenue/rates-of-petrol-excise-duty-and-road-user-charges/
5	14 March 2022	Email chain - Ministry of Transport – “Urgent short Cabinet paper needed for tomorrow”	Refused in full under section 18(d). The information requested is publicly available and can be accessed at:

6	14 March 2022	Cabinet paper and Minute – “Taking Action on Fuel Prices: reducing petrol excise duty and road user charges for three months and supporting the uptake of public transport”	https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/revenue/rates-of-petrol-excise-duty-and-road-user-charges/ Refused in full under section 18(d). The information requested is publicly available and can be accessed at: https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/revenue/rates-of-petrol-excise-duty-and-road-user-charges/
7	14 March 2022	Email chain – Ministry of Transport – “Half price ferries”	Refused in full under section 18(d). The information requested is publicly available and can be accessed at: https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/revenue/rates-of-petrol-excise-duty-and-road-user-charges/
8	21 March 2022	Talking points and background information – “Putting in place reduced rates of road user charges and reduced public transport fares”	Refused in full under section 18(d). The information requested is publicly available and can be accessed at: https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/revenue/rates-of-petrol-excise-duty-and-road-user-charges/
9	1 April 2022	Briefing paper – “Taking action on fuel prices: reducing road user charges, related finance matters, and reimbursing track user charges”	Refused in full under section 18(d). The information requested is publicly available and can be accessed at: https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/revenue/rates-of-petrol-excise-duty-and-road-user-charges/
10	19 May 2022	Disclosure sheet – “Climate Implications of Policy Assessment: Disclosure Sheet”	Refused in full under section 18(d). The information requested is publicly available and can be accessed at:

			https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/revenue/rates-of-petrol-excise-duty-and-road-user-charges/
11	15 March 2022	Email – Ministry of Transport, BusinessDesk – “fare free public transport”	Partial release with some material withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
12	16 March 2022	Email – Ministry of Transport – “RE: PT FAQs – due ASAP”	Released in full.
13	16 March 2022	Attachment – “PT comms requests (006)”	Partial release with some material out of scope.
14	22 March 2022	Email – Ministry of Transport – “2022-03-21 PT and RUC reduction – PR – DRAFT (002)”	Partial release with some material out of scope.
15	22 March 2022	Attachment – Ministry of Transport – “2022-03-21 PT and RUC reduction – PR – DRAFT (002)”	Released in full.
16	22 March 2022	Email – Ministry of Transport, - “RE: Capital Connection fare reduction”	Partial release with some material out of scope and withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
17	22 March 2022	Attachment – “2022-03-21- PT and RUC reductions – PR – DRAFT”	Partial release with some material out of scope.
18	22 March 2022	Email – Ministry of Transport – “RE: A couple of PT lines needed for a media interview tomorrow - can I please have this by 4.30pm today please”	Partial release with some material withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
19	2 December 2021	Briefing – OC210916 – Budget 2022 Vote Transport – Initiatives for Submission	Refused in full under section 18(d). The information requested is publicly available and can be accessed at: https://www.transport.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Budget-2022-Information-Release.pdf
20	2 December 2021	Annex to briefing – OC210916 – Budget 2022 Vote Transport – Initiatives for Submission	Refused in full under section 18(d).

21	10 December 2021	Letter to the Minister of Finance - Budget 2022 Vote Transport – Initiatives for Submission	<p>The information requested is publicly available and can be accessed at: https://www.transport.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Budget-2022-Information-Release.pdf</p> <p>Refused in full under section 18(d). The information requested is publicly available and can be accessed at: https://www.transport.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Budget-2022-Information-Release.pdf</p>
22	undated	Memo – Strategic overview of Climate Emergency Response Fund (CERF) initiatives	<p>Refused in full under section 18(d). The information requested is publicly available and can be accessed at: https://www.transport.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Budget-2022-Information-Release.pdf</p>
23	undated	Annex – Suggested talking points and advice on specific Budget initiatives – 25 February	<p>Refused in full under section 18(d). The information requested is publicly available and can be accessed at: https://www.transport.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Budget-2022-Information-Release.pdf</p>