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30 January 2023

Alan Thompson

By email: fyi-request-21513-a7891abe@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Alan

Information Request – Waiharara Fire Costs

I refer to your official information request dated 04 January 2023 asking for the following information.

"On 8 April 2022 you advised me in your response to my OIA request that the total costs to that date for the Dec 2021 Waiharara Fire in Northland were \$7,023,231.

In Dec 2022 Ron Devlin was reported in the media as stating that "The last time I looked it was just short of about \$9.2 million". At this time Mr Devlin was commenting on the release of the fire investigation report for Waiharara.

Given the significant difference in the costs advised in April 2022 (\$7m) and Dec 2022 (\$9.2m) I request an updated total cost in the form as provided to me in my April 2022 OIA request."

In accordance with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982, I have set out below the information you requested. The table shows the invoiced costs to 25 January 2023 for the fire. It is possible that total costs may increase as additional invoices are received. Please note that the invoices represent the additional cost we incur beyond our fixed cost of maintaining a response capability.

F3383177 - Norton Rd Waiharara 18/12/21	Amount
Hire of Aerial Services	4,677,970
External Firefighting Services	2,124,796
Plant & Equipment Hire - Operational	488,567
Volunteer payments	420,744
Employee payments	416,148
Incident catering	316,907
Travel & Accommodation & Meals	215,088
Foam	154,343
Consultants	130,837
Other supplies	86,149
Operational Equipment <\$1000	38,892
Fuel	33,576
Fleet repairs and maintenance	24,852
Laundry costs	19,623
Occupancy	13,265
Freight charges	8,807
Personal protective equipment (PPE)	8,502
Computer & communications equipment costs	6,443
Operational equipment repairs and maintenance	5,970
Other supplies	5,306
Printing and Stationery	2,127
Miscellaneous costs	1,346
Total	9,200,257

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at <u>www.ombudsman.parliament.nz</u> or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa nā

Julia McCook-Weir Manager, Information Requests

