



BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES AND CITIZENSHIP Mauri o te Tangata

Identity Services Group

Te Ratonga Tuakiri

Boulcott House

47 Boulcott Street, PO Box 10680

Wellington 6143, New Zealand

Freephone 0800 22 51 51

Facsimile +64 4 382 3406

Website www.dia.govt.nz

Dear Jared,

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 regarding the breakdown of fees required for birth, death, marriage and citizenship certificates and citizenship applications.

The guidelines issued by Treasury and the Office of the Controller and Auditor-General recommend that fees for statutory services to third parties provided in a non-contestable environment are set on cost-recovery principles. This is what Births, Deaths, Marriages and Citizenship operation is largely based on. The exception is for birth and death registration, which is Crown-funded. The fees are therefore set to recover the full cost of each transaction that we undertake, including overheads. This revenue cannot be used to cross-subsidise the provision of other services provided by the Department of Internal Affairs.

Births, Deaths, Marriages fees were last revised in November 2003. They were subsequently changed to reflect an increase to GST in October 2010. These fees are regularly reviewed.

We are not in a position to release details about the breakdown of individual product costs as this information is commercially sensitive. This is pursuant to section 9(2)(b) of the Official Information Act 1982, which states that withholding the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would (i) disclose a trade secret; or (ii) be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

The fees which the Department charges are publicly available on the Department of Internal Affairs website.

You have the right to request an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision under section 28 of the Official Information Act. This Ombudsman can be contacted at:

Office of the Ombudsman
PO Box 10152
Wellington 6143
info@ombudsman.parliament.nz

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Regards,

Petar Vrecic
Business Support Officer
Births, Deaths, Marriages and Citizenship

