

17 July 2023

Tim Hurdle
fyi-request-23153-fc6f2efe@requests.fyi.org.nz

REF: OIA-12920

Dear Tim

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 16 June 2023 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- 1. Please provide copies of any reports, briefings or cabinet papers on the decision to raise toll prices.*
- 2. What are the exact proportions paid for debt repayment, interest costs, operating costs and GST for the Tauranga Eastern Link SH2 and the Takitimu Drive SH29 to be paid from toll revenues?*
- 3. What is the current level of debt and the expected final repayment date for*
 - (a) Tauranga Eastern Link SH2*
 - (b) Takitimu Drive SH29*
- 4. How are operating costs determined for toll roads?*
- 5. What are the interest rates and terms of loans on the toll roads?*

I will address each of your requests in turn below:

In response to part one of your request, one briefing was provided to the Minister of Transport and has since been publicly released under the title BRI-2744 Consumer Price Index increase in toll road charges.

This can be found in the April 2023 section of publicly released Advice provided to the Minister:
www.nzta.govt.nz/about-us/advice-provided-toministers/#:~:text=Every%20month%2C%20Waka%20Kotahi%20proactively,proactively%20releasing%20the%20written%20advice.

There is one other document that falls in scope of this part your request. This document also provides information requested in part five of your request. In this case the consultations necessary to make a decision on the release of this information cannot be made within the original 20-working-day time limit. Therefore, we are extending parts one and five of your request for a further 7 working days and will respond to you on or before 26 July 2023. This is allowed for under section 15A of the Act.

The second, third and fourth parts of your request are publicly available on our Tolling, General Frequently Asked Questions:
www.nzta.govt.nz/roads-and-rail/toll-roads/toll-road-information/frequently-asked-questions/general/.

Information regarding interest rates and terms of the loan are publicly available in our Waka Kotahi Annual Report which is publicly available, on page 128, and available at:
www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/annual-report-nzta/2021-22/.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to refuse parts of this request. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at
www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

If you would like to discuss this reply and extension with Waka Kotahi, please contact Ministerial Services, by email at official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'JS', written over a light blue circular stamp.

James Sorensen
Manager Ministerial Services, Enterprise