



3.1 JAN 2024

Andrew Riddell
fyi-request-25209-c018bf09@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Andrew

Thank you for your email of 16 December 2023 regarding the vehicle kilometres travelled programme (VKT) funded through the Climate Emergency Response Fund (CERF) under the Official Information Act 1982.

You requested:

- 1) Provide copies of any instructions you have given to Waka Kotahi to cease work on initiatives and programmes and to stop supporting local authorities to reduce vehicle kilometres travelled by the light vehicle fleets. This includes all instructions on the continued development and planning of cycling, walking and public transport initiatives by other agencies that are supported in full or in part by Waka Kotahi.*
- 2) Also provide all advice received by yourself in advance of issuing any instructions to Waka Kotahi on the programme to reduce vehicle kilometres travelled by light vehicles, including any analysis of the costs and benefits of ending that programme.*
- 3) Note that any costs and benefits analysis should include costs and benefits of reducing vehicle kilometres travelled by light vehicles on climate change mitigation and adaptation, on any change in vehicle road use, and on public health effects.*

The following documents fall within the scope of your request and are enclosed:

- Attachment 1: Letter to NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi Board – 12 December 2023
- Attachment 2: BRI-2886 Crown Funding proactive briefing – 28 November 2023
- Attachment 3: Email from the Ministry of Transport to Minister of Transport's Office – 11 December 2023

Some information has been withheld from these documents under the following sections of the Act:

- Section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons
- Section 9(2)(g)(i) – to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any department or organisation in the course of their duty
- Section 9(2)(h) - to maintain legal professional privilege.

Information that falls outside of the scope of your request has also been removed from the documents and is marked as such.

With respect to the information that has been withheld, I do not consider there are any other factors which would render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'S' followed by a horizontal line and a 'B' with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Hon Simeon Brown
Minister of Transport