

5 February 2025

Isaac Morrison
fyi-request-29427-7fbe3584@requests.fyi.org.nz

REF: OIA-17133

Dear Isaac

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 3 December 2024 requesting information on the Roads of National Significance (RoNS) under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). I will be responding to your request in two parts with the information on the Hawkes Bay Expressway to be provided to you as soon as possible.

1. The business cases for all current Roads of National Significance (RoNS) projects, including:
- Cost Benefit Ratios (BCRs)

In relation to your request for Cost Benefit Ratio's. NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) has calculated benefit cost ratios (BCRs) for the projects that were part of the former New Zealand Upgrade programme. I am refusing your request for these BCRs under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information requested is publicly available, and can be found on page 229 on the 2022/23 NZTA Annual Review responses, which are available on the parliament website at:
www.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/54SCTIN_EVI_9e4bd7b7-5ccb-4d77-8c4b-08dc117448e5_TIN214/1157d2ec860593ea088cacd3746f3a47092f63dd.

It is important to note that while NZTA has previously calculated BCRs for some of the RoNS projects, which can also be found within the 2022/23 Annual Review material I have linked to above. These BCRs were calculated a number of years ago and do not represent the projects as they are currently anticipated to be scoped.

I am refusing your request for the BCRs for the following RoNS under section 18(d) of the Act, as they can be found online at the following links:

- **Warkworth to Wellsford:** www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/projects/ara-tuhono-warkworth-to-wellsford/detailed-business-case-oct-2019.pdf
- **East West Link:** www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/projects/east-west-connections/EWC-DBC-Part-A-Final-Vol-1.pdf
- **SH16 North West Alternative Highway:** www.supportinggrowth.govt.nz/assets/supporting-growth/docs/Northwest-Auckland/North-West-Detailed-Business-Case-V1.1.pdf

- **SH29 Tauriko West:** www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/projects/tauriko-network-plan/tauriko-west-network-southern-bypass-assessment-summary.pdf
- **Petone to Grenada Link Road and Cross Valley Link:** www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/projects/petone-grenada-link-road/docs/p2g-scoping-report-final-2014-part2.pdf
- **Alternative to Brynderwyn Hills in the Auckland-Whangarei PBC -** www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/projects/whangarei-to-te-hana/Whangarei-to-Auckland-PBC.pdf
- **SH1 Cambridge to Piarere:** www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/projects/cambridge-to-piarere/sh1-cambridge-to-piarere-detailed-business-case-may-2021.pdf
- **SH6 Hope Bypass:** <https://nzta.govt.nz/assets/projects/richmond-transport-programme-business-case/richmond-transport-programme-business-case-december-2021.pdf>

Following the Governments release of the Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2024 (GPS 2024), these BCRs are unlikely to reflect a current or accurate BCR for each project. NZTA is currently developing investment cases for each of these projects to align with the scope expectations set out in GPS 2024. In addition, I am refusing your request for the BCRs for the remaining RoNS under section 18(e) of the Act, as the documents alleged to contain the information do not exist.

All projects will go through the standard NZTA project development process, which includes detailed investigations and business case development, before being presented to the NZTA Board to consider for funding from the National Land Transport Fund (NLTF). The investment case and associated BCR for each project will be updated as part of this process.

- ***Present Value calculations***
- ***Economic assessment details***

Present Value calculations and economic assessment details are created as part of investment cases and these are not yet available for all projects. I have included below information that is available and for the remaining projects I am refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Act as the information requested does not exist.

Northland Corridor

The information you have requested is contained within the Investment Case. This is currently being prepared for proactive release and is expected to be publicly available on the project page at www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/northland-corridor/ by early April 2025. Therefore, I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Act.

Woodend Bypass

The *Woodend Bypass Economic Assessment v03a* is currently being prepared for release to you. This will be provided as soon as possible.

- ***Project cost estimates***

I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Act as the information is publicly available at www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/About-us/docs/oia2-2024/indicative-cost-estimate.pdf. These should be read with the caveats contained in that document.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to withhold some information and 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 matter further with NZTA, you are welcome to contact the Ministerial Services team by email at official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'TJ', is positioned above the printed name.

Tom James
Manager, Ministerial Services