

4 February 2025

Andy Reynolds
fyi-request-29735-3b06cced@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: OIA 118748

Tēnā koe Andy

Official Information Act request: Public Defence System costs

Thank you for your email of 13 January 2025, to the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry) requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), information about Crown Prosecution Services and Public Defence system expenditure. Specifically, you requested:

“I am writing to you to request annual expenditure on the Crown Prosecution Services versus the Public Defence System. The period I am seeking can be either 2022, 2023, and if possible, 2024. The expenditure summary is to be displayed in monthly sums, or you can provide a document detailing this financial transparency.”

On 16 January 2025, the Ministry partially transferred your request for information about the Crown Prosecution Services to Crown Law, under section 14 of the Act, as the information is held by Crown Law. You can expect a response from Crown Law in due course.

On 17 January 2025, you were contacted by the Ministry and asked to clarify your request. On the same day you responded confirming that you were happy with one figure per month.

In response to your request, please find attached to this letter the monthly annual expenditure costs for the Public Defence Service for 2022, 2023 and 2024.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: [Official Information Act responses | New Zealand Ministry of Justice](#)

If you require any further information, please contact Media & Social Media Manager, Joe Locke at media@justice.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Office of the Ombudsman may be contacted by email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phone on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

Peter Hutchinson

Peter Hutchinson
Director, Public Defence Service
DDI: 04 496 6166 | Mobile: 021 740 298

Table: Monthly annual expenditure for the Public Defence Service from 2022-2024

	2022	2023	2024
January	2,141,583	2,201,846	2,564,129
February	2,402,784	2,407,981	2,712,877
March	2,647,953	3,141,396	2,657,998
April	2,393,854	2,388,782	2,787,350
May	2,550,994	2,901,258	3,092,559
June	3,219,781	3,061,895	2,542,278
July	2,151,293	2,348,331	2,953,913
August	2,814,138	3,065,257	2,757,355
September	2,435,227	2,622,272	2,629,753
October	2,487,371	2,644,557	3,015,304
November	3,063,473	2,813,730	2,684,102
December	2,400,487	3,013,921	2,558,589
Total:	\$30,708,938	\$32,611,226	\$32,956,208

Please note:

- Data is drawn from a database that is subject to change, as new data is continually updated and/or recoded.
- Data includes property costs.
- The data is for each calendar year – 1 January to 31 December.
- The Public Defence Service's allocation of operational Ministry overheads has been excluded from this data.
- In the interests of clarity, this data only refers to the Public Defence Service expenditure and not to Legal Aid Service expenditure for private criminal defence lawyers.