

Mitchell Greenwood  
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18 February

Dear Mitchell,

### OIA 24-25-41: NZTE Office Costs

Thank you for your email of 23 January to New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE), making a request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You requested the following information:

*In light of the OIA response dated 10th October regarding Wellington renovation costs, it appears NZTE pays \$1,511,279 annually for its Wellington office. Please justify the need to maintain such an expensive office using taxpayer money.*

*Specifically:*

*How many customers (NZ exporters) visit the Wellington office annually?  
Why is it necessary for the office to be in the middle of Wellington, given most meetings likely occur at client offices or online?  
Additionally, please provide the following information:*

*A full list of all NZTE office locations, both in New Zealand and internationally.  
For each office, the annual costs for:  
Rent or lease payments  
Cleaning and maintenance  
Electricity and utilities  
WiFi or internet  
Any other operational costs such as car parks etc*

Answers to your questions are as follows/Please find attached a response to your request.

1. The current annual lease cost noted is \$1,511,279 (as taken from NZTE Estimates Answers 2024/25). This is the total cost for **all three floors**. NZTE has co-location agreements with two other organisations under which these organisations pay rent on one floor. Subtracting their contributions NZTE's current annual lease cost is **\$1,009,059**.
2. NZTE does not hold a record or database of how many customers visit the Wellington office, therefore, we are refusing this under 18(e), the information does not exist.
3. Along with most government agencies, NZTE has an office in Central Wellington. NZTE's Wellington-based footprint consists of a range of teams and functions, in addition to the customer-facing team.
4. Please refer to NZTE's 2023/24 Annual Review Appendices Q18: Floor space (pg. 3-4). You can find this on the New Zealand Parliament website, under Parliamentary Business, Select committees, Submissions and Advice; or at the link here - [New Zealand Trade and Enterprise \(Appendices to written questions 1 to 198\) - New Zealand Parliament](#). You will find that majority of the requested information is provided in this document. To break this

down any further would require substantial collation and we are refusing this under 18(f).

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Act to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at: [www.ombudsman.parliament.govt.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.govt.nz) or freephone: 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Trochon', written in a cursive style.

Melissa Trochon  
**Director – Board & Ministerial**