

## Office of Hon Nikki Kaye

MP for Auckland Central
Minister for ACC
Minister of Civil Defence
Minister for Youth

Associate Minister of Education

-8 SFP 2016

Lee M <u>fyi-request-3981-04ff861f@requests.fyi.org.nz</u>

Dear Lee M.

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 for information dated 9 August 2016, requesting:

"whether or not "Other expenses reasonably incurred by applicant or another person, or on behalf of an applicant or other person, associated with a hearing (for example, transport to a hearing or time off work for an applicant, another person, representative, or a witness or support person such as whanau support; disbursements such as photocopying, childcare, or telephone charges..." claimable in relation to review hearings are claimable in relation to claimants needing to attend ACC directed, arranged and funded assessments by doctor/specialists/assessors.

In other words, what expenses does the ACC pay where claimants are required to attend ACC assessments?"

As you may know, Hon Nikki Kaye has taken leave from her ministerial responsibilities for health reasons and I am the Acting Minister for ACC until she returns.

Section 55 (1) (d) of the Accident Compensation Act 2001 specifies that medical assessments attended by clients as required by ACC are undertaken at ACC's expense.

In practice I understand that:

- this includes the cost of the assessment itself and any other expenses reasonably incurred;
- expenses can include, but are not limited to, cost of travel, time off work, and parking
- expenses other than the cost of the assessment are granted to clients on a case by case basis.

It is for ACC to administer the section in detail. I suggest that you direct any more questions you have regarding this to ACC.

Yours sincerely

Hon Nathan Guy
Acting Minister for ACC