



NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY
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OIA-2927

10 May 2017

Jo Lines-Mackenzie
Jo.lines-mackenzie@fairfaxmedia.co.nz

Dear Jo

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 13 April 2017 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982:

.....*figures for the Waikato and nationally for the past three years on the following questions:*

- *How many town/ city signs been stolen/vandalised for the last three years? the green welcome signs*
- *Are there any signs that have been stolen/vandalised more than once? if so how many times?*
- *How much does has the NZTA spent on replacing/fixing signs due to being stolen or vandalised over the past three years?*

The tables below provide the information you have requested.

Please note that our response relates solely to state highways. For signs on local roads, you will need to contact each of the road controlling authorities responsible for those roads. A list of all local councils is available on the Local Government New Zealand website at: www.lgnz.co.nz/nzs-local-government/new-zealands-councils/.

If you would like to discuss this reply with the NZ Transport Agency (NZTA), please contact me by email at chris.young@nzta.govt.nz or by phone on (04) 894 6293.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Young'.

Chris Young
National Manager, Network Directions and Performance

- **How many town/city signs been stolen/vandalised for the last three years? the green welcome signs.**

Vandalised signs

The following table A shows the cost of maintenance NZTA’s contractors carried out on signs that are potentially due to vandalism, along with the number of times this sort of maintenance was carried out (this is a count of maintenance transactions). This data is for the last three full calendar years, from January 2014 to December 2016.

This data includes signs of all type on the state highway network. Note that maintenance data in our database does not specify the individual sign identification, so cannot be limited to only town/city name signs.

Please note the following three important caveats:

- The cost amount shown here is based on maintenance cost provided to NZTA by its contractors. Due to the commercially sensitive nature of this information, those figures should be regarded as estimates only.
- The category called “Vandalism” only came into use in mid-December 2015. Prior to this, all vandalism-related maintenance was captured under the other categories listed here.
- While “Graffiti” is vandalism, signs that needed to be realigned or replaced *may* have been vandalised or may have been accidentally damaged. In those cases there is no data on why replacement or realignment was necessary.
- This data is manually entered into NZTA’s database by contractors and is subject to human error.

Table A

Year	Fault	Instances	Cost	Annual total
2014	GRAFFITI	1084	\$82,144.32	\$3,256,477.97
	REALIGN	9341	\$750,902.61	
	REPLACE	10204	\$2,423,431.04	
2015	GRAFFITI	750	\$53,181.35	\$2,674,985.83
	REALIGN	11813	\$1,029,363.38	
	REPLACE	8251	\$1,591,100.35	
	VANDALISM	5	\$1,340.75	
2016	GRAFFITI	743	\$44,029.24	\$993,664.54
	REALIGN	10304	\$476,921.67	
	REPLACE	2368	\$403,101.39	
	VANDALISM	370	\$69,612.24	

The same data as above is presented in more detail here, broken down by year and region.

Year	Region	Vandalism (\$)	Vandalism instances	Replace (\$)	Replace instances	Graffiti (\$)	Graffiti instances	Realign (\$)	Realign instances
2014	OTAGO		0	\$558,009.88	1703	\$1,585.00	18	\$329,962.22	1026
2014	WAIKATO		0	\$474,266.81	1753	\$3,173.10	64	\$117,073.23	2073
2014	WELLINGTON		0	\$58,646.45	235	\$6,524.00	75	\$62,930.88	775
2014	MARLBOROUGH		0	\$78,673.32	164		0	\$55,015.47	360
2014	CANTERBURY		0	\$119,936.63	529	\$6,653.80	103	\$45,809.00	1001
2014	AUCKLAND		0	\$88,101.08	427	\$9,645.65	203	\$28,570.86	262
2014	TASMAN		0	\$22,672.87	227		0	\$26,365.53	466
2014	WANG/MANA		0	\$289,386.89	851	\$1,185.00	46	\$19,704.75	681
2014	HAWKES BAY		0	\$209,221.40	1046	\$65.00	23	\$18,935.00	1388
2014	GISBORNE		0	\$122,734.76	739		0	\$11,263.05	521
2014	SOUTHLAND		0	\$156,615.87	960	\$895.23	13	\$8,503.94	117
2014	NELSON		0	\$13,910.34	69	\$254.20	4	\$7,526.49	249
2014	NORTHLAND		0	\$103,268.85	840	\$51,250.62	509	\$7,370.40	86
2014	BAY OF PLEN		0	\$78,678.82	385	\$21.65	16	\$6,119.86	91
2014	TARANAKI		0	\$30,559.69	169	\$263.57	5	\$5,323.73	229
2014	WEST COAST		0	\$18,747.39	107	\$627.50	5	\$428.20	16
2015	OTAGO	\$325.00	1	\$229,469.13	1554	\$1,315.00	11	\$256,446.11	921
2015	MARLBOROUGH		0	\$72,354.05	273	\$100.00	1	\$249,032.00	739
2015	CANTERBURY	\$132.50	1	\$40,996.99	541	\$1,222.00	59	\$162,151.78	3570
2015	GISBORNE		0	\$282,164.96	1250		0	\$129,855.01	595
2015	WAIKATO		0	\$124,962.33	567	\$4,191.00	82	\$64,599.25	1138
2015	WELLINGTON		0	\$20,250.00	125	\$11,212.50	145	\$43,800.00	580
2015	HAWKES BAY		0	\$318,528.64	842		0	\$26,931.88	1028
2015	AUCKLAND		0	\$69,423.27	295	\$8,260.25	74	\$21,018.67	406
2015	WANG/MANA		0	\$89,828.59	531	\$625.50	25	\$16,460.00	588
2015	TASMAN	\$883.25	3	\$23,795.39	149	\$392.70	4	\$15,589.65	473
2015	BAY OF PLEN		0	\$34,601.97	234	\$2,020.00	76	\$12,220.40	656
2015	NORTHLAND		0	\$131,729.27	853	\$19,703.82	249	\$11,885.65	185
2015	NELSON		0	\$7,122.47	56		0	\$7,657.68	232
2015	SOUTHLAND		0	\$117,726.63	819	\$3,213.27	4	\$6,723.20	161
2015	WEST COAST		0	\$17,403.29	79	\$881.31	13	\$3,067.10	202
2015	TARANAKI		0	\$10,743.36	83	\$44.00	7	\$1,925.00	339
2016	CANTERBURY	\$3,279.45	12	\$200.00	2	\$9,469.58	171	\$121,908.85	2092
2016	MARLBOROUGH	\$3,091.25	15	\$309,572.47	1449	\$5,730.08	5	\$81,433.36	495
2016	OTAGO	\$7,096.63	22	\$40,761.82	582	\$1,755.00	55	\$70,552.96	800
2016	WELLINGTON	\$19,950.00	111	\$3,450.00	22	\$7,725.00	90	\$44,025.00	537
2016	WAIKATO	\$1,600.00	9	\$8,840.00	88	\$1,196.00	119	\$40,850.00	2019
2016	BAY OF PLEN	\$10,120.00	79	\$2,220.00	18	\$1,925.00	86	\$20,480.00	1067
2016	AUCKLAND	\$500.00	1	\$5,980.00	26	\$12,000.00	67	\$20,015.00	691
2016	TASMAN		0	\$2,311.10	12	\$1,405.70	4	\$15,113.92	170
2016	WANG/MANA	\$17,003.00	68		0	\$682.00	33	\$15,089.50	429
2016	NELSON		0	\$438.45	4		0	\$14,083.20	147

2016	SOUTHLAND	\$104.40	2	\$19,061.06	117	\$199.38	5	\$11,460.77	271
2016	HAWKES BAY	\$3,360.00	31	\$641.10	2	\$360.00	22	\$9,777.13	440
2016	GISBORNE	\$520.00	19	\$52.00	2	\$26.00	3	\$3,973.43	150
2016	WEST COAST	\$2,987.51	1		0	\$30.00	3	\$3,329.04	154
2016	NORTHLAND		0	\$9,163.39	39	\$180.00	18	\$3,295.00	615
2016	TARANAKI		0	\$410.00	5	\$1,345.50	62	\$1,534.50	227
2017	MARLBOROUGH		0		0		0	\$87,510.00	481
2017	OTAGO	\$270.00	3		0	\$1,520.00	46	\$11,152.02	315
2017	WELLINGTON	\$4,500.00	25		0	\$225.00	3	\$7,085.00	86
2017	SOUTHLAND		0		0	\$476.40	6	\$5,859.11	66
2017	TASMAN		0		0		0	\$3,600.00	33
2017	BAY OF PLEN	\$2,090.00	17		0	\$915.00	31	\$3,470.00	197
2017	CANTERBURY		0	\$600.00	6	\$2,760.00	48	\$3,195.00	111
2017	WAIKATO	\$115.00	2		0	\$433.50	47	\$2,995.00	199
2017	AUCKLAND		0		0	\$1,130.00	10	\$2,820.00	87
2017	NELSON		0		0		0	\$2,200.00	21
2017	WANG/MANA	\$3,500.00	13		0	\$80.00	4	\$1,630.00	49
2017	HAWKES BAY	\$660.00	6		0	\$465.00	28	\$1,530.00	59
2017	NORTHLAND		0		0	\$50.00	4	\$645.00	118
2017	GISBORNE	\$260.00	10		0		0	\$253.00	46
2017	TARANAKI		0		0	\$260.00	13	\$209.00	23
2017	WEST COAST		0		0	\$20.00	2	\$65.00	12

City / Town signs replaced due to theft or vandalism

Replaced signs in NZTA's database include a reason for their replacement. The following table lists the place name signs that have been replaced because they went missing or were damaged in the last six calendar years.

Signs that are replaced because they are missing are likely to have been stolen. Signs that were damaged were in most cases not vandalised but rather were accidentally damaged, but there is no way to quantify this. Vandalism is more likely to be covered under maintenance rather than sign replacement.

Note that if a place name sign went missing but was never replaced, it is not listed here. "WANG/MANA" means Manawatu-Whanganui.

Table B

Year	Region	Place name	Sign Type	Replacement date	Replacement reason
2014	BAY OF PLEN	LAKE ROTOEHU	Place Name	28-07-2014	MISSING
2014	BAY OF PLEN	WHITIANGA BAY	Place Name	22-08-2014	MISSING
2014	AUCKLAND	[50 + Helensville]	Place Name + Speed Limit	25-09-2014	DAMAGED
2014	AUCKLAND	[50 + Helensville]	Place Name + Speed Limit	26-09-2014	DAMAGED
2014	AUCKLAND	[60 + Huapai]	Place Name + Speed Limit	29-09-2014	DAMAGED
2015	WANG/MANA	OHAU	Place Name	22-01-2015	DAMAGED
2015	WELLINGTON	Pukerua Bay + 50	Place Name + Speed Limit	16-02-2015	DAMAGED
2015	WANG/MANA	OPIKI	Place Name	27-03-2015	MISSING
2015	BAY OF PLEN	TE KAHA	Place Name	15-04-2015	MISSING
2015	WANG/MANA	Oroua Downs	Place Name	20-04-2015	MISSING

2015	BAY OF PLEN	OMAIO	Place Name	12-05-2015	MISSING
2015	BAY OF PLEN	GISBORNE POINT	Place Name	02-07-2015	MISSING
2015	BAY OF PLEN	OMAIO	Place Name	07-07-2015	MISSING
2015	BAY OF PLEN	Te Kaha	Place Name	07-07-2015	MISSING
2015	GISBORNE	Makorori	Place Name	25-07-2015	MISSING
2015	BAY OF PLEN	HAWAI	Place Name	02-09-2015	MISSING
2015	TARANAKI	STRATHMORE	Place Name	18-09-2015	DAMAGED
2015	WANG/MANA	[MAXWELL]	Place Name	09-10-2015	MISSING
2015	OTAGO	Georgetown	Place Name	16-12-2015	MISSING
2016	GISBORNE	Hicks Bay	Place Name	10-02-2016	MISSING
2016	OTAGO	WAIPAHI	Place Name	22-02-2016	DAMAGED
2016	GISBORNE	Gisborne	Place Name	01-04-2016	MISSING
2016	OTAGO	HYDE	Place Name	21-04-2016	MISSING
2016	NORTHLAND	[Kaitaia]	Place Name	31-05-2016	MISSING
2016	GISBORNE	Okitu	Place Name	03-06-2016	MISSING
2016	OTAGO	CLINTON	Place Name	29-06-2016	MISSING
2016	BAY OF PLEN	OMAIO	Place Name	05-07-2016	MISSING
2016	GISBORNE	Makorori	Place Name	27-07-2016	MISSING
2016	OTAGO	ETTRICK	Place Name	01-08-2016	DAMAGED
2016	OTAGO	ETTRICK	Place Name	01-08-2016	DAMAGED
2016	HAWKES BAY	Fernhill	Place Name	02-09-2016	MISSING
2016	WANG/MANA	[KAI IWI]	Place Name	07-09-2016	DAMAGED
2016	WANG/MANA	[KAI IWI]	Place Name	07-09-2016	DAMAGED
2016	WANG/MANA	[MAXWELL]	Place Name	07-09-2016	MISSING
2016	AUCKLAND	[70 + Te Hana]	Place Name + Speed Limit	15-09-2016	DAMAGED
2016	AUCKLAND	[80 + Dome Valley]	Place Name + Speed Limit	15-09-2016	DAMAGED
2016	GISBORNE	Tatapouri	Place Name	03-10-2016	MISSING
2016	AUCKLAND	[Kaukapakapa]	Place Name	21-11-2016	MISSING
2016	HAWKES BAY	Whakaki	Place Name	22-11-2016	MISSING

- *Are there any signs that have been stolen/vandalised more than once? if so how many times?*

Place name signs stolen multiple times

The following data counts the number of times a particular sign was replaced because it was missing (not damaged) during this three year period.

Table C

Region	Place name	Times replaced
NORTHLAND	[Kaitaia]	1
AUCKLAND	[Kaukapakapa]	1
WANG/MANA	[MAXWELL]	2
OTAGO	CLINTON	1
HAWKES BAY	Fernhill	1
OTAGO	Georgetown	1

GISBORNE	Gisborne	1
BAY OF PLENTY	GISBORNE POINT	1
BAY OF PLENTY	HAWAI	1
GISBORNE	Hicks Bay	1
OTAGO	HYDE	1
BAY OF PLENTY	LAKE ROTOEHU	1
GISBORNE	Makorori	2
GISBORNE	Okitu	1
BAY OF PLENTY	OMAIO	3
WANG/MANA	OPIKI	1
WANG/MANA	Oroua Downs	1
GISBORNE	Tatapouri	1
BAY OF PLENTY	TE KAHA	2
HAWKES BAY	Whakaki	1
BAY OF PLENTY	WHITIANGA BAY	1

- *How much does has the NZTA spent on replacing/fixing signs due to being stolen or vandalised over the past three years?*

Refer table A.