

19 March 2019

Scott Yeoman
Reporter
Bay of Plenty Times
scott.yeoman@nzme.co.nz

REF: OIA-4725

Dear Scott,

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 20 February 2019 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

With respect, I request the following information under the terms of the Official Information Act 1982:

1. *All toll revenue gathered on Route K since it opened in Tauranga, broken down by year.*
2. *The number of trips on Route K since it opened, broken down by year.*
3. *Any internal reports/briefings on Route K in the past 12 months.*
4. *The full cost of constructing Route K.*
5. *The full cost of maintaining Route K, broken down by year.*

The NZ Transport Agency only holds data on Route K since it became a State Highway in August 2015. Data collected prior to this is held by Tauranga City Council. We have therefore requested a transfer to Tauranga City Council of the parts of your query which relate to data prior to August 2015.

1. All toll revenue gathered on Route K since it opened in Tauranga, broken down by year.

Please find a table below which outlines how much has been collected in toll revenues and toll operating revenues each year since the Takitimu Drive Toll Road (TDTR) became a State Highway in August 2015:

Tariff Breakdown, Takitimu Drive Toll Road (\$000)			
Financial Year	Toll Revenue (Amount designated to recoup the \$65 million paid to TCC plus opportunity costs)	Toll Operating Revenue (Amount retained by the NZTA to operate toll business)	Total
2015/16	\$3,267	\$1,687	\$4,954
2016/17	\$4,394	\$2,317	\$6,711
2017/18	\$4,996	\$2,647	\$7,643
2018/19 (up to 31/12/2018)	\$2,722	\$1,460	\$4,182

2. The number of trips on Route K since it opened, broken down by year.

Please see table below which outlines number of trips on Route K each year since the TDTR became a State Highway in August 2015:

Number of Trips, Takitimu Drive Toll Road			
Financial Year	Light Vehicles	Heavy Vehicles	Total
2015/16	2,054,469	456,817	2,511,286
2016/17	2,789,914	587,769	3,377,683
2017/18	3,202,957	657,545	3,860,502
2018/19 (up to Dec 18)	1,789,002	351,093	2,140,095

3. Any internal reports/briefings on Route K in the past 12 months.

The following documents fall within the scope of your request and are enclosed:

- Attachment 1: Ministerial briefing advising the Minister of the increase in tolling
- Attachment 2: Board paper seeking approval for the tolling increase

Staff contact details have been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of those individuals.

With respect to the information that has been withheld, I do not consider there are any other factors which would render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

4. The full cost of constructing Route K.

The Transport Agency does not hold any data relating to the construction of Route K. This question has been transferred to Tauranga City Council. The Transport Agency paid Tauranga City Council \$65m to take over the toll road in August 2015, and it is this \$65m (and effective funding costs) that are being recovered through the current tolls.

The full cost of maintaining Route K, broken down by year.

The Transport Agency does not record maintenance costs specific to the toll road; maintenance contracts are network-wide rather than specific road-based. The toll revenue collected does not fund the ongoing maintenance and operational costs of the road itself, rather these are funded from the National Land Transport Fund (NLTF) under the State Highways Maintenance activity class. Please note, the request for data regarding the point prior to August 2015 has been transferred to Tauranga City Council.

If you would like to discuss this reply with the NZ Transport Agency, please contact Andrew Knackstedt, Senior Manager Media, by email to Andrew.Knackstedt@nzta.govt.nz or by phone on 04 894 6100.

Yours sincerely



John Coulter

Senior Manager, Operational Policy, Planning and Performance