

7 May 2019

Scott Yeoman  
Reporter  
Bay of Plenty Times  
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REF: OIA-4957

Dear Scott

**Request made under the Official Information Act 1982**

Thank you for your email of 5 April 2019 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

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

I will respond to your questions in turn.

1. *All toll revenue gathered on the Tauranga Eastern Link since it opened, broken down by year.*

The table below outlines how much has been collected in toll revenues and toll operating revenues each year since the Tauranga Eastern Link Toll Road was opened in 2015.

<b>Tariff Breakdown, Tauranga Eastern Link Toll Road (\$000)</b>			
<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Toll Revenue (Amount designated to repay the debt)</b>	<b>Toll Operating Revenue (Amount retained by the NZTA to operate toll business)</b>	<b>Total</b>
2015/16	\$3,507	\$1,743	\$5,250
2016/17	\$4,494	\$2,288	\$6,782
2017/18	\$5,043	\$2,546	\$7,589
2018/19 (up to 31/03/2019)	\$4,065	\$2,034	\$6,099

**2. The number of trips on Tauranga Eastern Link since it opened, broken down by year.**

The table below outlines the number of trips on Tauranga Eastern Link Toll Road each year since the Toll Road was opened in 2015.

<b>Number of Trips, Tauranga Eastern Link Toll Road</b>			
<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Light Vehicles</b>	<b>Heavy Vehicles</b>	<b>Total</b>
2015/16	2,273,059	354,044	<b>2,627,103</b>
2016/17	2,950,382	420,492	<b>3,370,874</b>
2017/18	3,271,597	481,900	<b>3,753,497</b>
2018/19 (up to 31/03/2019)	2,618,389	387,084	<b>3,005,473</b>

**3. Any internal reports/briefings on Tauranga Eastern Link in the past 12 months.**

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

- Attachment 1: BRI-1561 CPI increases in toll road charges
- Attachment 2: Board Paper 2018-10-1285 Review of Current Tolling Arrangements.

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

**4. The full cost of constructing Tauranga Eastern Link.**

This information is outlined in the below table.

	<b>Construction Costs</b>	<b>NLTF Funding</b>	<b>Debt Component</b>
<b>Tauranga Eastern Link</b>	\$456.2 million	\$349.2 million	\$107.0 million

**5. The full cost of maintaining Tauranga Eastern Link, broken down by year.**

The Transport Agency does not record maintenance costs specific to the toll road. Maintenance contracts are network-wide rather than based on a specific road. 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.

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.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to withhold some information. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

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](mailto:Andrew.Knackstedt@nzta.govt.nz) or by phone on 04 894 6100.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Fiona Buckner', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Fiona Buckner**

Senior Manager, Financial Operations, Investment and Finance Group