

17 September 2019

Phil Pennington
Reporter
Radio New Zealand
phil.pennington@rnz.co.nz

REF: OIA-5617

Dear Phil

Thank you for your email of 12 August 2019 requesting the following information:

- 1. What was/is the total NZTA spend with MZ and/or Satori (including the total cost of all related contracting and consulting)?
Including also NZTA staff + resources time put into the MZ solution*
- 2. What advice did NZTA give the Transport Minister at the time it signed the contract, about the vision and ultimate aims of its partnership with MZ?*
- 3. Where was the data about NZers travel movements processed under Satori? Was any of this data sent in any form to the US? eg to servers. Are there any privacy issues here?*

Your request has been considered under the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Your questions have been numbered for the ease of reference.

On 3 September 2019, the NZ Transport Agency extended the 20 working days available to respond to your request, as allowed for under section 15A of the Act.

Your questions and my responses are outlined below.

- 1. What was/is the total NZTA spend with MZ and/or Satori (including the total cost of all related contracting and consulting)?
Including also NZTA staff + resources time put into the MZ solution.***

The first part of this question has been withheld under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Act in order to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

The total spend for Transport Agency staff and resource time cannot be provided. The Transport Agency does not require permanent staff to record how many of their working hours are spent on a specific task or project. Therefore, this part of your request has been refused under section 18(e) of the Act as the information does not exist.

2. What advice did NZTA give the Transport Minister at the time it signed the contract, about the vision and ultimate aims of its partnership with MZ?

All information, including any advice, provided to the former Minister of Transport relating to Transport Agency-led projects involving Machine Zone is comprised in BRI-0887 and BRI-1002. These briefings have been provided to you in our response of 16 September 2019 to your previous request for information (Ref: OAI-5565).

3. Where was the data about NZers travel movements processed under Satori? Was any of this data sent in any form to the US? eg to servers. Are there any privacy issues here?

Traveller movement data was processed under Satori by Amazon web services in Australia. The data captured did not involve any individual or personal travel data.

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 and to refuse parts of this request. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

If you would like to discuss this reply with the Transport Agency, please contact Andrew Knackstedt, Senior Manager Media, by email to Andrew.Knackstedt@nzta.govt.nz and by phone on 04 894 6285.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Lyons', with a stylized, cursive script.

Derek Lyons
Chief Information Officer