

25 October 2019

Marty Sharpe
Hawke's Bay Bureau Chief
Stuff
marty.sharpe@stuff.co.nz

REF: OIA-5880

Dear Marty

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 29 September 2019 requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) regarding invoices issued by the NZ Transport Agency for costs associated with damage to State Highway (SH) furniture (roads, road signs, medium barriers etc).

In particular, you have requested information for the following financial years:

2018-2019
2017-2018
2016-2017
2015-2016
2014-2015

Please find your questions followed by my responses below. Please note, all information provided is for invoices raised by the Transport Agency only. Records of invoices issued to members of the public by contractors or the Ministry of Justice as a result of court proceedings are not held by the Transport Agency.

Can you please tell me the total number of motorists invoiced in each of these years, and the amount sought from motorists in each year. Please also tell me the total amount recovered/paid.

Financial Year	Motorists Invoiced	Amount Invoiced (\$)	Amount recovered/paid (\$)
2014/2015	34	196,646.03	169,076.48
2015/2016	50	311,085.85	340,685.32
2016/2017	43	256,027.30	402,065.96
2017/2018	8	90,198.42	44,538.33
2018/2019	23	239,076.55	221,398.11

Please also break these down by region.

Invoices are collected in a financial data processing system used by Transport Agency business groups throughout New Zealand. When an invoice is raised in the system, the location of the incident is recorded by the State Highway number and does not always provide regional information. As many State Highways often run through several regions across New Zealand, we are unable to accurately categorise the data in the way you

have requested. This part of your request has therefore been declined under section 18(e) of the Act as the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

I would also like to know details of the ten highest invoices. ie where and when the incident/crash occurred, the amount of the invoice issued, what it was for, and whether it was paid.

Please find the relevant information in the table below:

	Location	Due Date	Invoiced amount (\$)	Reason	Paid
1	State Highway 1 Truck damaged Mcphersons Bridge	20/06/2015	91,564.17	Damage to SH Furniture	Yes
2	State Highway 8 Alexandra Bridge Strike Repair Work	20/02/2017	87,065.92	Damage to SH Furniture	Yes
3	Damage to Rakaia Rail Overbridge Guardrail	20/05/2017	77,220.24	Damage to SH Furniture	Yes
4	Damage to wire rope barrier/supporting foundation Wellington	20/08/2015	65,280.10	Damage to SH Furniture	Yes
5	Small Truck & Trailer, Victoria Tunnel Fire door, Wellington	20/08/2018	57,657.87	Damage to SH Furniture	Yes
6	Asset Damage State Highway 1 Northbound onto State Highway 16 Symond St Auckland	20/08/2015	47,222.17	Damage to SH Furniture	Yes
7	State Highway 1 Waimakariri Bridge guardrail damage	20/01/2016	38,089.81	Damage to SH Furniture	Arrangement
8	State Highway 74 Heathcote River Bridge	20/12/2018	37,074.74	Damage to SH Furniture	Yes
9	Waioeka Gorge rock fall fence repair	20/02/2016	34,385.79	Damage to SH Furniture	Arrangement
10	Damage claim vehicle State Highway 1 Accident Esmonde Road	20/09/2014	33,999.29	Damage to SH Furniture	Arrangement

Please note, the date each incident occurred has not been provided to the Transport Agency by the relevant contractor. This part of your request has therefore been declined under section 18(e) of the Act as the information requested does not exist.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to refuse parts of your request. You can find the contact details for the Ombudsman 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 or by phone 04 894 6285.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Charlton', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michelle Charlton
Senior Manager Customer Services