

16 June 2021

Thomas Mead
Christchurch Reporter
TVNZ
thomas.mead@tvnz.co.nz

REF: OIA-8022

Dear Thomas

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 27 April 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

1. *The total litre amount of glyphosate (or product containing glyphosate) purchased by the NZTA nationwide in the last three full financial years. Please break this down further by region, and include the amount paid;*
2. *The total litre amount of glyphosate actually sprayed/used by the NZTA nationwide in the last three years. This could be either financial year to match the numbers above, or calendar year, depending what is easier to collate. Please also break this down further by region.*
3. *Any internal documentation that is used by the NZTA to regulate safety while spraying this chemical; including but not limited to safety requirements or expectations given to contractors, guidelines for use around the public, or any internal document produced by the NZTA in response to the finding by the WHO's International Agency for Research on Cancer in 2015, which identified glyphosate as "probably carcinogenic to humans.."*

On 9 June 2021, Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency provided our response to the majority of your questions. Along with the information supplied, we further advised you of our decision to release the glyphosate usage for the Auckland region on or before 16 June 2021.

Please refer to the updated table below, with Auckland data now included.

	Glyphosate Usage in litre					
	2019		2020		2021	
	Purchased	Sprayed	Purchased	Sprayed	Purchased	Sprayed
Southland	1500	1500	1500	1500	1480	1480
Coastal Otago	1755	1755	1755	1755	1755	1755
Central Otago	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200
South Canterbury	758	758	619	619	802	802
North Canterbury	1057	1057	685	685	1139	1139
Marlborough	485	485	485	485	485	485
West Coast	356	356	661	661	429	429
Nelson/Tasman	1933	1789	1933	1789	1933	1789
Wellington	600	600	590	590	690	690

	Glyphosate Usage in litre					
Manawatu-Wanganui	1200	1200	1650	1650	500	500
Taranaki	1490	1490	1460	1460	1470	1470
Hawke's Bay	800	800	800	800	800	800
Gisborne	1620	1620	1620	1620	1620	1620
Bay of Plenty West	3250	3250	3020	3020	2380	2380
Bay of Plenty East	1400	1400	1400	1400	1400	1400
West Waikato	1762	1762	1522	1522	1567	1567
East Waikato	1300	1300	1100	1100	750	750
Central Waikato	1800	1800	1600	1600	1700	1700
Northland	8021	8021	7732	7732	7736	7736
Auckland	s18(g)	s18(g)	4910	4910	4640	4640
Milford	40	40	40	40	40	40
Total	30087	29943	34042	33898	32276	32132

Unfortunately, Waka Kotahi is unable to provide the data for the amount of glyphosate purchased and sprayed for Auckland in 2019. This is because the activity was carried out by the previous Alliance. Therefore, I am refusing this part of the request under section 18(g)(i) of the Act as the information requested is not held by Waka Kotahi, and there is no reason to believe the information is held by another department or local authority.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to refuse part 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 Waka Kotahi, please contact Andrew Knackstedt, Senior Media Manager, by email on andrew.knackstedt@nzta.govt.nz or by phone on 021 276 3222.

Yours sincerely



Wayne Oldfield

Senior Manager Maintenance and Operations