

22 May 2023

Reporter
Radio New Zealand
@rnz.co.nz

REF: OIA-12497

Dear

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 21 April 2023 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Any/all comms and correspondence and similar, incl email, text, all text-app, about 'concerns that removing the application fee may reduce the quality of applicants and certifiers' from either individuals or groups

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency is preparing to publicly release a summary of the submissions received during consultation, which includes the concerns raised regarding the proposal to remove application fees to become vehicle certifiers and incorporate these fees into certifier group charge.

The consultation summary document is expected to be published on the Waka Kotahi website by the end of June 2023. I am therefore declining this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Act as the information requested will soon be publicly available.

Waka Kotahi has also provided advice to the Minister of Transport regarding the concerns raised during consultation. This advice is enclosed as *Attachment 1 - BRI-2535 - Appendix One Key Themes in Consultation Feedback (Extract)* and *Attachment 2 - BRI-2587 - Regulatory Funding and Fees Review Feedback and Options on Fees and Charges (Extract)*.

Information not related to the proposal to remove application fees to become vehicle certifiers and incorporate these fees into certifier group has been removed or marked as out of scope.

Waka Kotahi staff phone numbers have also been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect their privacy. 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 information and refuse part of this request. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

In line with Waka Kotahi policy, this response will soon be published on our website, with personal information removed.

If you would like to discuss this reply with Waka Kotahi, please contact Andy Knackstedt, Senior Media Manager by email to andrew.knackstedt@nzta.govt.nz or by phone on 021 276 3222.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'N. Cook', with a large loop at the end.

Neil Cook

Deputy Director of Land Transport