

1 December 2021

[REDACTED]

REF: OIA-9034

Dear [REDACTED]

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

Thank you for your email of 4 November 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Your request has been numbered for ease of reference.

1. *I would appreciate information on the alleged 700 odd number of Christchurch road deaths between Tai Tapu and Little River, broken down into Age groups, nature of incident ie. Boy/girl racer activity, criminal avoidance, or just poor driving.*
2. *Further, the period the statistics were taken, and how relative the statistics are to international norms in other similar countries.*
3. *Further, have these statistics changed since our Lock down for COVID19?*
4. *[...] Further, a large proportion of the fuel price is taxes which should be directed at road maintenance and improvements. The road to Little River should have passing lanes installed rather than opting for the cheapest and least committed approach. Where is the road taxes being spent on the Banks Peninsula, to upgrade and improve driveability?*

In responding to your request, we have assumed you are referring to the statistics published in early November 2021 which details 739 crashes of all severities, not just road deaths, which can be found at: <https://nzta.govt.nz/projects/sh73-sh75-christchurch-to-akaroa-and-sh74-lyttelton-speed-review>.

The stretch of road you have referred to is State Highway 73/75 (SH73/75) from Christchurch to Akaroa, which extends beyond Tai Tapu and Little River. Nine people were killed on this stretch of SH73/75 between 2011 and 2020.

We have updated the crash figures for this section of road for this response and have found the latest 2011 to 2020 figures recorded in the Crash Analysis System (CAS) as at 22/11/2021 for SH 73/75 from Christchurch (Blenheim Road) to Akaroa are 739 crashes, which resulted in 9 deaths and 86 serious injuries.

The information you have requested in questions one and three is provided in the following spreadsheet:

- OIA-9034.xlsx

This information should be considered in conjunction with the caveats on the first tab of the spreadsheet.

In response to question two, information on international road crash statistics can be found at the following links:

- [https://www.bitre.gov.au/publications/ongoing/international\\_road\\_safety\\_comparisons](https://www.bitre.gov.au/publications/ongoing/international_road_safety_comparisons)
- <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241565684>
- <https://www.itf-oecd.org/IRTAD>.

Regarding question four of your request, this year's road maintenance budget includes \$1.35 million of resurfacing and pavement rehabilitation for SH75, with approximately \$900,000 of that being focussed on the more rural sections of road between the end of Halswell and Akaroa township. SH75 also receives regular maintenance funding which covers activities such as pavement and drainage maintenance, network inspection and incident response, signs and line-markings, vegetation maintenance and winter services.

Through the maintenance budget we also have three key focus areas for SH75 this year:

- roughness (smoothing) repairs at Prices Valley, Birdlings and Catons Bay Culverts, Pawsons Stream Bridge and Robinsons Bay Culvert, which are significant points of peak roughness on the network;
- renewal of sections of the Duvauchelle Sea Walls; and
- bank stabilisation and hazardous tree removal.

There are also two walking and cycling projects scheduled for SH75 that will create off-road shared paths for cyclists near Candys Road and Cooptown. These projects are scheduled for construction through 2024-2027.

In line with Waka Kotahi policy, this response will soon be published on our website (with your personal details removed).

If you would like to discuss this reply with Waka Kotahi, please contact Kerry Greig, Manager Data Services, by email to [kerry.greig@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:kerry.greig@nzta.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely



**Galina Mitchelhill**

Senior Manager, Research and Analytics