

29 July 2022

[REDACTED]

REF: OIA-10227

Dear [REDACTED]

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 31 May 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

all information regarding the expenditure involved in the New Zealand Transport Agency's purchases of 'big red zeroes.'

Specifically, how many 'big red zeroes' were purchased, at what cost/unit, and the process by which they were ordered - including correspondence between the manufacturer/wholesaler and the agency, as well as any relevant information regarding quotes with other manufacturers/wholesalers.

On 30 June 2022 Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency wrote to you to advise that, due to the consultations necessary to make a decision on your request, the deadline for response was being extended by 10 working days. Additionally, we wrote to you on 21 July 2022 to advise that Waka Kotahi had made a decision on your request and that we would provide a response on or before 29 July 2022. This letter provides a response to your request.

I will address each section of your request in turn.

...how many 'big red zeroes' were purchased, at what cost/unit...

Five light boxes were purchased at a unit cost of \$5,471.20 each, excluding GST.

...the process by which they were ordered - including correspondence between the manufacturer/wholesaler and the agency, as well as any relevant information regarding quotes with other manufacturers/wholesalers.

With respect to the process for ordering the light boxes, and in preparation for the launch of the Road to Zero public information campaign, Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency explored a range of creative ideas around how we could promote Road to Zero over the next 10 years as we rolled out the Road to Zero social licence and public information programme. The light boxes were chosen by the campaign project team, and the Channels team then liaised with Blue Star Group to order the items.

Blue Star Group was chosen as the provider because Waka Kotahi is a participating agency in the Ministry of Social Development's Syndicated Panel of Suppliers for provision of External Print and Related Services. This means that all Waka Kotahi printing requirements must go through the Blue Star Group and, as a result, no other quotes were sought.

The following attachments fall within the scope of your request and outline the email conversations with Blue Star Group relating to the light boxes:

- Attachment 1: Design Quoting and Order Confirmation
- Attachment 2: Production and Delivery.

Certain information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. This section allows for the withholding of information to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.

Information has also 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.

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 this information. 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 Ministerial Services by email to official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Lauren Cooke

Senior Manager, Education and Marketing