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29 November 2022



REF: OIA-11362

Dear 

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 1 November 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Please disclose any and all reports provided to the Minister in respect of the \$61 million allocated in Budget 2022 for a sustainable, skilled workforce of bus drivers.

Please disclose a breakdown of planned expenditure for the \$61 million.

Please confirm the total dollar amount that bus drivers are expected to receive from the \$61 million fund.

Question 1 of your request was transferred to Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport for response on 4 November 2022, as this information is more closely connected with the functions of Te Manatū Waka.

I am refusing questions 2 and 3 of your request under section 18(g)(i) of the Act, as the information requested is not held by the department or Minister of the Crown or organisation and I have no grounds for believing that the information is held by another department or Minister of the Crown or organisation, or by a local authority.

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency is currently working to determine which councils will be taking up the scheme and details of co-investment from these councils. A breakdown of the planned expenditure is not available while this is being determined. All of the \$61 million is expected to go towards driver wages, but as it is still to be determined which councils are taking up the scheme, and the timeframes for implementation, the amount individual drivers will receive is still to be confirmed but will vary by region.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to refuse your request. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

In accordance with Waka Kotahi policy, this response will be published on our website shortly, 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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'DH', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Deborah Hume

National Manager Multimodal and Innovation