

27 May 2024

[REDACTED]

NZ Herald

[REDACTED]

REF: OIA-15257

Dear [REDACTED]

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 2 April 2024 to Auckland Transport requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

In or around 2022, a joint venture partnership (WSP, BECA, COX Architecture and EY) was announced to work towards additional transport connections across the Waitemata Harbour.

I request a breakdown of the cost of the work performed by this group/partnership entity since its inception, including a description of work performance. I also request a breakdown of this cost footed across client agencies, possibly including Auckland Transport, NZTA and Auckland Council.

I also request to know if this work is ongoing (if it is not, when did it end)?

Your request was transferred to NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) for response on 30 April 2024.

As part of the work on the Waitematā Harbour Connections (WHC) project, NZTA engaged a team of technical experts to undertake an Indicative Business Case (IBC) and complete a thorough assessment of all options for a second harbour crossing and new transport connections to the North Shore. The overarching aim with the project is a staged, comprehensive plan for the medium to long term transport system between Albany and the city centre. Work on the IBC is complete and will be submitted to the NZTA Board and Cabinet for consideration and approval of the next steps in the coming months.

The WHC project has investigated what new infrastructure is needed to address resilience challenges and cater for short-, medium-, and long-term transport needs across the Waitematā Harbour and to the North. The work has looked at different options for new crossings and how we make the best use of existing infrastructure including the existing Auckland Harbour Bridge and Northern Busway to connect people to transport options across Auckland and beyond.

As at 1 April 2024, which is the latest figure available, a total of \$36,083,270 has been spent on the IBC. This includes expenditure on professional services and NZTA costs to undertake the IBC.

A breakdown of this expenditure by year is provided in the table below:

Year	Alliance costs to date (\$M)	NZTA costs to date (\$M)	Total Project cost (\$M)
2021/22	-	\$0.5	\$0.5
2022/23	\$17.2	\$4.5	\$21.7
2023/24 (as at 1 April 2024)	\$10.2	\$3.7	\$13.9
Total	\$27.4	\$8.7	\$36.1

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

If you would like to discuss this reply with NZTA, please contact Kaity Alexander, Media Manager, by email to kaity.alexander@nzta.govt.nz

Yours sincerely



Robyn Elston
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