

OC241304

4 December 2024

Tēnā koe

I refer to your email dated 6 November 2024, requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- “Is your agencies continuing to pursue the carbon neutral public service targets?
-If so please provide any documents showing how this is being implemented*
- The total spend on this target broken down by year since the targets were implemented (including but not limited to internal staff numbers, external spend, capital spend, offset spend)?*
- Total EV’s brought since the targets were implemented broken down by year?
-Please provide notes on type of car.*
- Total spent on agency emissions inventories by year since implementation.
-Please provide the most recent inventory.*
- How much is spent on voluntary carbon offsets? (Not the ETS)
-Please provide information on consultants for this and the total offsets.*
- Any consideration or actions involving Agricultural emissions”*

Your questions are answered in turn.

- Is your agencies continuing to pursue the carbon neutral public service targets?*

Yes. As a Tranche 1 participant under the Carbon Neutral Government Programme (CNGP) the Ministry of Transport Te Manatū Waka (the Ministry) is mandated to follow the programme guidelines. The Ministry set gross emission reduction targets on all mandatory emission sources outlined in the CNGP of 21% and 42% by 2025 and 2030 respectively and is continuing to work towards achieving these targets.

- If so please provide any documents showing how this is being implemented*

One document is in scope of this question and it is released in full. The document is titled “Ministry of Transport Corporate Emissions Reduction Workplan”.

• *The total spend on this target broken down by year since the targets were implemented (including but not limited to internal staff numbers, external spend, capital spend, offset spend)?*

Below is a summary and description of all costs associated with the Ministry's work on the CNGP since its inception. The consultancy work includes a range of services that facilitates the Ministry's ability to meet the mandatory requirements of the CNGP year on year, some of which support inventory preparation (e.g. part of the membership or subscription fees paid to Toitū Envirocare include access to a software tool that assists in the preparation of inventories).

It is not possible to determine "internal staff numbers" given that we do not specifically track internal staff costs who work on the targets. As such we are unable to quantify the exact FTE cost dedicated to these targets.

Toitū Envirocare

Toitū annual membership includes technical guidance, and access to a range of tools along with tailored software that enables the measuring and reporting of emission inventories. The membership fee is invoiced separately to the costs of the audit verification service and accreditation.

2021 costs:

- Toitū carbonreduce – Annual Membership Fee (Jan 2021 – Dec 2021) - \$7,000

2022 costs:

- Toitū carbonreduce – Annual Membership Fee (Jan 2022 – Dec 2022) - \$7,000
- Toitū carbonreduce - Certification for measure (Jul 2019 – Jun 2020) - \$4,600
- Toitū carbonreduce - Audit/Certification (July 2020 – June 2021) - \$4,372
- Toitū carbonreduce - Audit/Certification (Ju 2021 – June 2022) - \$5,284

2023 costs:

- Toitū carbonreduce – Annual Membership Fee (Jan 2023 – Dec 2023) - \$7,000
- Toitū carbonreduce - Audit/Certification (July 2022 – June 2023) - \$5,532

2024 costs:

- Toitū emanage subscription fee (Feb 2024 – Jan 2025) - \$4,440
- Toitū audit verification only for measure period (July 2023 – June 2024) - \$5,526.75

Lumen Ltd

2022 costs:

- Target tool setting spreadsheet assistance, Staff commuting emissions reporting spreadsheet, Emission reduction workplan drafting - \$15,000

Solutions Electrical

2022 costs:

- Conduct an Energy audit - \$1,695

Total External Spend = \$67,449.75

N.B. All figures provided above are exclusive of GST

• *Total EV's brought since the targets were implemented broken down by year?*

-Please provide notes on type of car.

Nil.

• *Total spent on agency emissions inventories by year since implementation.*

The Ministry's total spend on emissions inventories is contained in the 'total spend' response outlined above.

Please note we are unable to include any internal staff costs as it is not possible to quantify the exact FTE costs dedicated to the preparing of emissions inventories.

-Please provide the most recent inventory

This information is included in the Ministry's published Annual Reports. I am therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) – the information is publicly available. Annual Reports are accessible at this link:

https://www.transport.govt.nz/sitesearch/SearchForm?Keyword=annual+report&action_results=Go

The information you require is under the "Carbon Neutral Government Programme Report" section, which includes information on our inventories. This section is included in the Ministry's last three Annual Reports.

• *How much is spent on voluntary carbon offsets? (Not the ETS)*

-Please provide information on consultants for this and the total offsets.

Nil.

• *Any consideration or actions involving Agricultural emissions.*

No.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on the Ombudsman's website www.ombudsman.parliament.nz

The Ministry publishes our Official Information Act responses and the information contained in our reply to you may be published on the Ministry's website. Before publishing we will remove any personal or identifiable information.

Nāku noa, nā



David Vonder
Acting Manager Business Enablement & Support

Te Manatū Waka Corporate Emissions Reduction Workplan

Objective	Initiative	Target completion date
Reduce air travel emissions to ensure they do not return to base year levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend travel policy to incorporate opportunities for lower emissions travel by fare class and provide additional recovery time for long-haul travel. 	Implemented 2022
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish Carbon budget for financial year 2023/24 and provide quarterly reporting to ensure alignment with set target. 	Implemented 2023
Structure annual travel plans prior to beginning of each financial year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop an international strategy framework to efficiently and strategically approve annual travel plans that align with international travel emissions budget 	Implemented 2023
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek to obtain or develop travel tools to best track progress against the emissions budget for both travel undertaken and future travel bookings for more accurate 'real time' reporting. 	2023-2025
Explore further opportunities to reduce travel emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop travel policy and prioritise options to reduce emissions associated with business travel. 	2023-2025
Improve energy efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future accommodation plans to promulgate energy efficiency. The Ministry of Transport are mandated to have completed a NABERSNZ assessment no later than December 2025 aimed at improving building efficiency. Further explore initiatives to reduce energy use. 	2023-2025
Minimise waste to landfill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to reduce waste to landfill totals by diverting to organics waste where possible. 	Ongoing
Emissions friendly purchasing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In conjunction with wider government initiatives, seek to extract better emissions data when engaging with suppliers and encourage where possible greater sustainability in our procurement. 	Ongoing
Technology improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade to more energy efficient staff laptops. 	Completed 2022
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve technology in meeting rooms to facilitate virtual meetings. 	Completed 2022
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate new technology to improve online collaboration. 	Ongoing