

24 November 2023

Lewis T
fyi-request-24556-461777ea@requests.fyi.org.nz

REF: OIA-13955

Dear Lewis

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 27 October 2023 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Could I please see the current project timeline for the planned NZTA app along with the projected cost? Additionally, could you please provide me with a timeline for the introduction of digital driver's licenses into the app if such a timeline exists?

The Waka Kotahi App (the App) is expected to be publicly available midway through 2024. The projected cost for the App is approximately \$7.1 million.

Waka Kotahi anticipates the benefits of the App will be realised over time. Having a secure and convenient way for the New Zealand public to have all their information and interactions with Waka Kotahi in one place should reduce the number of call centre calls and wait times, as well as decrease the use of mail and paper-based processes.

Current legal requirements for the form of driver licences only allow for the issue of physical driver licences and paper temporary licences. Waka Kotahi has compiled an initial assessment of legislative changes to enable the use of digital driver licences in New Zealand.

The work programme for the legislative amendments required to enable digital driver licenses in New Zealand is the responsibility of, and currently under consideration by, Te Manatū Waka - Ministry of Transport. As such, a timeline on when to introduce digital driver licences into the app is yet to be established. I am therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act as the document alleged to contain the information does not exist.

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

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 black ink, appearing to read 'Liz Maguire', with a fluid, cursive style.

Liz Maguire
Chief Digital Officer