

21-D-00107

Virginia Crawford
fyi-request-14495-0c7fb62a@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Virginia Crawford

Thank you for your email of 20 January 2021 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Could you please let me know the dollar value of New Zealand's financial commitment in relation to the Paris Agreement?

A recent news New Zealand website mentioned (via FIA response) that it would be \$1.4 billion per annum over 10 years (commencing 2020). This was apparently going to be a contribution to other countries signed up to the agreement.

(1) Could you please confirm or clarify this?

(2) How does New Zealand plan to fund this commitment?

The Ministry for the Environment has a number of reports published on our website containing information relevant to this question, which we have provided to you in a previous response.

You can find information on the cost of meeting our target under the Paris Agreement in the *Paris Agreement on Climate Change: Approval to Begin the Parliamentary Treaty Examination Process* paper, which is available on the Ministry for the Environment's website at: www.mfe.govt.nz/more/cabinet-papers-and-related-material-search/cabinet-papers/cabinet-paper-paris-agreement-climate. The key points from this paper are outlined below.

New Zealand has both domestic and international climate change targets. Our international target is called our Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). *Approval to Begin the Parliamentary Treaty Examination Process* states that at the time New Zealand agreed on its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) in 2015 'the estimated economic cost of meeting our target ranged from \$14 billion to \$36 billion for the period 2021-2030'. The INDC became our NDC under the Paris Agreement when New Zealand ratified the Agreement in 2016.

In relation to your question regarding how New Zealand plans to fund our commitment under the Paris Agreement, you can find specific information on this in *A Government position on International Carbon Markets*, available on the Ministry for the Environment's website here: <https://www.mfe.govt.nz/node/25031>. The key points from this document are below.

A Government position on International Carbon Markets states that the Government has committed to achieving the NDC "first and foremost through ambitious climate change action at home and transitioning New Zealand to a net zero target over the coming decades". The document goes on to say that using international carbon markets would be "a last resort rather than a first choice".

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on their website at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note that due to the public interest in our work the Ministry for the Environment publishes responses to requests for official information on our [OIA responses page](#) shortly after the response has been sent. If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Ministerial Services team: ministerials@mfe.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K Wilson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Katherine Wilson
Director, Climate Change Adaptation