

Hon Simeon Brown

MP for Pakuranga

Minister for Energy
Minister of Local Government
Minister of Transport

Minister for Auckland
Deputy Leader of the House



OIA24-076

Ben

fyi-request-25670-c94c94f8@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ben,

I refer to your email dated 8 February 2024, requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

“...1. Whether any advice has been received about the extent to which fuel prices are expected to reduce as a result of removing the Auckland Regional Fuel Tax (ie, whether the reduction is passed on to consumers)? (And if so, copies of that advice)

2. Whether any advice has been received about the use of the Commerce Commission or MBIE's monitoring and/or existing enforcement powers to ensure that the reduction is passed on to consumers? (And if so, copies of that advice)

3. Whether any advice has been received about extending the monitoring or enforcement powers of the Commerce Commission or MBIE to ensure that the reduction is passed on to consumers, or for any other purpose? (And if so, copies of that advice)”

There is one document in scope of your request that briefly mentions these matters. No advice was received on monitoring and/or enforcement powers in relation to the removal of the Auckland Regional Fuel Tax. The document in scope is being withheld in full under Section 18 (d) of the Act, as the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.

This document will soon be the subject of a proactive release and made available here: <https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/revenue/regional-fuel-tax/>.

On 16 February 2024, I received advice from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) on ensuring that fuel companies pass on fuel tax reductions to consumers.

My officials at MBIE will be monitoring retail prices of all petrol and diesel sold at retail sites in Auckland as part of its existing weekly nationwide price monitoring. This is published at: <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/building-and-energy/energy-and-natural-resources/energy-statistics-and-modelling/energy-statistics/weekly-fuel-price-monitoring/>

I will also continue to receive quarterly monitoring reports from the Commerce Commission on the performance of engine fuel markets in New Zealand. These are published at: <https://comcom.govt.nz/regulated-industries/fuel/quarterly-monitoring-reports>

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

Thank you again for writing.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Simeon Brown', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hon Simeon Brown
Minister of Transport