



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

26 August 2015

Chris Blythe
fyi-request-3008-826a641d@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Chris Blythe

Information request: New Zealand Flag consideration process: Cost of consultation

Our reference: DPMC 079-2015

- 1 On 4 August 2015, the Electoral Commission transferred part of a request for information from you to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) under the Official Information Act 1982. Your full request, originally sent to the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, asked:

"I would like to know the budget and costs for the climate change target consultation.

Can you provide a broad breakdown rather than just a total showing, Publications Workshops Travel and accomodation Consultants and staffing

Can you also provide a similar breakdown for the cost of consultation on the change of flag."

- 2 Your request has been transferred to DPMC to the extent it relates to the cost of consultation on the New Zealand Flag consideration process.

Cost of public consultation process

- 3 The Cabinet papers relating to the New Zealand Flag consideration process, including the budget for the overall process, are available on DPMC's website at the following link: <http://www.dPMC.govt.nz/dPMC/publications/nzflag-procc>.
- 4 The decision to establish a new appropriation for 'advice and services to support public engagement and decision-making in the process to consider New Zealand's flag' is outlined in the Cabinet minute CAB Min (14) 34/1.
- 5 The public consultation process is being led by the independent New Zealand Flag Consideration Panel (the Panel), supported by a Secretariat. The estimated cost of the public consideration process, broken down into the different aspects of the process, is included in the detailed budget at paragraph 63 of the Cabinet paper CAB (14) 541, as follows:

	\$	2014/15	2015/16	TOTAL
Public Consultation Process	Flag Consideration Panel Governance	\$232,520	\$232,520	\$465,040
	Communications and Engagement	\$2,740,000	\$1,261,000	\$4,001,000
	Website	\$644,000	\$132,000	\$776,000
	Public events and meetings	\$104,250	\$104,250	\$208,500
	Secretariat	\$665,401	\$613,236	\$1,278,637
	Total Public Consultation Process	\$4,386,171	\$2,343,006	\$6,729,177

- 6 While the most high-profile part of the Panel's public consultation process was undertaken between 5 May and 16 July 2015, the Panel will continue to engage with New Zealanders in the lead-up to the first and second referendums. The final cost of the Panel's public consultation process is therefore not yet known. Costs of the Panel's public consultation process will be released at the conclusion of the project (after the second referendum has been held).

Yours sincerely

Michael Webster
Clerk of the Executive Council