



1 April 2026

John Armstrong

By email: fyi-request-34233-40071d73@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe John

**Official information request regarding Whittome v Director-General of Health
Our Ref: OIA-2526165**

We refer to your official information request dated 25 March 2026 for:

1. *Total Legal Costs to Date*

The total legal costs incurred by Crown Law in relation to proceedings:

CIV-2024-404-845 – Whittome v Director-General of Health: common bundle This should include, but not be limited to:

- *External counsel fees (if applicable)*
- *Internal Crown Law time/costings*
- *Disbursements (including expert reports, court filing fees, document management, and preparation of the common bundle)*

2. *Breakdown of Costs*

A breakdown of the above costs, to the extent held, including:

- *Costs attributable to preparation of the common bundle*
- *Counsel vs solicitor time*
- *Any third-party/vendor costs*

3. *Budgeting / Estimates*

Any internal budgets, estimates, or cost projections prepared for this proceeding.

4. *Funding Source*

Confirmation of the appropriation or funding source used to meet these legal costs.

5. *Ongoing / Forecast Costs*

Any current estimates of anticipated future legal costs for this proceeding.

You requested a breakdown of costs, including “counsel v solicitor time” and “third-party/vendor costs” under part 2 of your request.

We note that counsel at Crown Law are solicitors, so it is unclear to us who you are referring to when you use “counsel” and “solicitor” in this part of your request. Could you please confirm whether you are just seeking Crown Law counsel time on this matter?

It is also unclear to us who you are referring to when you request “third-party/vendor” costs. Could you please clarify what you mean by third-party/vendor?

Without further clarification we are unable to provide the information sought for this portion of your request.

Please note that any clarification or amendment of a request is considered to be a new request for the purpose of calculating the maximum statutory timeframe for response—see section 15(1AA) of the Official Information Act.

Finally, we note that our response to the first part of your request “Total Legal Costs to Date” will cover costs to 31 March 2026.

Nāku noa, nā

Crown Law