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John Armstrong

By email: [fyi-request-34233-40071d73@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-34233-40071d73@requests.fyi.org.nz)  
Ref: H2026081326

Tēnā koe John

### Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) transferred from the Crown Law Office to the Ministry of Health – Manatū Hauora (the Ministry) on 10 April 2026 for information regarding legal costs in the proceeding: CIV-2024-404-845 Whittome v Director-General of Health. You requested:

4. *“Funding Source Confirmation of the appropriation or funding source used to meet these legal costs.”*

This cost was met through Non-Departmental Expenditure. This can be identified as "Non-departmental other expenses: Legal expenses" in the Ministry's Annual Report: [www.health.govt.nz/publications/ministry-of-health-annual-report-for-the-year-ended-30-june-2025](http://www.health.govt.nz/publications/ministry-of-health-annual-report-for-the-year-ended-30-june-2025).

I trust this information fulfils your request.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact the OIA Services Team on: [oiagr@health.govt.nz](mailto:oiagr@health.govt.nz).

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: [www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests](http://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests).

Nāku noa, nā



Phil Knipe  
**Chief Legal Advisor**  
Corporate Services | Te Pou Tiaki