

7 August 2017

Iain Palmer
fyi-request-6173-972c8b15@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Iain

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 9 July 2017 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

A) How much funding has NZTA and/or other central and local Government invested into the following road routes over the last 10 years;

- *SH 3 Manawatu Gorge*
- *Pahiatua Track*
- *Saddle Road*

B) Over the same time period, how often has each route been closed, if so combined closure period for each route.

C) What reports/investigations/working groups etc... have been carried out by either central and/or local government into possible upgrades/replacement/alternative solution to the Manawatu Gorge over the last 10 years and what were there outcomes?

Question A

In response to your first question, please find attached a document (**Attachment 1**) which shows the NZ Transport Agency's investment in State Highway 3 Manawatu Gorge and Saddle Road from 2006 to 2017.

Please note that in relation to Saddle Road, the attachment only shows the amount the Transport Agency has invested over the last 10 years and does not include Tararua District Council investment in this road.

I am unable to provide you with investment information in relation to Pahiatua Track as this is a local road, and any maintenance and improvements are determined and paid for by the Tararua District Council. I have transferred this part of your request to the Tararua District Council and they will respond to you in due course.

Question B

In relation to State Highway 3 Manawatu Gorge closures, I can advise that over the last 10 years the route has been closed 37 times and the combined closure period for this route was 516 full days. Please note that these numbers do not include the closure of 25 April 2017 as it is still active.

I am unable to provide you with road closure information for Pahiatua Track and Saddle Road as these roads are managed by the Tararua District Council and this information is not held by the Transport Agency. I have also transferred this part of your request to the Tararua District for response.

Question C

I can advise that in November 2012, following the 2011/12 Manawatu Gorge slip, an investigation into an alternative route assessment for State Highway 3 Manawatu Gorge was undertaken. This was done to quantify the risks and scale of risks in the Manawatu Gorge and the development of a management plan for minimising the impact of such events in the future. The final report on this investigation is publicly available on the Transport Agency's website.

You can find the final report here:

<https://nzta.govt.nz/assets/projects/sh3-manawatu-gorge-2017-closure/PSW-198-SH3-Manawatu-Gorge-Alternative-Route-report-2012-11.pdf>

If you would like to discuss this response with the NZ Transport Agency, please contact Ross I'Anson, Manager Systems Management by email to Ross.I'anson@nzta.govt.nz or by phone on (06) 953 6077.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Knackstedt

Senior Manager, Media