



18 April 2018

Ref: DOIA 1718-1378

Robert Whitaker
fyi-request-7188-595890a5@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Robert Whitaker

Thank you for your email of 19 March 2018 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

The amount of interest used to pay for tenancy services, ideally broken down by service (Tenancy Tribunal, Mediation Service, Tenancy Services website and call centre, Compliance and Investigations team and any other relevant business units). I accept that it may not be possible to break down expenditure based on which expenditure is met by the interest income but as you have supplied all revenue items under your response to question 5 (totalling to \$24,503,527) I request that you supply a similar breakdown of expenditure by business unit, service and/or activity, including the amount allocated to departmental overheads as noted under your answer to question 3..

As detailed in our letter of 15 March 2018, Section 127(7) of the Residential Tenancies Act stipulates that all interest, dividends and other gains (whether in the nature of income or capital, whether in money or otherwise, and whether realised or not) arising from any investment of money in the Residential Tenancies Trust Account shall belong to the Crown and be treated as departmental revenue.

The interest transferred to the Ministry is spent within the scope of the budget appropriation 'Residential Tenancy and Unit Title Services'. The Ministry is unable to provide you with a breakdown of spending of this interest as it is not recorded separately from other funds spent within the scope of the budget appropriation. Therefore, I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(g), that the information is not held by the Ministry.

However, please find in the table below, a breakdown of the budget appropriation 'Residential Tenancy and Unit Title Services' by activity, and the combined total of overhead spend under the appropriation for the financial year 2016/17. Overhead includes such items as ICT, Corporate Services (Legal, Human Resources), travel, office space etc.

Activity	Spend of budget appropriation 'Residential Tenancy and Unit Title Services' for 2016/2017 financial year
Bond services	\$5,917,000
Dispute resolutions	\$10,346,000
Information and education	\$520,000
Unit titles Act	\$125,000
Compliance and Enforcement	\$1,056,000
<i>Total Direct</i>	<i>\$17,963,000</i>
<i>Overhead</i>	<i>\$10,030,000</i>
Total	\$27,993,000 (as reported in the Ministry's 2016/17 annual report, page 105)

The Ministry's annual report for 2016/17 can be found on the Ministry's website:
www.mbie.govt.nz/about/who-we-are/our-publications/annual-report.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of our response to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or Freephone: 0800 802 602.

I trust you find the information helpful.

Yours sincerely



Phillippa Fox
 General Manager
 Housing and Tenancy Services