

11 May 2018

Mark Hanna

fyi-request-7637-0312ad79@requests.fyi.org.nz

REF: OIA-3751

Dear Mark

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 17 April 2018 requesting the following information regarding Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) requests received and responded to by the New Zealand Transport Agency (Transport Agency):

Please release the following information, from 1 July 2017 to 30 December 2017, broken down by request:

1. The date on which the request was received.
2. The date on which the request was answered.
 - 2a. If the request was answered on the last allowable day, the time at which the request was answered
3. Whether or not the request was extended under section 15A of the OIA.
 - 3a. If the request was extended, the date on which notice of the extension was sent to the requester.
 - 3b. If the notice of extension was sent to the requester on the last allowable day, the time at which the notice of extension was sent to the requester.
 - 3c. If the request was extended, the duration of the extension.
4. The outcome of the request (e.g. all information released, transferred to another agency).

The Transport Agency does not currently have a central workflow system that holds the information you have requested. I am therefore refusing your request under section 18(e) of the OIA because the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist.

You refer to OIA statistics collected by the State Services Commission (SSC) for 2015/16 and 2016/17. You may be interested to know that statistics for the period that you have requested are now available on the SSC website, including those supplied by the Transport Agency (<http://www.ssc.govt.nz/official-information-statistics>) These statistics are the only reporting that the Transport Agency has for this period.

You offered to refine your request should similar information be readily available. The Transport Agency completed 307 OIA requests in the period 1 July to 30 December 2017. To provide information on individual OIA requests would require a staff member to access each individual request folder, and review and analyse all documents and correspondence relating to that request. Refining your request would not alter the time necessary to complete this task eg a shorter time range or less detail required.

Please also note that the Ombudsman guide *Making official information requests: A guide for requesters* states:


... an agency is not obliged to form an opinion or create information to answer an official information request.

(http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/system/paperclip/document_files/document_files/2465/original/making_oi_requests_-_guide_for_requesters.pdf?1516146924 – page 7, Is the information 'held' by the agency)

Under section 28 of the OIA, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to refuse this request. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

If you would like to discuss this reply with the Transport Agency, please contact Leisa Coley, Manager, Ministerial Services, by email to Leisa.Coley@nzta.govt.nz or by phone on 04 897 4667.

Yours sincerely



Richard May
Senior Manager, Government & Governance