

31 July 2023



Wellington 6011

By email to: 

Dear Mr 

Official Information request and response

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act ("OIA") dated 5 July 2023.

You have requested:

1. *All transactions made by the Commission for the months of January, February, March, April, May and June 2023. A date of payment, cost centre and GL code, applicable descriptions, the other party and whatever notations are available for what the payment related to.*
 - *Please provide each month in a separate excel tab.*
 - *Please provide the Commissioner and COO's expenses for the same time period as the above.*

We decline to release some of this information under section 18(d) and 18(f) of the OIA.

General ledger transactions (declined under s18(f)) includes private information (s9(2)(a)) and commercial matters (s9(2)(b)) that would involve substantial, detailed consultation and external advice. We are a small agency and this is an onerous request. However -

- we note that detailed financial information is available in each of our annual reports here [Accountability documents | Retirement Commission Te Ara Ahunga Ora](#). The 2023 annual report is being drafted now.
- we also note that we annually supply Select Committees with very detailed operating information.
- if there is a specific topic about which you are seeking information, we may be able to provide this if sufficiently narrow in scope.
- The Commissioner's expenses (declined under s18(d)) are released annually and are here [Accountability documents | Retirement Commission Te Ara Ahunga Ora](#).

We release the COO expenses in the table below. The COO is a new position and the incumbent commenced in March 2023.

Phone charges all (GST excl)	Dinner expenses* (GST excl)
March 2023: \$39.32	
April 2023: \$39.32	26 th April 2023: \$43.48



Phone charges all (GST excl)	Dinner expenses* (GST excl)
May 2023: \$39.76	23 rd May 2023: \$43.48
June 2023: \$38.44	27 th June 2023: \$43.48

*The Leadership Team formally meets monthly including a prior dinner meeting.

2. *How many people have visited the Commission's website in the same time period as above?*
- *And what is the average time people spend on the website?*
 - *How much does it cost the Commission to host its website every month?*

28,648 users visited the Commission's website during the period. The average time spent is three minutes and 22 seconds.

Retirement.govt.nz website monthly hosting costs are approximately \$1,570 + GST.

3. *How many events has the Commission hosted this year?*

- *Please break down the cost of each event?*
- *Please also provide a description of the event and how many attended.*
- *How much has the Commission spent on catering for these events?*

We have not hosted any external events this year.

You have the right to refer this response to the Ombudsman if you are dissatisfied with it. More information on how to do this is [here](#). Te Ara Ahunga Ora proactively releases information in accordance with the Government's commitment to the Open Government Partnership National Action Plan. This includes publishing responses to requests for information under the OIA. Please note that this response (with your name removed) will be published on the Te Ara Ahunga Ora website shortly and will remain on our website for 12 months.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Yours sincerely



Jane Wrightson

RETIREMENT COMMISSIONER / MANA AHUNGARUA

