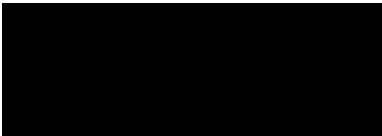


27 February 2023

C162649



Tēnā koe 

Thank you for your letter dated 13 December 2022 to the Department of Corrections – Ara Poutama Aotearoa, requesting information about purchases of petrol, diesel, and/or petrol hybrid vehicles made in the quarter ending June 2022. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested:

- a. *The written explanation by the chief executive permitting the purchase;*
 - b. *Any associated documentation of the rationale and proof that the options to buy BEVs or PHEVs were exhausted*
 - c. *The relevant “plan and timeframe for resolving” the operational limitation which lead to the purchase and*
 - d. *The total number of vehicles that would be purchased within the scope of the exemption and time period*
 - e. *If any/all of this information was not generated prior to the purchase, in violation of the NZ Government Procurement guidelines, why wasn't it?*
- *Where any document falls under the scope of this request, please release it in full, including sections which might otherwise be considered out of scope.*

Corrections are committed to the Carbon Neutral Government Programme that seeks to deliver a carbon neutral public sector by 2025. We acknowledge our responsibility for the protection and sustainability of our natural resources, and by managing our carbon footprint and improving energy efficiency, our goal is to minimise the impact of our operations on the environment.

In February 2019 the Minister of Corrections outlined changes to fleet asset procurement:

- A Cabinet directive for the light commercial fleet (e.g., cars, vans, and utility vehicles) to transition and become emissions free by 2025/26.
- Expectations for the Department to procure future replacement vehicles having greenhouse gas emissions 20 percent below the current average for the fleet; and
- Establishment of a publicly available emissions dashboard across government agencies.

Corrections has the second largest Government fleet comprising approximately 1,900 vehicle assets of various types. Approximately 1,150 of these are classified as light commercial vehicles and additionally there are specialist vehicles such Prisoner Escort Vehicles, trucks, tractors, mowers, farm vehicles and forklifts.

Corrections Chief Executive (CE) has confirmed the Department's commitment to reducing the fleet's greenhouse gas emissions profile in line with the Government's electric vehicles first policy. Corrections has a Fleet Optimisation and Decarbonisation plan in place that outlines the delivery of a zero-carbon fleet by 2030 assuming zero-emissions vehicles are available as and when vehicles are due to be replaced.

In response to your request,

- a. The written explanation by the chief executive permitting the purchase;*

The replacements to the fleet added in the period 1 April 2022 to 30 June 2022 were ordered prior to the requirement for the CE's approval of non-electric purchases. Therefore, this part of your request this is declined under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or cannot be found.

- b. Any associated documentation of the rationale and proof that the options to buy BEVs or PHEVs were exhausted*

Noting our response to the above question, there is nothing further to report in regard to this question in the period 1 April 2022 to 30 June 2022. Therefore, this part of your request this is declined under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or cannot be found.

- c. The relevant "plan and timeframe for resolving" the operational limitation which lead to the purchase and*

Noting our response to *a.* and *b.* above, there is nothing further to report in regard to this question in the period 1 April 2022 to 30 June 2022. Therefore, this part of your request this is declined under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or cannot be found.

- d. The total number of vehicles that would be purchased within the scope of the exemption and time period*

None of the fleet assets purchased in the period 1 April 2022 to 30 June 2022 required exemption by the Chief Executive as per government directives. As a result, this part of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or cannot be found.

- e. If any/all of this information was not generated prior to the purchase, in violation of the NZ Government Procurement guidelines, why wasn't it?*

No information was required to be generated for these purchases, and as such there is nothing to report in regard to this question. Therefore, this part of your request this is declined under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or cannot be found.

- Where any document falls under the scope of this request, please release it in full, including sections which might otherwise be considered out of scope.*

Please refer to the attached Fleet Optimisation and Decarbonisation Plan, Investment Case for Fleet Planned Asset Replacement programme, and approval to drawdown funding for year 1 of the programme, attached as Appendices 1, 2 and 3.

Please note that this response may be published on Corrections' website. Typically, responses are published quarterly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

I trust the information provided is of assistance. I encourage you to raise any concerns about this response with Corrections. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Ngā mihi



Alastair Turrell
Deputy Chief Executive
Infrastructure and Digital Assets