


Reference: 20220034

24 February 2022



Dear 

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 1 February 2022. Your request was:

My name is  and I write to you on behalf of the Public Sector Carbon Neutrality Accountability Project (PSCNAP). This project seeks to ascertain at what stage public sector departments/agencies are in transitioning their department/agency to becoming carbon neutral by 2025.

I write to you under the Official Information Act and request the following information:

- 1. Do you have a carbon neutral plan by 2025, and if so, what is the official wording of it?*
- 2. Do you have a carbon neutral team or committee? If so, how many are in this team, and are they trained/experts?*
- 3. How much carbon do you emit/how are your carbon emissions measured?*
- 4. When do you plan to phase out coal?*
- 5. Have you transitioned to EVs and or/hybrids? Have you begun to downsize your fleet size?*
- 6. How far along are you in meeting the NABERSNZ rating requirement for large buildings?*

Responses to your questions

1. *Do you have a carbon neutral plan by 2025, and if so, what is the official wording of it?*

The Treasury has set out an action-based pathway to becoming a zero carbon Treasury. The focus of this plan is improving our own environmental sustainability. Te Taiao (the environment) is central to our He Ara Waiora framework, and improving our environmental sustainability will help protect it.

The Treasury has aligned our overall emissions reduction targets with the Carbon Neutral Government Programme requirements. We are working to define specific emissions reduction targets and exploring options to achieve carbon neutrality in alignment with the Carbon Neutral Government Programme.

2. *Do you have a carbon neutral team or committee? If so, how many are in this team, and are they trained/experts?*

The Treasury's Executive Leadership Team is committed to reducing Treasury's carbon footprint as New Zealand transitions to a low carbon economy. Actions and activities related to the Carbon Neutral Government Programme are coordinated by the Treasury's Sustainability Group, which consists of eight staff members. The Treasury is a member of the Toitū carbonreduce programme and the Carbon Neutral Government Programme. So, as we have no carbon neutral experts, we seek guidance from these programmes.

3. *How much carbon do you emit/how are your carbon emissions measured?*

In March 2021, the Treasury achieved Toitū carbonreduce certification, having verified its carbon emissions for the previous base year period of February 2019 to January 2020. In order to align with the Carbon Neutral Government Programme requirements, the Treasury has changed its base year to the financial year 2019, covering the period from July 2018 to June 2019. We are in the process of having our emissions verified and we will disclose the information in our Annual Report.

4. *When do you plan to phase out coal?*

The Treasury does not heat its office using coal boilers.

5. *Have you transitioned to EVs and or/hybrids? Have you begun to downsize your fleet size?*

The Treasury does not own any vehicles.

6. *How far along are you in meeting the NABERSNZ rating requirement for large buildings?*

The Treasury is in the process of getting the NABERSNZ rating and Energy Audit.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and enclosed documents may be published on the Treasury website.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely

Jane Derbyshire
Director, Organisational Strategy and Performance