

Reference: 20230059

01 March 2023



Dear

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 7 February 2023. You requested:

- *Please detail each annual carbon travel limit Te Tai Ōhanga The Treasury (Treasury) has, including those for full-time staff, part-time staff, casual staff, contractors and consultants.*
- *In the past 12 months (1 February 2022 to 1 February 2023), how many of the Treasury carbon travel limits were reached, if any?*
- *If any carbon travel limits were reached, when were they reached (e.g. August 31, 2022, 4 months before the annual period ended)?*
- *If any carbon travel limits were reached, how much travel is recorded after the day they were reached within the annual period (e.g. 54 kilometres of travel were recorded over the annual limit in 2022)?*
- *What changes are implemented if a carbon travel limit is reached?*
- *When were carbon travel limits introduced for Treasury?*
- *How many years, since carbon travel limits were introduced, has Treasury recorded travel in excess of the annual limit?*

Information publicly available

The information listed in the table below is covered by the request and available on the Treasury website. Accordingly, we propose to refuse the request for this information under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act:

- the information requested is or will soon be publicly available

Item	Date	Document Description	Website Address
1.	30 September 2022	Treasury Annual Report 2021/22 and Minister of Finance's Report on Non-Departmental Appropriations	https://www.treasury.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2022-10/annual-report-2021-22.pdf

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In 2021, the Treasury achieved Toitū carbon reduction certification, having verified its carbon emissions for the previous base year period of February 2019 to January 2020. This period was chosen for representing the Treasury's carbon emissions for a period at the new premises and that was unaffected by COVID-19.

In October 2021, the Carbon Neutral Government Programme (CNGP) introduced a new requirement where all organisations in Tranche 1 of the programme were instructed to report emissions and publish reduction plans (including gross emissions reduction targets) from the 2021/22 financial year. The Treasury has decided to change its base year to the financial year 2018/19, covering the period from July 2018 to June 2019, following the introduction of these CNGP requirements.

In 2022, the Treasury set medium (2024/25 financial year) and long-term (2029/30 financial year) targets for travel related emissions - a reduction on travel related emissions from the base year of 23% and 45% respectively. These number have since been updated to 25% and 47% as part of the yearly review we undertake to adjust targets based on other emissions and improved data. As part of the review, we have also set a target for the current financial year 2022/23, a reduction of 15% when compared to the travel related emissions from the base year.

Treasury's current travel emissions targets are described below. Additionally, the Treasury includes information on its greenhouse (GHG) gas emissions, targets and emission reduction plan in our annual report.

Travel 1049.48 tCO_{2e} (Baseline)		
Travel is the largest contributor to our greenhouse gas GHG emissions. It is essential that our travel policy and guidelines are ambitious and that we stick to it.		
tCO_{2e} reduction targets		
2023: 887.04 (-15%)	2025: 787.11 (-25%)	2030: 556.22 (-47%)

The Treasury has updated its travel policy and guidelines. These changes alone are expected to promote a significant reduction to air-travel related emissions. Although, to achieve our travel and overall targets we will need to implement further initiatives to reduce our travel emissions. This work is still in progress.

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

Rose Austen
Team Leader, Governance and Accountability