

Reference: 20230531



TE TAI ŌHANGA
THE TREASURY

20 December 2023



Dear 

Thank you for your Official Information Act (OIA) request, received on 22 November 2023. You requested the following:

-We request the following information in relation to your agency's use of vehicles (petrol, diesel and electric), taxis and ride-sharing apps:*
- 1. What was the department's Taxi expenditure for the 2022/23 financial year?*
 - 2. What was the department's expenditure on ridesharing apps (such as Uber, Ola, Zoomy, YourRide etc) for the 2022/23 financial year?*
 - a. If the agency does not separate out taxi expenditure from other ride sharing expenditure, please indicate whether ridesharing or taxi use is the default/most common when such a service is needed and provide and a rough estimate of the proportion of trips that are taken via ridesharing vs taxi*
 - 3. What was the department's expenditure on public transport (busses, trains, ferries, etc) for the 2022/23 financial year?*
 - 4. What was the department's other road travel expenditure (running costs of vehicles owned by your agencies, hire cars etc but excluding flights) for the 2022/23 financial year?*
 - 5. Does the department have internal policies banning their staff or advising them against using ride-sharing apps for work travel? If so, what are these policies?*
 - 6. Does the department have any concerns about their staff using ride-sharing apps for work travel?*
 - 7. If the department does not currently use ridesharing, please indicate why not? Similarly, if the department does not use ridesharing as the default over taxis, please indicate why not.*
 - 8. Has the department purchased any vehicles over the 2022/2023 financial year? If so, how many were electric, diesel and petrol and what was the cost of these purchases broken down by vehicle type (electric, diesel, petrol)?*
 - 9. What is the running cost of all the department's vehicles?*
 - 10. Please provide an estimate on the number of kilometres travelled by staff via land transport in the 2022/23 financial year.....*

1 The Terrace
PO Box 3724
Wellington 6140
New Zealand
tel. +64-4-472-2733

<https://treasury.govt.nz>

Questions 1 – 4

The table below provides the amount the Treasury spent on taxis, ride-sharing apps, public transport, and other road travel in the 2022/23 financial year.

	Amount (\$)
Taxis	54,002
Ride-sharing apps	5,417
Public transport*	313
Other road travel**	3,544

*All spending on public transport was on buses.

**All spending on other road travel was for rental cars.

Questions 5 – 7

The Treasury has no internal policies banning staff or advising them against using ride-sharing apps for work travel. One of the criteria of the Travel Policy is that the most cost-effective options should be selected when booking travel while considering the traveller's health and safety. The Treasury's travel guidelines state that staff may use Uber or other ride-share services if they prefer and if sharing rides is necessary and justifiable to minimise emissions under the Carbon Zero Act 2019 and the Treasury's Carbon Reduction Plan.

The Treasury has no concerns with staff using ride-sharing apps for work travel. Therefore, question 7 is not applicable.

Questions 8 - 10

The Treasury has not purchased any vehicles during the 2022/23 financial year and does not own any vehicles.

The Treasury does not possess the information required to determine the total number of kilometres travelled by staff using land transportation. Therefore, this part of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the document alleged to contain the information does not exist.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) 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



Glenn McStay
Chief Financial Officer