



OIA ref: 2021-025

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privacy

3 June 2021

Kia ora **privacy**

Thank you for your email of 6 May 2021 in which you requested the following information under the Official Information Act:

"Please could you send me a list of all Climate Change Commission flights in the last 12 months (staff, commissioners and any others the Commission has booked or paid for), and the reason for each trip / flight?"

Does the Commission know how much emissions these flights have resulted in? If so, what? And how does the Commission offset these?"

The attached spreadsheet contains the information you have requested for flights taken in the year preceeding your request. Please note, all flights listed in the spreadsheet were paid for and booked by the Commission through its travel provider, Tandem Travel. Tandem does not record the reason for travel. Therefore, this information has subsequently been coded in for each flight by the Commission.

Please note, in two instances, consultants invoiced the Commission for air travel expenses incurred as part of their work with us. The Commission does not have access to full details for these flights, including carbon emissions or any associated offsets. These flights do not appear in the attached spreadsheet. The dates, travel destinations, and reasons for these flights appear in the table below.

Passenger	Date	Roundtrip between	Reason for travel
Consultant	26/03/2021	Auckland - Wellington	Workshop
Consultant	29/01/2021	Christchurch - Wellington	Technical Input

The Commission's travel policy looks to minimise Commission travel and its environmental impact. Where appropriate and available, meetings are held by videoconference. However, there are instances where travel is required. When travel is required, the Commission's preference is for low-emissions transport options. Where feasible, these options were used.

In the period covered by your request, air travel was primarily used to allow Commission staff and Board members to engage and consult with a wide range of stakeholders. These engagements included face-to-face relationship building and collaborative consultations with key stakeholders and the larger New Zealand



public during the Commission's establishment phase and around the Commission's draft Advice 21 package.

As for carbon offsets, since October 2020, the Commission has paid Tandem Travel, its travel provider, to calculate and offset its carbon emissions from flights. Tandem, in turn, pays Toitū Envirocare to source the appropriate number of carbon credits to offset these emissions.

I hope you find this information helpful. However, as you are aware, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that the Commission has a policy to proactively release OIA responses to help others have access to more information. Consequently, this letter will be published on our website with your name and contact details redacted to protect your privacy.

Kind regards



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Climate Change Commission

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OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT