

OIA Ref: 2022-025

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

18 January 2023

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]  
scope

Thank you for your email of 1 December 2022 seeking information about travel expenses under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

Before responding to your request in detail, the Commission will be providing information relevant to the 2021/22 financial year. We have made this decision in part because your request was submitted before the end of the 2022 calendar year, but also to ensure that what we provide below has been audited previously as part of our preparations for Annual Report.

Please note, we are also interpreting “*staff*” as including both Commission staff and the Commissioners (Board members).

To ensure we provide a comprehensive response, we will respond to each part individually below:

- *How many flights (paid for by the government) have staff taken in 2022?*  
Between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2022, the Commission paid for 203 flights.

Work-related travel is a normal and expected activity for the Commission and includes the involvement of Board members and employees in relationship building, representation and consultation with a wide range of stakeholders in New Zealand. Where air travel is required, travel is planned by the most cost-effective route and in a way that maximises the effectiveness of the trip (for example, to combine more than one location in a trip and arranging meetings to maximise time spent in one location).

- *How much has your department spent on flights in 2022?*  
Between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2022, the Commission spent \$29,519 on flights.
- *How much has your department spent on airline memberships (such as Air New Zealand’s Koru membership) in 2022?*  
The Commission does not provide Koru Club memberships for staff or Commissioners and has not done so since its establishment in December 2019.
- *How much has your department spent on taxis and Uber rides in 2022?*  
Between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2022, the Commission spent \$6,919 on taxis and/or Uber.

- *How much has your department spent on public transport fares for staff in 2022?*  
We interpret “public transport” as referring to buses, trains or car sharing services. Accordingly, the Commission spent a total of \$32.77 on one CityHop journey during the 2021/22 financial year.
- *How much has your department spent on petrol and diesel in 2022?*  
The Commission spent \$401.53 on fuel in the 2021/22 financial year. We are unable to split this between petrol and diesel fuels as our records do not include this level of detail.
- *How much has been spent on travel for the partners/family of ministers in 2022?*  
The Commission does not contribute towards the travel spend of any Minister and/or their partners/family.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Office of the Ombudsman in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on their website, at:

[www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz)

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

Ngā mihi



Grant Blackwell  
**Acting General Manager, Strategy, Planning and Engagement**  
**Climate Change Commission**