


27 August 2020

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Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) which was partially transferred from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) on 14 August 2020 for:

- “3. Costs actually incurred to the government for food supply and security and any other expenses in managed quarantine (with evidence);*
- 4. Did government follow a public procurement exercise to chose hotels, security and food suppliers?*
- 7. Set out the cost of two Covid tests during managed isolation.”*

The total amount spent on managed isolation and quarantine facilities up to 30 June 2020 is \$81.973 million (GST inclusive). This covers food and accommodation for guests, security, transfers, medical, health, and wellbeing wraparound services and direct costs that are not covered in All-of-Government staff baselines, which are met by the respective organisations who are providing those staff.

Initially, there was no procurement process due to the country being in a state of national emergency. However, once the state of national emergency was lifted, the Ministry completed a procurement process with hotels and ran a closed request-for-quote (RFQ) process with providers who were identified as meeting the health policy settings (ie, exercise spaces and health and safety).

The Ministry pays laboratories an agreed sum of \$80.50 (\$70 plus GST) per test, so the combined cost of the day 3 and 12 tests is \$161.

I trust this information fulfils your request. Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website.

Yours sincerely



Jane Kelley
Director
COVID-19 Health System Response