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3 March 2023

s 9(2)(a)

By email: **s 9(2)(a)**
Ref: H2023019900

Tēnā koe **s 9(2)(a)**

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to Manatū Hauora (the Ministry of Health) on 7 February 2023 for information regarding carbon travel. You requested:

“Please detail each annual carbon travel limit Manatū Hauora Ministry of Health (MoH) 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 MoH 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 MoH?

How many years, since carbon travel limits were introduced, has MoH recorded travel in excess of the annual limit?”

Manatū Hauora has not set specific limits on travel for its staff members, contractors, or consultants. Therefore, your request is refused under section 18(g)(i) of the Act, as the information requested is not held by the Ministry and there are no grounds for believing it is connected more closely with the functions of another agency subject to the Act.

However, as part of our commitment to minimise our greenhouse gas emissions, Manatū Hauora has amended its travel rules and guidance to include environmental sustainability as a key principle. Manatū Hauora guidelines state that virtual options must be considered as a default, before travelling or requiring others to travel. The aim of this is to decrease travel and therefore negate the need for tighter controls. Appended to this letter is Manatū Hauora commitment to environmental sustainability for further information. This is from Manatū Hauora internal website for staff members and released to you in full.

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Manatū Hauora website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Celia Wellington'.

Celia Wellington
Deputy Director-General
Corporate Services | Te Pou Tiaki

We have moved to an all electric/hybrid fleet!

All Ministry fleet vehicles are now electric and hybrid vehicles with a 5-star safety rating.

Our commitment to environmental sustainability

Environmental sustainability is important to us here at Manatū Hauora. We're committed to making environmental sustainability a priority – both as a Government department and Te Tiriti o Waitangi partner.

As a member of the Carbon Neutral Government Programme we have committed to reducing our greenhouse gas emissions and achieve carbon neutrality by 2025.

As of July last year we had 11 vehicles at our offices in Tāmaki Makaurau and Te Whanganui-a-Tara. More than half of these fleet were on average 10 years old and fuelled by diesel or petrol.

Completing a review of our fleet is one step in a comprehensive programme of work that the Operations Group have started to review and reduce our key emission sources.

Quality over quantity

The great news is that from Monday 27 February, all our fleet are either electric or hybrid vehicles with a 5-star ANCAP safety rating.

We've also reduced our fleet to 5 vehicles, with 2 cars in Wellington and 3 in Auckland.

This is just the start of our journey! We will continue to explore emission-free ride-sharing options as part of our travel procurement. We'll also be working with

our IT colleagues on how we can improve our virtual experience, so air or vehicle travel is the last option.

If you use a fleet vehicle

Our Microsoft calendar booking system will be updated to reflect changes to the fleet portfolio.

For those who have future booking on any vehicles that will be removed you will be contacted by our Knowledge Services EDMS team.

If you're required to drive a Ministry vehicle for work, you need to complete our [e-learning module](#) and registration form before you can drive.

For any questions

If you are keen to join us in our journey to reduce our environmental footprint by reducing our carbon footprint, please email sustainability@health.govt.nz.

If you have any questions about our fleet vehicles, please contact officeservices@health.govt.nz

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982