

IR-01-22-14139

2 June 2022



## Request for information

Thank you for your request of 17 May 2022, in which you requested the following:

- 1. A breakdown of expenditures covering the Parliament Occupation from February 8th 2022 to March 3rd 2022
- 2. The above request to include all expenditures for security detail and operations by the New Zealand Police and any other agencies within New Zealand and International agencies from 8th February 2022 to 3rd February 2022.

Your request has been considered in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), and I can now provide the following response.

As you may be aware, the Independent Police Conduct Authority (IPCA) has commenced an independent investigation and review (Review) of the policing of the occupation on and around Parliament grounds in Wellington during February and March 2022 (Protest).

Details of the scope of the Review are available on the IPCA's website<sup>1</sup> and you will note this scope includes Police operational execution, as well as planning and preparation of the Police response to the Protest. This includes staff selection, training, operational guidance, equipment, and technology provided to officers who policed the Protest.

Whilst this Review is underway, information relating to the issues under investigation and review is expected to be the subject of examination by the IPCA under its powers of investigation under the IPCA Act 1988. With this Review commenced, there is a strong public interest in allowing these matters to be considered in the round by the IPCA.

In the meantime, regarding your question, as at 31 March 2022, Police had incurred actual costs totalling \$2.557m in relation to the protest at Parliament. The expenditure covered expenses incurred directly in response to the protest such as accommodation, food supplies, towing, airfares and vehicles, venues and helicopter hire costs. It does not include any personnel costs of the staff assigned to this operation.

Police does not hold information regarding the costs that other agencies present at the Protest, such as Wellington Free Ambulance or Fire and Emergency New Zealand, may have incurred.

There were no international agencies involved in the Police response, therefore this part of your request is refused under section 18(e) as the information does not exist.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://www.ipca.govt.nz/Site/publications-and-media/2022-media-releases/2022-mar-24-investigation-review-occupation-parliament.aspx</u>

The IPCA anticipates the Review will be completed and reported on by 31 March 2023. Police recognises the importance of transparency in these matters and looks forward to the release of the IPCA's report, at which time more detailed information regarding the Police response to the Protest is likely to be publicly available.

Please note that as part of its commitment to openness and transparency, Police proactively releases some information and documents that may be of interest to the public. An anonymised version of this response may be publicly released on the New Zealand Police website.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with the response to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at: <a href="https://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz">www.ombudsman.parliament.nz</a>.

Nāku noa, nā

David Greig Superintendent

New Zealand Police