



NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY
WAKA KOTAHI

25 October 2013

Conan Young
Reporter
Radio New Zealand
conan.young@radionz.co.nz

NATIONAL OFFICE

50 Victoria Street
Private Bag 6995
Wellington 6141
New Zealand
T 64 4 894 5400
F 64 4 894 6100

www.nzta.govt.nz

Dear Conan

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email to Andy Knackstedt of 7 October 2013 requesting the information under the Official Information Act 1982. I am responding to the two questions Andy numbered 4 and 7.

4. The latest figures including the past three years relating to the amount spend on communications and media advice/training to do with the Roads of National Significance.

The Transport Agency does not spend any money on communications and media advice/training in respect of the overall programme of work known as the roads of national significance. Each of the roads of national significance is broken up into separate sections that are delivered as separate projects. For expenditure at a project level, you will need to identify which sections are of interest to you and be specific about the type of communications.

By way of background, I can provide you with some general information that will help you understand the significant value we place on community engagement so that we can inform communities about what is planned and take into account public feedback. Such engagement sometimes is a legal requirement in the form of a condition upon which consent is granted. Costs are incurred for informing and consulting communities and assessing the feedback for resolution and/or mitigation of issues raised.

We would expect that about 0.25% of a project cost would account for communications and engagement on a large roading project. For instance, the total budget for the Victoria Park Tunnel was \$400 million. Expenditure of just over \$1 million on communications and engagement represents approximately that proportion. I would expect that the other projects would largely end up with a similar proportion of spending on public engagement. The rate of expenditure within a project at any particular time depends on the stage the project has reached and the particular communications needs. You can visit the websites of the various projects via our website, where you should also find the expected cost of each project: www.nzta.govt.nz/network/rons/index.html. The project websites will also give you some examples of the communications work that is undertaken.

I am not aware of any specific spending on 'media advice/training to do with the Roads of National Significance', which I take to mean any external training or advice provided specifically to assist those involved in handling media queries about the roads of national significance.

7. The latest progress report on upgrading bridges so they can handle the new 44-tonne weight limit applying to trucks.

The current bridge strengthening programme is for high productivity motor vehicles (HPMVs) up to 62 tonnes under permits for specific routes. The Transport Agency website provides current information on HPMV investment routes and includes regular newsletters with the latest developments:

www.nzta.govt.nz/vehicle/your/hpmv/network-maps.html.

In summary the current situation re strengthening is as follows:

Route	State highway	Forecast completion for strengthening
Port of Auckland to Port of Tauranga	SH1N & 29	Mid 2014
Port of Auckland to Portland turn-off	SH1N	Mid 2014
Portland turnoff to Northland	SH1N	End 2013
Port of Tauranga to Taupo	SH2 & 5	Mid 2014
Hamilton to Taranaki	SH3	Mid 2014
Wellington to Piarere	SH1N	Mid 2014
Bulls to Wanganui	SH3	Mid 2014
Hawera to Port of Taranaki	SH3	Mid 2014
Mohaku forest to Port of Taranaki	SH43	Mid 2014
South Island investment routes		Programme to be confirmed by early 2014

If you would like to discuss this reply with the NZTA, please contact Andy Knackstedt, National Media Manager, by email to Andrew.Knackstedt@nzta.govt.nz or by phone on (04) 894 6285.

Yours sincerely



Kevin Reid
National Manager Network Outcomes
For Chief Executive