

5 June 2018

John-Michael Swannix
Multi-platform Journalist
Newshub
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REF: OIA-3763

Dear John-Michael

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of Tuesday, 10 April 2018 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

To answer your questions in order:

1. *What is the stated purpose of the Quick Wins programme, mentioned in Fergus Tate's email to myself dated 10/04/18?*

Installing median barriers often requires more-costly road widening, and there are often access restrictions placed on properties as a result of the works. The Transport Agency decided to explore opportunities for installing barriers on sites where road widening may not be required and where there is a reduced potential for complications due to property access issues.

2. *What Minister or former Minister commissioned this programme?*

The "Quick Wins programme" is a term used during discussions between NZ Transport Agency staff, and is not a formal Transport Agency initiative, nor was it commissioned by any Minister.

3. *When did work start on this programme?*

The Transport Agency started exploring the opportunity for fast-tracking some potential median barrier installations in late November 2017.

4. *What stage is this programme at?*

As noted above, there is no formal "Quick Wins Programme". However, some potential sections of road for 'quick win' barrier installation have been identified and have been included in the draft Transport Agency Investment Plan (TAIP), which is currently out for consultation.

However, the need for, cost of, and ability to quickly and easily install a median barrier can only be determined at the preliminary design stage of each individual project. As such, the Transport Agency cannot release information on individual projects, beyond what is included in the draft TAIP, until the

TAIP is finalised by 30 June 2018.

5. *As at 10/04/18, what roads have been identified as part of the Quick Wins programme?*

As per Dr Fergus Tate's previous response to you of 10 April 2018 (number 1), at this stage we cannot provide information on which roads have been identified as the draft TAIP has not been finalised. I am therefore withholding this information under section 18(d) of the Act, as it will soon be publicly available.

6. *As at 10/04/18, what is the estimated cost per road of installing safety features such as median barriers? Please include details of any other type of safety upgrade being investigated for these roads.*

As per Dr Tate's previous response (number 4), costs vary considerably based upon existing road width, topography, geometry, intersections and access, spacing required, and what ancillary works are required. These costs are not generally determined until preliminary designs are undertaken, and can vary from the barrier installation cost alone to over several millions of dollars per kilometre. Due to this, I am refusing this request under section 18(e) of the Act as the information does not exist.

There is some cost modelling information in the documents released to you. However, these are only estimated cost ranges and should not be taken as the full and final cost of median barrier installation

7. *Please provide all correspondence held by officials pertaining to my email inquiry to Fergus Tate dated 06/04/18, as well as any subsequent emails in that chain. Please include any notes or minutes from the meeting Mr Tate had with Colin Brodie on 10/04/18.*

A copy of all correspondence held by officials pertaining to your email inquiry to Fergus Tate dated 6 April 2018 is released to you as appendix 1, and detailed in the below document schedule. Please note that some information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons, 9(2)(f)(iv) and 9(2)(g)(i) to maintain the confidentiality of advice and the free and frank expression of opinions by public servants, and 18(d) as the information will soon be publicly available. Some further information has also been removed as it falls outside of the scope of your request.

A copy of document 7a is released to you in full, and is attached in spreadsheet format as appendix 2.

No notes or minutes were taken during Dr Tate's meeting with Colin Brodie on 10 April 2018. The email sent to you on 10 April 2018 captured the discussion.

With respect to the information that has been withheld, I do not consider there are any other factors which would render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

If you would like to discuss this reply with the NZ Transport Agency, please contact Andrew Knackstedt, Senior Manager – Media, by email to andrew.knackstedt@nzta.govt.nz or by phone on (04) 894 6285.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Reid', written in a cursive style.

Kevin Reid
Senior Manager, Operational Policy

Appendix 1: OIA-3763 – John-Michael Swannix

Schedule of email correspondence for release

Ref	Document	Date	For release?	Description	Information being withheld / reason for withholding
1	Fw: Alliance Quick Wins	23/11/2017	Yes, in part	Email	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a).
2	Fast tracking median barriers	27/11/2017	Yes, in part	Email	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a).
3	RE Ambitious High Risk Rural Roads Median Barrier programme.	6/12/2017	Yes, in part	Email	Some information withheld under sections 9(2)(a), 9(2)(b)(ii), and 18(d).
4	Quick Wins Median Barriers	19/12/2017	Yes, in part	Email	Some information withheld under sections 9(2)(a), 9(2)(b)(ii), 9(2)(f)(iv), 9(2)(g)(i), and 18(d).
5	Strategic Fit Flowchart – Corridors	19/12/2017	No	Word Document	Withheld in full under S(9)(2)(b)(ii).
6	Re Median Barrier Quick Wins Programme	19/12/2017	Yes, in part	Email	Some information withheld under sections 9(2)(a), 9(2)(f)(iv), & 9(2)(g)(i).
7	FW Quick Wins Median Barriers 7a. Quick Wins Median Barrier 7ab. FW Action Required Post Meeting Follow up – Review of the revised draft 2018-21 7ac. NLTP and SRA Programmes V12	23/02/2018	7 released 7a released in full as appendix 2 7ab released 7ac withheld	7, Email 7a, Excel Spreadsheet 7ab, Email 7ac, Excel Spreadsheet	Some information and documents withheld under sections 9(2)(a), 9(2)(f)(iv), 9(2)(g)(i), & 9(2)(b)(ii).
8	FW Actions Required Post Meeting Follow Up – Review of the revised draft 2018-21 SHIP a. Copy of SRA Projects 21 03 18 – DvS comments b. Copy of Media Barrier Corridors 27 03 18 w overlaps SRA DvS comments c. SRA Projects 21 03 18 d. Median Barrier Corridors 27 03 18 w overlaps SRA e. NLTP and SRA Programmes V11 f. Local Authority Feedback on Draft Programme – CO Edit V2 NZTA Safety Feedback	27/03/2018	Emails released in part, attached documents withheld in full	Email a. Excel Spreadsheet b. Excel Spreadsheet c. Excel Spreadsheet d. Excel Spreadsheet e. Excel Spreadsheet f. Excel Spreadsheet g. Excel Spreadsheet h. Excel	Some information withheld under sections 9(2)(a), 9(2)(b)(ii), 9(2)(f)(iv), 9(2)(g)(i), and 18(d). Attached documents withheld as Out of Scope.

	g. Local Authority Feedback on Draft Programme – CO Edit V2 (FM) h. Local Authority Feedback on Draft Programme – CO Edit V2 i. SHIP review Target Growth portfolio draft V2			Spreadsheet i. Word Document	
9	Quick Wins Programme	6/04/2018	Yes	Email discussion with requestor	As above
10	FW Quick Wins Programme	6/04/2018	Yes	Email chain	As above
11	Re Quick Wins Programme	10/04/2018	Yes	Email chain	As above
12	Re Quick Wins Programme	10/04/2018	Yes	Email chain	As above
13	FW Quick Wins Programme	10/04/2018	Yes	Email chain	As above
14	FW Median Barrier analysis	12/04/2018	Yes	Email chain	As above