



16 MAR 2017



On 30 January 2017 you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, information regarding vehicles the Ministry owns or leases. For the sake of clarity I will address each of your questions in turn.

The Ministry employs almost 10,000 staff who work at more than 290 locations in New Zealand. Child, Youth and Family Social Workers travel extensively, sometimes to very remote areas, and it is essential that they have access to safe and reliable transport. As such it is necessary that the Ministry maintain a fleet of vehicles, which numbered 1,192 as of 30 January 2017. The Ministry owns all the vehicles in its fleet.

To ensure front line staff have access to fit for purpose vehicles, the Ministry aims to replace passenger vehicles at four years or at 100,000 kilometres, and light commercial vehicles at 6 years or at 120,000 kilometres, funding permitting.

- How many motor vehicles by type (eg car, van, ute, truck, etc.) were owned or leased as of 30 January 2017?
- How many motor vehicles by type (eg car, van, ute, truck, etc.) are powered by petrol, diesel, LPG/CNG, electricity, hydrogen, hybrid or other (please specify) as of 30 January 2017?
- What is the average age of your vehicles by type as of 30 January 2017?

**Table 1: The number of vehicles the Ministry owns, categorised by vehicle type, broken down by fuel type and average age, as at 30 January 2017.**

Vehicle Type	Petrol	Diesel	Total	Average Age (in years)
Cars	1,141	6	1,147	3.0
Vans	5	40	45	5.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,146</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>1,192</b>	

**Note:**

- Vans include Minibuses, seating 8, 10 and 12 people, and cargo vans, of which the Ministry owns two.
- The Ministry does not currently own any electric/hybrid vehicles.

- How many vehicles were acquired or/ or leased since November 2008, broken down by year?

**Table 2: The number of vehicles acquired by the Ministry, broken down by year, since 1 July 2008.**

Financial Year (July to June)	Number of Acquisitions
2008/09	358
2009/10	235
2010/11	250
2011/12	222
2012/13	171
2013/14	224
2014/15	254
2015/16	264
2016/17 (As at 30 January 2017)	4

- How many vehicles were disposed of and/ or had leases terminated on an annual basis, and what were the monies realised (or in the case of leases, incurred) since November 2008, broken down by year?

**Table 3: The number of vehicles disposed of by the Ministry, broken down by year with the proceeds realised, since 1 July 2008.**

Financial Year (July to June)	Number of disposals	Proceeds
2008/09	387	\$2,918,000
2009/10	295	\$2,322,000
2010/11	332	\$3,085,000
2011/12	146	\$1,180,000
2012/13	286	\$2,275,000
2013/14	255	\$1,844,000
2014/15	264	\$1,758,000
2015/16	263	\$1,847,000
2016/17 (As at 30 January 2017)	15	\$107,000

Please note, the above figures for 2016/17 show the acquisitions and disposals as at 30 January 2017. The Ministry intends to replace a further 63 vehicles by 30 June 2017.

- *What are (or have been) the annual running costs as well as lease costs (if applicable) by vehicle type (eg car, van, ute, truck, etc.) since November 2008, broken down by year?*

The Ministry does not record running cost by vehicle type, and to provide this information would require Ministry staff to manually review tens of thousands of vehicle expense claims from every year since 2008/09 and categorise them by vehicle type. As such this information is refused under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act, as substantial manual collation would be required.

I have considered whether the Ministry would be able to respond to your request given extra time, or the ability to charge for the information requested. I have concluded that, in either case, the Ministry's ability to undertake its work would still be prejudiced.

**Table 4: Total running cost for vehicles owned by the Ministry, broken down by year, since 1 July 2008.**

Financial Year (July to June)	Running Costs
2008/09	\$4,709,000
2009/10	\$4,262,000
2010/11	\$4,655,000
2011/12	\$4,625,000
2012/13	\$4,862,000
2013/14	\$4,845,000
2014/15	\$4,437,000
2015/16	\$3,978,000
2016/17 (As at 30 January 2017)	\$2,195,000

**Note:**

- Running costs include repairs, maintenance, fuel, insurance premiums and claims excess and/or repairs, registration costs, Road User Charges and car park leases. Depreciation, capital charge and fringe benefit tax is not included.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public shortly. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact [OIA\\_Requests@msd.govt.nz](mailto:OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding the Ministry's vehicle fleet, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Merv Dacre', is written over a horizontal line.

Merv Dacre  
**Associate Deputy Chief Executive, Corporate Solutions**