



13 July 2016

Official Information Request No. 9000142740  
(Please quote this in any correspondence)

Matthew Rhodes  
Researcher  
New Zealand Taxpayers' Union

Sent via email: [Matthew@taxpayers.org.nz](mailto:Matthew@taxpayers.org.nz)

Dear Mr Rhodes

**Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987**

**Re: international and domestic travel costs**

I refer to your email, which we received on 24 May 2016, requesting information about international and domestic travel costs. In particular, for the Auckland Council group, including the CCOs, you have requested:

- *The total amount spent on international travel and disbursements, per financial year since 2014/15 and including the year to date 2015/2016; and*
- *The total amount spent on domestic travel and disbursements, per financial year since 2014/15, and including the year to date 2015/2016.*

**Auckland Council**

The table below outlines Auckland Council's total spend on international and domestic travel, including flights, accommodation, car rental and disbursements. Council's travel bookings are arranged through a travel management company that ensures we get the best possible price on fares and accommodation by accessing 'government' rates.

Year	Domestic Travel	International Travel	TOTAL
2014/15 Financial year	\$1,659,110.04	\$660,381.99	\$2,319,492.03
2015/16 Financial year	\$1,552,046.12	\$457,379.45	\$2,009,425.57
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$4,328,917.60</b>

**Auckland Tourism, Events and Economic Development (ATEED)**

ATEED has published details of travel expenses incurred by both staff and ATEED Group directors for the 2014/15 financial year, alongside comparative figures for the 2013/14 financial year. Details of travel expenses for 2015/16 are due to be published shortly following the close of the financial year. The link to the published data is as follows:

<http://www.aucklandnz.com/ateed/travel-costs>

Accordingly, as the information you have requested regarding ATEED's expenses is already publicly available or soon will be publicly available, this component of your request is refused pursuant to section 17(d) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

### Regional Facilities Auckland (RFA)

The table below outlines RFA's total spend on international and domestic travel booked with Auckland Council's corporate travel agents, including flights, accommodation, charge back fees, booking fees, rail, transfer courier fees and foreign currency.

2014/15 Financial year		Total non-employee	Total employee	TOTAL
	International	\$108,685	\$203,616	\$312,301
	Domestic	\$20,463	\$46,053	\$66,516
	<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$378,817</b>

2014/15 Financial year to 31 May 2016		Total non-employee	Total employee	TOTAL
	International	\$234,030	\$275,625	\$509,655
	Domestic	\$25,494	\$49,144	\$74,638
	<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$584,293</b>

Non-employee travel includes those contracted to provide services to RFA. RFA manages five separate businesses (Auckland Live, Auckland Conventions, Auckland Zoo, Auckland Stadiums and Auckland Art Gallery) all of which have an international focus and undertake significant commercial activity in order to deliver on RFA's Statement of Intent.

This activity includes negotiations with international promoters to bring events to Auckland, working with galleries and collections throughout the world to present large international exhibitions, and attending trade shows to showcase the iconic venues that we manage and secure conventions business. RFA funds third party travel when it contributes to business objectives and when part of a negotiated commercial agreement. Approximately 65% of RFA's funding is received from commercial sources and investment in attracting this revenue, including international travel, is essential to supporting RFA's commercial remit. RFA is also a key participant in international conservation programmes associated with species at Auckland Zoo.

### Auckland Council Investments Limited (ACIL)

ACIL's total travel expenses from 01 July 2014 to 31 May 2016 were \$10,619. The table below provides the breakdown for domestic\* and international expenses by financial year.

Year	Domestic Travel	International Travel	TOTAL
2014/15 Financial year	975	3,069	4,044
2015/16 Financial year	6,574		6,574
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>10,618</b>

*\*Domestic travel expenses in this case do not include taxis, mileage reimbursement, or parking costs unless associated with a domestic airfare.*

### Development Auckland Limited (trading as Panuku Development Auckland)

Panuku's total travel expenses from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2016 were \$434,057. The table below provides the breakdown for domestic\* and international expenses by financial year.

Year	Domestic Travel	International Travel	TOTAL
2014/15 Financial year	11,855	243,726	255,581
2015/16 Financial year	24,056	154,420	178,476
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>434,057</b>

*\*Domestic travel expenses in this case do not include taxis, mileage reimbursement or parking costs unless associated with a domestic airfare.*

Watercare and Auckland Transport have or will be responding to your request separately.

If you have any further queries please contact me on 09 301 0101, quoting Official Information Request No. 9000142740. Should you believe Auckland Council has not responded appropriately to your request you have the right to seek a review of the decision from the Ombudsman

Yours sincerely



Rebecca Rowsell  
Privacy and LGOIMA Team

9000142740

26 May 2016

New Zealand Taxpayers' Union Inc.  
PO Box 10518  
The Terrace  
**Wellington**

Ref.: IR # 160694

Email: [requests@taxpayers.org.nz](mailto:requests@taxpayers.org.nz)

Dear Sir/Madam

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT 1987**

On 24 May 2016, Watercare received from the Auckland Council your request for information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) for:

1. We request the total amount spent on international travel and disbursements, per financial year since 2014/15 and including the year to date 2015/2016.
2. We also request the total amount spent on domestic travel and disbursements, per financial year since 2014/15, and including the year to date 2015/2016.

Our Response:

- **International travel costs**
  - 2014/15 financial year \$76,565
  - 2015/16 Financial year \$70,787 (10 months to April 2016)
- **Domestic travel costs**
  - 2014/15 financial year \$114,082
  - 2015/16 Financial year \$96,178 (10 months to April 2016)

The travel costs include flights, accommodation, meals, rental cars, taxis and other costs directly related to travel outside Auckland.

Yours sincerely



David Hawkins  
Corporate Relations & Communications Manager