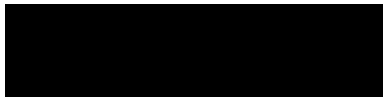




24 July 2023



Kia ora 

**Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-026307**

Thank you for your email of 10 July 2023, asking for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). I will provide a response to each of your questions in turn:

**1. Number of internal Lawyers ACC currently employ**

This has been answered in our response for GOV-026042, sent to you on 20 July 2023. The approximate number since 2018 has been between 20 to 25 each year.

**2. Number of external lawyers ACC currently use**

This has been answered in our response for GOV-026042, sent to you on 20 July 2023.

The panel of external lawyers, who are contracted to appear in District Court litigation, has been in operation since 2019. The number has fluctuated between 31 and 27 since then. From time to time, we engage other external lawyers to appear at other courts, however, we are unable to say how many we engaged each year without substantial collation. Therefore, we have decided under section 18(f) of the Act not to provide that information. In doing so, we considered extending our timeframe to respond and charging. However, it was determined that the resources required to extract the data would have a significant impact on the everyday functions of the team(s) involved.

**3. Number of Court appeals currently filed against ACC and awaiting a hearing and/or a decision**

As of 17 July 2023, there are 271 District court appeals and 1 High Court appeal filed against ACC.

There is no equivalent information for previous years. We are therefore refusing this request as the information requested does not exist. This decision is made under section 18(e) if the Act.

**4. Number of ACC external lawyers representing ACC for these current Court Appeals awaiting a hearing and/or a decision**

Please see our answer to question 2 above.

There is no equivalent information for previous years. We are therefore refusing this request as the information requested does not exist. This decision is made under section 18(e) if the Act.

**5. Number of ACC internal lawyers representing ACC at the current Court appeals awaiting a hearing and/or a decision**

ACC's internal lawyers do not appear in Court and have not done so in the years since 2018.

**6. Cost of ACC's external lawyers for Court appeals for the last five years**

Financial Year	Total litigation cost (ex GST) for ACC's external lawyers
2018	\$1,998,315
2019	\$2,749,818
2020	\$3,647,000

2021	\$4,519,225
2022	\$3,213,416
2023	\$3,744,056

**7. Please also provide for all of the above questions, details, costs, numbers for the 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 calendar year's.**

Please refer to questions 1 to 5.

**8. The cost of ACC's external lawyers at review hearings for the last five financial and calendar years**

Financial Year	External legal costs (ex GST) for reviews other than District Court
2018	\$1,298,309
2019	\$1,311,276
2020	\$2,058,005
2021	\$1,903,127
2022	\$1,390,470
2023	\$1,191,942

Calendar Year	External legal costs (ex GST) for reviews other than District Court
2018	\$1,143,112
2019	\$1,728,203
2020	\$2,419,758
2021	\$1,290,556
2022	\$1,301,279
2023 YTD	\$620,229

**As this information may be of interest to other members of the public**

ACC may decide to proactively release a copy of this response on ACC's website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available [www.acc.co.nz/resources/#/category/12](http://www.acc.co.nz/resources/#/category/12).

**If you have any questions about this response, please get in touch**

You can email me at [GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz](mailto:GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz).

If you are not happy with this response, you can also contact the Ombudsman via [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phoning 0800 802 602. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Ngā mihi



Sara Freitag

**Acting Manager Official Information Act Services**

Government Engagement