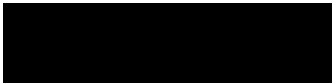




17 May 2022



Kia ora 

**Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-017989**

Thank you for your email of 27 April 2022, asking for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*I ask you pursuant to the Official Information Act the usual costs paid by ACC to counsel instructed in conciliation, review and District Court, when ACC gives instruction; and when is the cost paid. Is there a standard amount for each instruction, for conciliation, review or appeal?*

*I assume there was a request given when the new Schedule 1 was replaced under the Accident Compensation (Review Costs and Appeals) Amendment Regulations in 2017, and ask for a copy of the ACC request of the Minister or Cabinet, to initiate the 2017 Regulations. Is it intended to review the 2017 Regulations amount?*

**How ACC pays lawyers for services provided**

The usual costs paid by ACC to counsel are \$350 per hour (Counsel) or \$430 per hour (Senior Counsel). This rate is capped at \$8500 for District Court appeals and \$6000 for reviews. Any additional spend exceeding this cap requires special approval by ACC. These costs are paid upon invoice from the counsel or firm.

There is no standard amount paid for each instruction or appeal.

**How changes to Regulations are made**

Requests for changes to regulations such as the 2017 Accident Compensation (Review Costs and Appeals) Amendment Regulations are managed by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE). ACC provides MBIE with supporting material to properly brief the Minister and Cabinet. As there is no request from ACC to the Minister or Cabinet, I am declining this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act.

**If you're concerned 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 & Support