

2 February 2023

195 Lambton Quay
Private Bag 18–901
Wellington 6160
New Zealand

T +64 4 439 8000
F +64 4 472 9596

Personal information removed for
proactive release

I refer to your email of 13 December 2022 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

Regarding any purchases of petrol, diesel, and/or petrol hybrid vehicles made in the quarter ending June 2022, I request

- a. The written explanation by the chief executive permitting the purchase;*
- b. Any associated documentation of the rationale and proof that the options to buy BEVs or PHEVs were exhausted*
- c. The relevant "plan and timeframe for resolving" the operational limitation which lead to the purchase and*
- d. The total number of vehicles that would be purchased within the scope of the exemption and time period*
- e. If any/all of this information was not generated prior to the purchase, in violation of the NZ Government Procurement guidelines, why wasn't it?*
- f. Where any document falls under the scope of this request, please release it in full, including sections which might otherwise be considered out of scope.*
- g. Based on the increase in the number of petrol, diesel and/or petrol hybrid vehicles in the fleet of MFAT in the quarter ending June 2022, I am aware that at least these purchases should fall under the scope of this request:*

<i>Petrol vehicles</i>	<i>Diesel vehicles</i>	<i>Petrol hybrids</i>
	<i>1</i>	

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade does not have a domestic vehicle fleet, and for the quarter ending in June 2022 did not purchase or lease any petrol, diesel, and/or petrol hybrid vehicles for use in New Zealand.

During the same period three vehicles were purchased for the global fleet:

Location	Diesel Vehicles	Petrol Hybrid Vehicles
Cairo	1	0
Addis Ababa	1	0
London	0	1

Please note that purchases made outside New Zealand for vehicles used only outside New Zealand are not subject to the New Zealand Government Procurement guidelines (Rule 12(3)(b)), nevertheless it is Ministry policy to conduct procurement in accordance with the Government procurement rules and principles.

The Ministry is transitioning its global fleet to more renewable options and requires vehicles to be fuel efficient and low carbon emitting, with due consideration given to purchasing hybrid and electric vehicles if practical in the local environment. Given the nature and maturity of the vehicle markets in many locations, as well as the different types of electricity generation, a fully electric fleet is not anticipated at this time.

Regarding points a and b of your request, the information you have requested does not exist. Accordingly, this aspect of your request is refused (Section 18(e) of the OIA refers).

Please note that we may publish this letter (with your personal details redacted) on the Ministry's website.

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Owen Thornber', written over a horizontal line.

Owen Thornber
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade