

01 March 2024

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Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (DOC), received on 02 February 2024, in which you asked for:

- clarification on the costs associated with Chateau Tongariro within the BIM
- information on the share costs of operating common facilities
- information around the legal proceedings and seismic strengthening.

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982.

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

1. *The doc notes the costs for managing the building in 22/23 totalled over \$290,000. The costs in 23/24 are expected to exceed \$1m. Can you tell me if the BIM maintenance costs include the cost of commissioning reports, for example on the state of the building's repair (there were 2 by Prendos)?*

The costs within the BIM do not include the costs for commissioning reports. The total expected spend for the 2023/24 financial year including all reports, maintenance, operating costs and compliance activities is expected to be around \$2.2m with \$1.27m spent as at 31 January 2024.

2. *Do the cited costs (in the BIM) of managing the building include repairs, such as are cited in the Prendos "building condition appraisal"?*

No, repair costs are not included in these numbers.

3. *Do the cited costs include "shared costs" such as the Chateau's contribution Whakapapa Village water treatment?*

No, shared costs are not included in these numbers.

4. *What is the total monthly cost for the Chateau's share of operating common facilities, including water treatment in Whakapapa Village?*

Fees paid by concessionaires is commercially sensitive. This information is withheld under section 9(2)(i) of the Official Information Act to enable the Department to carry out commercial activities without prejudice or disadvantage.

5. *Can you tell me if negotiations for the lease termination with KAH are ongoing?*

Yes, end of lease negotiations are still ongoing. We cannot comment further on the nature of these negotiations until they are concluded.

6. *Has a legal proceeding started between DoC/the Crown and KAH?*

No formal legal proceedings have been filed by DOC/The Crown against Kah NZ Ltd.

7. *Has DoC received any estimates for the seismic strengthening work required for the Chateau building(s)? Can you share an estimated range for that cost?*

No estimates for seismic strengthening work have been commissioned or received by DOC. As such at this time we cannot provide an estimated range for potential seismic strengthening costs.

You are entitled to seek an investigation and review of my decision by writing to an Ombudsman as provided by section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) may be published on the Department's website.

Nāku noa, nā



CJ Juby
Director, Business Services
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai