

Conservation House
18 Manners Street
Wellington, 6011
doc.govt.nz

Ref: OIAD-5041

Tēnā koe

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (DOC), received on 20 March 2025, in which you asked for:

- 1. What percentage of the Department of Conservation's annual budget spend is tourism related, including signage, track and hut maintenance, effluent and rubbish disposal, advertising & brochures and tourist information centres.*
- 2. For the year 2023 to 2024 what was the total spend on public relations by the Department of Conservation.*
- 3. As doc also acts as biosecurity for agriculture and making maintenance janitors for tourism, which misters does doc management consult with before funding is allocated?*

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

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

- 1. What percentage of the Department of Conservation's annual budget spend is tourism related, including signage, track and hut maintenance, effluent and rubbish disposal, advertising & brochures and tourist information centres.*

The Department's spend which supports recreation and tourism is best represented in our Annual Report which details our Recreational Opportunities appropriation. In our 30 June 2024 Annual report this spend totalled \$224,158m. This represents 33% of total Departmental expenditure as at 30 June 2024.

- 2. For the year 2023 to 2024 what was the total spend on public relations by the Department of Conservation.*

The Department has defined "public relations" spend as expenditure on Advertising, Publications and Printing and Audio -Visual production.

In the financial year ended 30 June 2024 the Department spent \$1,110,795 on public relations as defined above.

In the nine months to 31 March 2025 the Department has spent \$713,809 on public relations as defined above.

3. *As doc also acts as biosecurity for agriculture and making maintenance janitors for tourism, which misters does doc management consult with before funding is allocated?*

The Minister of Conservation is responsible for funding within Vote Conservation. The Department consults with a wide range of agencies where there is an overlap in interests, including when funding decisions are being made that are relevant to other agencies. This consultation usually occurs between government agencies rather than directly with Ministers.

We regularly consult with the following agencies/portfolios: Finance (Treasury), Tourism and Hospitality (MBIE), Environment and RMA reform (Ministry for the Environment), Transport (Ministry of Transport), Arts Culture and Heritage (Ministry of Culture and Heritage), Biosecurity and Oceans and Fisheries (Ministry of Primary Industries).

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

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Nick Mayo', with a stylized, cursive-like script.

Nick Mayo
Chief Financial Officer
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai