



18 November 2021

[REDACTED]

To whom it may concern

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA), received on 4 November 2021. You requested the following:

- *Have you got a policy inside your department for zero-carbon use by 2025 and what's the official wording of it?*
- *Have you got a zero-carbon committee?*
- *What structure have you set up with how many staff?*
- *Which section of your organisation has this been delegated to?*
- *What are the main areas you have identified to meet the set goal?*
 - *For each of these, what's your work plan?*
- *When do you plan to phase out coal?*

Inland Revenue has a target to achieve carbon neutrality by December 2025 in line with the requirements of the Carbon Neutral Government Programme (CNGP). This means that we will reduce carbon emissions as much as possible by this date. After this we will need to offset remaining emissions as guided by the CNGP. The target is not 'zero-carbon use' as we must use energy to operate our premises to meet compliance standards, and some travel is required.

Inland Revenue does not currently have a policy related to carbon neutrality or a zero-carbon committee. We will establish a cross-Inland Revenue environmental sustainability working group in January 2022. The department's Strategic Governance Board has agreed to the high-level strategy for environmental sustainability and the broader outcomes to be achieved through procurement processes.

Inland Revenue has not set up a structure to deliver the requirements of the CNGP. The work is being led by the Service Leader, Commercial Services and Strategic Property, with contributions from representatives of Commercial Services and Strategic Property, Workplace Services, Finance Services and Customer and Compliance Services. These contributions fit into the nature of people's broad-based roles.

Inland Revenue's largest emission sources are energy use in our premises, air travel and vehicle fleet usage. We are in the process of identifying further emissions sources to measure and are making use of the CNGP's target setting tool to record emissions and assess the emission reductions required and determine a reduction target.

Initiatives currently under way include:

- Optimising and reducing the size of Inland Revenue's vehicle fleet. We reduced the fleet by five vehicles in August 2018, 28 vehicles in September/October 2019 and 28 vehicles in January/February 2021. We are assessing other avenues for optimising the fleet further.
- Transitioning Inland Revenue's vehicle fleet to electric vehicles (EVs). We purchased 28 EVs in March 2021, having already arranged to have electrical infrastructure and chargers set up in premises receiving the vehicles. We aim to have all vehicles transitioned in the next two to three years.

- Carrying out building energy efficiency assessments at our premises over 2,000 square metres. This has been mandated by the GNCP with the aim of identifying areas where energy usage can be reduced, such as upgrading building heating and cooling systems and switching to LED lighting.
- Commissioning a waste audit to identify ways we can minimise waste going to landfill.

Inland Revenue does not use coal however coal may be used in the generation of electricity supply.

Finally, please note that Inland Revenue regularly publishes responses to requests that may be of interest to the wider public on its website. Your personal details or any information that would identify you will be removed prior to it being published.

Thank you for your request. I trust that the information provided is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

A grey rectangular redaction box covering the signature area, with a small black mark at the top right corner.

Juliet Glass

Service Leader, Commercial Services and Strategic Property