

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
23 March 2022

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Re: Official Information Act request – EECA Chief Executive travel

Thank you for your email of 22 February 2022 in which you requested information about the travel undertaken by the Chief Executive of EECA. Specifically, you requested:

“A list of all the flights the CEO of EECA went on in 2020, 2021 and Jan-Feb 2022.

A list of the departure city/town and arrival city/town; the cost of each flight; and the specific reason for travelling (including how it relates to EECA’s purpose).”

As the attached table shows, the EECA Chief Executive always seeks to optimise any visits outside of Wellington. This includes taking meetings with a wide range of stakeholders and direct engagement customers (e.g. large energy users) and key service providers on the visits. These visits are all taken because they align with, and help to advance, EECA’s strategic purpose which is to *mobilise New Zealanders to be world leaders in clean and clever energy use.*

On the infrequent occasion that the return leg of a trip flies to a non-Wellington destination (i.e. for non-work, practicality purposes), the price difference between this and the equivalent Wellington-bound flight is paid for by the Chief Executive.

You have the right, by way of complaint to the Ombudsman, to seek an investigation and review of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority’s response to your information request. You can do this by email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by writing to the Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Murray Bell
Group Manager, Strategy, Insights and Regulations
EECA

Attachment 1: 2020 EECA Chief Executive flight information

Year	Date	Departure Location	Arrival Location	Reason for Travel	Cost (excl. GST)
2020	12 February	Wellington	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EV Leadership Group meeting (<i>Relates to EECA's focus on efficient and low emissions transport</i>). • Met with the following external stakeholders: Kirsten Corsen (Zilch Car Share, recipient of Low Emission Vehicle Contestable Funding (LEVCF) and Electric Vehicle (EV) advocate). Brendan Winitana (Sustainable Energy Association of NZ, a key stakeholder in solar generation). Carolyn Mortland and Linda Thompson (Fonterra Sustainability and Energy Managers, a key large energy user). • Various meetings with Auckland based staff. 	\$207.49
2020	13 February	Auckland	Wellington		
2020	3 March	Wellington Auckland	Auckland Wellington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visited the EECA Auckland office and met with various Auckland based staff. • Met with the following external stakeholders: David Reeve, (Director ThinkSapere, in preparation for Downstream Panel participation). Becky Lloyd, (Chief Executive, Toitu Envirocare, market developments with mutual client base). Andrew McKenzie, (Chief Executive, Kāinga Ora, synergies with insulation retrofits, service delivery approaches and decarbonisation plans). • Attended the farewell function of Fraser Whineray, (Chief Executive, Mercury Energy), networked with numerous energy sector people. 	\$83.41
2020	4 March	Wellington Christchurch	Christchurch Wellington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visited Cheryl de la Rey, Vice-Chancellor (University of Canterbury) (<i>relates to EECA's State Sector Decarbonisation Funding Project to support UC's Low Carbon Energy Strategy, follow up to introduction from the Minister of Energy and Resources</i>). • Met with the following external stakeholders: Tim Rudkin, (Director, One Big Switch). Bill Bayfield, (Chief Executive, Environment Canterbury) 	\$97.00

Year	Date	Departure Location	Arrival Location	Reason for Travel	Cost (excl. GST)
2020	12 March	Wellington	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended Westpac Climate Change Debate – “How to get to zero carbon, fast?” • Visited the EECA Auckland office and met with various staff. • Met with the following external stakeholders: Linda Thompson, (Energy Manager, Fonterra). Maurice Hoban, Principal, NZ Pacific Leader and Luke Krieg von Bellikon, Transport Innovation, (GHD Smart Seeds Programme). Andrew Haynes, (Chief Executive, Manufacturing Systems Ltd, hydrogen production technology). Anthony McGivern, (Major Assets – Utilities, Infrastructure & Services). Mark Wilson, (Operations Performance Delivery Manager, Auckland Airport, a large energy user). 	\$188.10
2020	13 March	Auckland	Wellington		
2020	16 March	Napier Auckland	Auckland Wellington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaking slot at the EVs and Beyond conference (<i>Relates to EECA’s focus on efficient and low emissions transport.</i>) • Travelled to Auckland on Sunday evening, in order to get to the conference on time. 	\$309.92
2020	9 July	Wellington	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visited the EECA Auckland office and met with the new Group Manager, Marketing and Communications and various other Auckland based staff. • Met with the following external stakeholders: Brendan King, (General Manager, TR Group, a large heavy transport lease and sales company and a LEVCF recipient). Andrew Ferrier, (Executive Chairman, Canz Capital Ltd, discussion on distributed on farm generation). Mark Gilbert, (Chair, Drive Electric, advocacy organisation for EV’s). Peter Tynan, (Chief Executive, Foundation North, major third-party funder to Warmer Kiwi Homes (WKH) Programme). 	\$206.63
2020	10 July	Auckland	Napier		
2020	16 July	Wellington	Napier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended the EECA supported LED lighting Giveaway in Gisborne (<i>Relates to EECA’s focus on making homes more energy efficient, in part through the increased usage of LED lights.</i>) • Met with LED giveaway partners from Trust Tairāwhiti. • Visited the Wairoa New World supermarket as location of another LED lighting giveaway trial. 	\$208.13

Year	Date	Departure Location	Arrival Location	Reason for Travel	Cost (excl. GST)
2020	22 July	Wellington	New Plymouth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended the opening of Ara Ake's New Energy Centre (<i>Ara Ake's focus is on accelerating New Zealand's transition towards lower emissions. This relates to EECA's focus on lowering emissions.</i>) 	\$209.90
2020	23 July	New Plymouth	Wellington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met with Andrew Clennett, Co-founder, and Chief Executive (Hiringa Energy Ltd). Site visit to Hiringa/Ballance Fertiliser wind generation site at Kapuni Met with Powerco (<i>Major energy distribution business (EDB) in the North Island</i>) 	
2020	6 August	Wellington Auckland	Auckland Wellington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visited EECA's Auckland office and met with various staff. Met with the following external stakeholders: Becky Lloyd, (Chief Executive, Toitu Enviocare). Michael Eaglen, (Co-founder, and Chief Executive, EV Maritime, a Shovel Ready Project recipient). 	\$302.83
2020	15 September	Wellington	Dunedin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation to Boards of PowerNet and Electricity Invercargill – "New Zealand's Transition to a Low-Emission Economy". Met with the following external stakeholders: Steve Canny, (General Manager Strategic Projects, Great South). Kavi Singh, General Manager Energy Development & Strategy, Eric Sng, New Energy Analyst, and Allan Beck, Financial Controller (Powernet). Bernard May, (Chief Executive, Maitaia Valley Milk, large energy user). 	\$570.23
2020	17 September	Dunedin	Wellington		
2020	14 October	Wellington Auckland	Auckland Wellington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visited EECA's Auckland office and met with various staff. Met with the following external stakeholders: Graham Mitchell, (Chief Executive, Crown Infrastructure, partners who are overseeing Shovel Ready Projects). Richard Allen, (Group Director Farm Source, Fonterra, follow up meeting to distributed on farm generation). 	\$293.36
2020	11 November	Wellington	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Panel facilitator and attendee at the Climate Change & Business Conference 2020 (<i>Relates to EECA's focus on productive and low emissions business.</i>) 	\$238.50
2020	12 November	Auckland	Wellington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met with Jon Ryder, Chief Executive and Warren Sarty, Chief Financial Officer (Oji Fibre Solutions, to encourage them to complete an Energy Transition Accelerator Study, which they subsequently did). 	

Year	Date	Departure Location	Arrival Location	Reason for Travel	Cost (excl. GST)
2020	18 November	Wellington	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended the ReBuilding Nations Symposium 2020, including as a panelist on a panel discussion about decarbonising transport. (<i>Infrastructure sector event, with the relevance for EECA being the discussions on energy generation and climate change mitigation.</i>) 	\$194.06
2020	19 November	Auckland	Wellington		
2020	23 November	Wellington	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EECA November Board Meeting and site visit. Site visit to NZ Sugar to view and discuss decarbonisation initiatives. Visited the EECA Auckland office and met with staff. Conducted interviews for the Group Manager Investment and Engagement role for Auckland based candidates. 	\$230.99
2020	25 November	Auckland	Wellington		
2020	9 December	Wellington	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended “How Genesis Can Empower New Zealand’s Sustainable Future” interactive discussion and debate. Visited the EECA Auckland office and met with staff. Met with the following external stakeholders: Karen Silk, (General Manager Experience Hub, Westpac Bank). Justine White, Chief Financial Officer and Manjula Sickler, Sustainability Manager (Auckland District Health Board). Shane Ellison, (Chief Executive, Auckland Transport); James Magill, (Chief Digital Officer, Genesis Energy). 	\$432.49
2020	10 December	Auckland	Wellington		
2021	10 March	Wellington	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Original purpose of visit was to attend the AA Conference as an invited guest. The event was held online due to Covid. Met with EECA Board Chair who is Auckland based. Visited the EECA Auckland office and met with various Auckland staff. Met with the following external stakeholders: Richard Hobbs, (General Manager Strategy and Customer, Transpower). Becky Lloyd, (Chief Executive, Toitū Envirocare). Met with Robert Jones Holdings to view potential new office space. 	\$256.54
2021	12 March	Auckland	Napier		
2021	29 March	Wellington	Nelson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EECA March Board meeting and site visits. Meeting with the following large energy users: Alliance Nelson (meeting and site visit). J.S. Ewers Ltd (meeting and site visit). Fonterra Brightwater (meeting and site visit). Azwood Brightwater (meeting and site visit). 	\$221.33
2021	30 March	Nelson	Wellington		

Year	Date	Departure Location	Arrival Location	Reason for Travel	Cost (excl. GST)
2021	7 April	Wellington	Christchurch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministerial announcement of Government Investment in Decarbonising Industry (GIDI) Round 1 recipients and recipient site visits (<i>GIDI Fund relates to EECA's focus on productive and low emissions business.</i>) Site visits to the following GIDI recipient sites: WoolWorks New Zealand, McCain Foods (Timaru), South Pacific Meats (Rolleston). Met with Roger Sutton, Chief Executive (Electricity Ashburton Networks) 	\$130.86
2021	8 April	Christchurch	Wellington		
2021	19 May	Wellington Auckland	Auckland Wellington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended and spoke at the MinterEllison Climate Transition Panel Session (<i>Expert panel to discuss both central and local government perspectives on how to address infrastructure resilience and climate change adaptation and mitigation.</i>) Visited the EECA Auckland office and met with various staff. Met with the following external stakeholders: Andrew McKenzie, Chief Executive, Alec Tang, Director Sustainability, Genevieve Wilson, Fleet Electrification Lead, and Alex Baker, Manager Sustainability Strategy (Kāinga Ora, to discuss their decarbonisation plans). Met with John Goettler, (Board member, Trafinz, to discuss speaking slot at next Trafinz conference). 	\$230.27
2021	26 May	Wellington Christchurch	Christchurch Wellington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended and presented at Carbon Energy Professionals (CEP) Conference - Regenerating New Zealand (<i>Presentation on EECA's part in the decarbonisation journey - What's Hot & What's Not</i>) Met with Jonathan Pooch, (Managing Director, Deta Consulting, on South Island boiler survey work). 	\$120.61
2021	24 June	Wellington	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visited the EECA Auckland office and met with various staff. Meeting with the following external stakeholders: David Vinsen, (Chief Executive, Imported Vehicle Industry Association). Eddie Christian, (Partner, EnviroStrat). Steve Koekemoer, (Chief Executive, Open Country Dairy, a large energy user). Paul Thomson, (Owner, Smart Energy Solutions, key service provider to WKH programme). 	\$232.94
2021	25 June	Auckland	Napier		

Year	Date	Departure Location	Arrival Location	Reason for Travel	Cost (excl. GST)
2021	30 September	Wellington Christchurch	Christchurch Wellington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministerial announcement of GIDI Round 2 projects (<i>GIDI Fund relates to EECA's focus on productive and low emissions business.</i>) Met with Jonathan Pooch, (Managing Director, Deta Consulting, on North Island boiler survey work). 	\$368.60
2021	7 December	Wellington	Christchurch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dinner meeting with Sir Mark Solomon (<i>Related to the Shovel Ready project, Northland Home Energy Retrofit Pilot project overseen by EECA, as Sir Mark is a Director of the recipient and also to further learn of effective ways to engage with Māori as EECA undertakes its Te Tiriti commitment journey.</i>). 	\$166.81
2021	8 December	Christchurch	Wellington		