

15 November 2023



Rhys Hurley  
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Tēnā koe Rhys

#### **INFORMATION REQUEST – Work travel Bee Card initiative**

We write in response to your information request dated 24 October 2023 in which you requested the following information:

1. Since the scheme started, how much has it cost each month?
2. How many return trips have occurred each month since it started?
3. How many employees earning over \$100,000 have signed up and used the cards?
4. How many total employees have signed up overall?
5. How much has been spent on advertising this scheme? Please breakdown the costs.

We have considered your request in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 ("LGOIMA") and respond as follows:

1. Since the scheme started, how much has it cost each month?

Month	Cost
March 2023	\$0
April 2023	\$750
May 2023	\$2,100
June 2023	\$2,850
July 2023	\$20,250
August 2023	\$3,500
September 2023	\$7,450
October 2023	\$5,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$41,900</b>

The figure in July is higher than other months. This is due to a number of reasons: half price fares for buses ended, Tauranga City Council began paying a \$5 card fee, which had been waived by Bay of Plenty Regional Council in the first months of the initiative, and the available top-up credit was extended to \$100 (it has since been returned to \$50).

**2. How many return trips have occurred each month since it started?**

We can only report on single trips. Bay of Plenty Regional Council only tracks single trips (tag-on, tag-off) for each card. They do not track return trips.

The total number of trips to date is **21,123 trips**, meaning over 21,000 fewer trips made on our roads, easing congestion and freeing up city centre car parks.

Month	Number of trips
March 2023	1,033
April 2023	1,706
May 2023	3,195
June 2023	2,835
July 2023	2,810
August 2023	3,412
September 2023	3,056
October 2023	3,076
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21,123</b>

**3. How many employees earning over \$100,000 have signed up and used the cards?**

300

**4. How many total employees have signed up overall?**

630

**5. How much has been spent on advertising this scheme? Please breakdown the costs.**

Nothing. The initiative is advertised on our staff intranet at no cost.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

We may publish this response on our website as your request may be of interest to others. All personal information will be removed and only the question and answers will be seen.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact the writer.

Ngā mihi



Kath Norris  
**Team Leader**  
**Democracy Services**