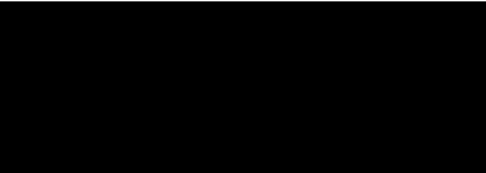




14 February 2019



Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of 16 January 2019 to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information:

- 1. All information held by the Ministry of Education related to the number of instances of vandalism that have occurred over the past three years to schools across the country, broken down by the total number of schools that have been hit and the total number of individual instances. Please list whether these hits happened during school term or during break.*
- 2. All information held by the Ministry of Education related to the total cost to individual schools caused by these acts of vandalism (broken down by school), and the total cost to the Crown*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

I am refusing point one of your request, as well as point two, under section 18(g) of the Act as the information requested is not held by the Ministry. Schools do not need to report the number of vandalism incidents to the Ministry, nor do they need to report the cost of vandalism incidents. Therefore, we are unable to provide you with the total number of schools that have experienced vandalism, the total number of vandalism incidents, when these incidents occurred or the total cost to individual schools and the Crown caused by these incidents. I recommend you contact the individual schools to obtain this information.

However, I have attached **Table 1** for your reference. This table includes the Vandalism Operational Grant amount and Vandalism Top-up Grant amount for each school across the country (broken down by year). We have interpreted the past three years to mean 2015 – 2017. The information for 2018 is not yet available as it is under audit.

Vandalism funding is calculated individually for each school. We provide schools with this formula-based funding as part of their Operational Grant. As school Boards of Trustees are Crown Entities with legislative responsibility for managing and maintaining their property, it is possible for them to have used more or less of the funding than we allocate to them for this purpose.

The amount of money schools receive goes toward addressing routine vandalism and graffiti costs. We also provide schools with funding they can use to install security systems, such as burglar alarms or CCTV.

OIA: 1174842

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Where a school faces particularly high costs for vandalism and graffiti, we can provide additional top ups when requested if certain criteria are met.

Further information about vandalism funding can be found here:

<http://www.education.govt.nz/school/property/state-schools/funding/vandalism-funding/>

Please note, the Ministry now proactively publishes OIA responses on our website. As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Kim Shannon
Head of Education Infrastructure Service