

s 9(2)(a)

20-D-00780

Dear s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 16 May 2020 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

I would like to request data that I may use in my pitch deck. I would like to request the following data:

The tonnes of PET plastics discarded in NZ every year and what percentage of this is plastic bottles?

The cost of disposing plastic bottles in NZ every year?

The tonnes of paper disregarded in NZ every year?

The cost of disposing paper in NZ every year?

The Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) has identified 3 documents in scope of your request, as listed in the attached table. All of these documents are available online, and are therefore refused in full under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.

These documents can be accessed at the following addresses:

Document 1: Recycling: Cost benefit analysis – Costs of recycling

<https://www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/waste/recycling-cost-benefit-analysis/6-costs-recycling>

Document 2: National Resource Recovery Project – Situation Analysis Report

<https://www.mfe.govt.nz/sites/default/files/media/Waste/national-resource-recovery-project-redacted.pdf>

Document 3: Document: Rethinking-Plastics-appendix-11-Material-flows-analysis-of-PET-bottles

<https://www.pmcsa.ac.nz/topics/rethinking-plastics/abbreviations-rethinking-plastics/>

The Ministry is currently focused on improving the quantity and quality of waste data available to the sector in order to inform central, regional and local decision making and the ability to perform analysis on the waste sector on each waste stream.

Currently data gaps within the waste sector mean that we are unable to provide you with a comprehensive up to date annual volume of paper and plastic waste collected and costs associated.

The information contained in the links above, will however assist in providing an overview of the following:

- Annual volume of plastics collected through kerbside collection, or latest estimates.
- Percentage volume of all PET products collected through kerbside collection attributable to plastic bottles, or latest estimates.
- Annual volume of paper collected through kerbside collection, or latest estimates.
- Cost of kerbside collection (per tonne) in collecting plastics and paper, or latest estimates.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on their website at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz

Please note that due to the public interest in our work the Ministry for the Environment will publish responses to most of our requests for official information on our web site on our [OIA responses page](#) shortly after the response has been sent to you.

If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Executive Relations team.

Yours sincerely



Shaun Lewis
Director, Waste and Resource Efficiency

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

List of documents

Document no.	Document date	Title & document type	Decisions	OIA sections applied
1	April 2007	Recycling: Cost benefit analysis – Costs of recycling	Refused in full (already publicly available)	Section 18(d)
2	20 September 2018	National Resource Recovery Project – Situation Analysis Report	Refused in full (already publicly available)	Section 18(d)
3	December 2019	Document: Rethinking-Plastics-appendix-11-Material-flows-analysis-of-PET-bottles	Refused in full (already publicly available)	Section 18(d)

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the Official Information Act 1982