



17 NOV 2017

Email to: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 16 October 2017 in which you request the following information:

- 1. How much has the Ministry saved in Canterbury by not spending on schools' maintenance since September 2010, the start of the Canterbury earthquake sequence?*
- 2. Conversely, over the same period, what has the Ministry spent above the usual capital budgets at Canterbury schools?*
- 3. Also, over the same period, what money has the Ministry spent/received for disposal or purchase of Canterbury land?*

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

Many Canterbury schools were extensively damaged in the 2010 and 2011 Canterbury earthquakes. The Ministry is working with local communities and education leaders on a \$1.137 billion Christchurch Schools' Rebuild programme (the CSR programme) to renew the education network in Greater Christchurch.

The Ministry is building or redeveloping 115 schools in Greater Christchurch, 23 of which will be completely new builds. The CSR programme is on schedule, with 19 schools now complete, 22 under construction, and another 36 in the design and planning stage. When the CSR programme finishes in 2022, we will see thousands of Canterbury children and young people learning and achieving in what is becoming one of the most modern education networks in the country.

In respect to your first question, I can advise that schools' operational grants, which include a property maintenance component, have stayed with the schools.

The capital funding budget that is allocated for use over a five year period (5YA) has been redirected to the CSR programme since the programme's commencement. Given that these are transfers from individual schools' budgets to the CSR programme, there have been no savings to the Ministry.

It is budgeted that, over the course of the CSR programme's 10 year timeframe, we will have spent \$117.8 million on capital expenses for the 115 schools within the programme.

In respect to your second question, I can advise that as at 17 September 2017, we had spent \$345 million on the CSR programme. These are transactions over and above schools' usual 5YA grants. The schools' entitlements to those grants for the same period would have amounted to \$81.7 million.

In respect of your third question, I can advise that we have spent \$37.6 million on land acquisition, and have received \$5.2 million through land disposal.

If you have any questions about this response, please feel free to contact our Media Team at media@education.govt.nz.

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