



20 NOV 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 17 October 2018 requesting the following information:

- *the total Vote Education spend on Reading Recovery for the past three years – as in the millions of dollars.*

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

Reading Recovery is delivered as a one-to-one intervention for learners who have the lowest literacy achievement levels for their cohort on their sixth birthday. Reading Recovery has two major intended outcomes:

- To accelerate learners' reading and writing achievement to the average level of their peers, so that they can learn effectively in the classroom without further additional support.
- To identify the small proportion of learners who need ongoing specialist literacy support. This enables learners requiring long-term support to be identified early in their schooling.

The table below sets out the total contract and estimated staffing costs of Reading Recovery across the 2016 – 2018 calendar years:

	2018	2017	2016
Contract Costs	\$ 4,140,222.50	\$ 4,140,222.50	\$ 4,098,708.50
Staffing Costs (estimated maximum)	\$ 20,461,810.04	\$ 20,279,672.52	\$ 21,737,191.01
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>\$ 24,602,032.54</b>	<b>\$ 24,419,895.02</b>	<b>\$ 25,835,899.51</b>

Please note the following:

- **Contract costs** comprise national leadership (Auckland Uniservices), regional tutor services (Auckland Uniservices, the Universities of Waikato, Canterbury and Otago) and data management (The Tarn Group).

- **Staffing costs** includes both Reading Recovery teacher salaries and travel costs. It is an estimated maximum only as it is ultimately up to individual schools to determine who to appoint to a Reading Recovery teacher position. The figures provided are based on the assumption that all Reading Recovery teachers are experienced teachers paid at the top end of the scale (up to \$75, 949.00 plus \$4,000.00 unit per Full-time Equivalent (FTE) so \$79,949.00). The Ministry funds 271 FTEs per annum, and schools make a further FTE contribution from their own funding (which varies according to decile and region). Schools are allocated FTEs depending on their need. Each FTE equates to 1000 hours of Reading Recovery delivery and schools may receive part of or more than one FTE. Reading Recovery teachers can work in one or across several schools.

Thank you again for your email. If you have any further queries about this matter please direct these to [enquiries.national@education.govt.nz](mailto:enquiries.national@education.govt.nz). You also have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review our decision on your information request. You can do this by writing to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Pauline Cleaver  
**Associate Deputy Secretary**  
**Curriculum, Pathways and Progress**