

WPQ Reply 13844 (2026)

Reply 13844 (2026) has been released

Member: Belich, Camilla

Portfolio: Local Government (Hon Watts)

Due: 21 Apr 2026

Question: What fee increases have been proposed or approved since 27 November 2023 for any chair, deputy chair, member, presiding member, or other appointed role on any Crown entity board, committee, authority, tribunal, or other statutory body within their ministerial portfolio, broken down by (a) the name of the entity and the specific role; (b) the fee (annual, daily, or per-meeting rate as applicable) immediately prior to the increase and the date that fee was last set; (c) the new approved fee and the effective date of the increase; (d) the percentage increase; (e) whether the increase was approved by them as the responsible minister or referred to the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee, and if the latter, the date of that approval; (f) whether the increase was made pursuant to the Cabinet Fees Framework changes of July 2025 or on another basis; (g) the primary justification recorded for the increase; (h) whether the proposed increase was approved, declined, or scaled back, and if declined or scaled back, the reasons recorded for that decision; (i) whether any part of the increase was applied backdated and if so to what date; (j) the total annual cost to the Crown of all increases approved within their portfolio; and (k) whether each review was initiated by them as the responsible minister, the entity itself, or the Public Service Commission?

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Entity Name	Prior fees	Current fees and date of increase	Percentage increase	Approval	Under Cabinet	Primary justification	Backdated	Annual cost of increase	Review initiated by
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					Fees Framework				
Water Services Authority – Taumata Arowai Board	\$30,000 pa Chair \$15,000 pa members Set in 2021	\$51,600 pa Chair \$25,800 pa members 12 August 2025	72%	By Minister	Yes	Fees were no longer within ranges of the fees framework and the length of time since fees were last set	No	\$206,400	The Department of Internal Affairs