



24 March 2026

Official information request for Kim Dotcom costs
Our Ref: OIA353/1: OIA-2526136

I refer to your official information request dated 26 February 2026 for:

...the total cost of Crown Law's participation in legal proceedings related to extradition and charges laid against Kim Dotcom since 2012 to date.

Specifically, this may include the cost of professional counsel as well as filings fees and costs awards in proceedings including but not limited to:

- * February 2012 Dotcom's appeal of bail in the Auckland High Court.*
- * February 2012 North Shore District Court overturning bail*
- * March 2012 application by Dotcom for funds released from frozen assets.*
- * May; 6 June 2012 Judicial Review of legality of raid on Dotcom's home.*
- * August 2012 Auckland High Court hearing regarding raid.*
- * March 2013 Court of Appeal hearing regarding Dotcom's suit against GCSB*
- * November 2013 High Court hearing of Dotcom's claim for compensation against GCSB*
- * February 2014 Court of Appeal hearing on legality of search warrants related to raid of Dotcom's home.*
- * March 2014 Supreme Court hearing regarding Dotcom's application to access FBI documents.*
- * December 2014 Supreme Court hearing regarding legality of search warrants related to raid of Dotcom's home.*
- * February 2015 application by Dotcom for further release of frozen assets.*
- * September 2015 Court of Appeal application for stay of proceedings regarding extradition.*
- * September - November 2015: District court hearing regarding extradition.*

** August - September 2016: Appeal in the High Court regarding extradition ruling.*

** March 2018: Human Rights Tribunal hearing regarding alleged breach of Dotcom's privacy*

** July 2018: Court of Appeal regarding extradition.*

** September - October 2018: Crown's appeal in High Court of human rights tribunal decision regarding alleged breach of Dotcom's privacy.*

** December 2018 - June 2019: Supreme Court hearing into Dotcom's extradition.*

** September 2023 - June 2024: Wellington Court of Appeal hearing regarding release of evidence to the FBI.*

** 2025 High Court hearing into legality of Justice Minister's decision to extradite Dotcom and decision to not lay charges in New Zealand.*

If Crown Law keeps a record of the hours that internal staff spent on these cases (i.e. in a temporal rather than dollar cost metric) please can I also request that as well.

We have interpreted your request as asking for overall numbers for all Kim Dotcom proceedings to the present day, including time billed to client departments and any costs incurred by Crown Law. While you asked for time from 2012, for completeness we have included a small amount of time from the end of 2011.

We have calculated the figures as follows:

1. Category 1 is:

- a. All costs Crown Law has billed to client departments including disbursements, filing fees, any costs awards and payment for Crown Law counsel and external counsel; and
- b. All costs on non-chargeable files that were paid by Crown Law directly including disbursements, filing fees, any costs awards and payment for external counsel.

2. Category 2 is all recorded Crown Law time, whether billed or unbilled.

The total figure for Category 1 is **\$5,761,489**.

The total number for Category 2 is **43,731 hours**.


Please note that we may publish this response (with your personal details redacted), and any related documents, on Crown Law's website if we decide proactive release of this information is or may be in the public interest. If you have any concerns about this, please let us know within 10 working days of the date of this letter.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact OIA@crownlaw.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

Crown Law



Merran Cooke
Crown Counsel