

[4] Mr Meihana filed a costs application on 9 August 2010. Network Murupara had until 26 August 2010 to respond but has not.

[5] In support of his application for costs Mr Meihana sent the Authority a copy of the invoice received from his solicitors, Aurere Law. This is in a total amount of \$4,199 including GST, with disbursements of \$262.

[6] Although the narrative of the invoice outlines in detail the work performed by Mr Meihana's solicitors, there is simply a global fee of \$3,500 charged. It is not possible to breakdown and take out from this amounts expressly referred to as expended on mediation, in particular the item "attendance return travel to Hamilton for the mediation conference." It may be assumed that at least 4 or 5 hours was taken up travelling and mediating, as Mr Meihana is resident in Rotorua where his solicitors are also based. Mediation costs are not compensated for or reimbursed by the Authority in costs awards.

[7] There was about half a day taken up by the interim reinstatement application hearing and no doubt considerable time was spent on preparation for that, with drafting and presenting affidavits and submissions.

[8] In the circumstances I consider that although Mr Meihana did not obtain interim reinstatement, making application for an order was a reasonable step to take in the circumstances and he should receive some contribution from Network Murupara costs associated with that. I fix cost of \$2000 which Network Murupara Incorporated is ordered to pay to Mr Meihana, pursuant to clause 15 of Schedule 2 of the Employment Relations Act 2000.

A Dumbleton
Member of the Employment Relations Authority