

27 February 2023

Section (9)(2)(a)

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Our ref: OIA 102142

Tēnā koe Section (9)(2)

Official Information Act request: Consultant expenditure

Thank you for your email of 19 January 2023 in which you requested under the Official Information Act 1982 Act (the Act) information relating to expenditure on consultants. You specifically requested:

“...all information regarding the total amount spent on consultants—per consultancy firm—for each of the last six years.

Please note that the annual reviews do not provide the total amount spent on consultants, per consultancy firm.

I ask that the information be supplied in the following Excel/Sheets format:”

Consultancy firm	Amount year one	Amount year two	Amount year three	Amount year four	Amount year five	Amount year six
...
...
...

The Ministry of Justice (the Ministry) Annual Review response to Parliament’s Justice Committee contains an accurate and complete summary of the Ministry’s total expenditure on consultants and contractors, broken down by firm. We follow the guidance set by the Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission, where agencies can consolidate contracts below \$10,000. This is reflected in our Annual Review.

The 2021/22 Annual Review and accompanying documents will be published on Parliament’s website within the next six weeks. As such, this part of your request is refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information requested will soon be publicly available.

As the 2022/23 fiscal year is still ongoing, we cannot fulfil this portion of your request and must decline it under section 18(g)(i) of the Act, as the information requested is not held by the Ministry or another agency subject to the Act.

Detailed breakdowns for the total expenditure on consultants and contractors are provided in the Ministry’s responses to written questions for previous Annual Reviews. Please note that

where a supplier is a private individual, the names are withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.

- **Annual Review 2017/18:** parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/52SCJU_EVI_81017_JU65448/4bcea8f4414b3876126753fd08f8f2230ab5cdbc.
- **Annual Review 2018/19:** parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/52SCJU_EVI_92902_JU68616/4baf257ddf5fe10f2d1635531a373d4c8641cfc9
- **Annual Review 2019/20:** parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/submissions-and-advice/document/52SCJU_EVI_92771_JU68737/ministry-of-justice-responses-to-annual-review-questions.
- **Annual Review 2020/21:** parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/53SCJU_EVI_118077_JU221342/c3b8ac8fa778c24ff9f4514b0ab42d0c840a61d3

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry of Justice website at: justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oi-responses/.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Office of the Ombudsman may be contacted by email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phone on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Tina Wakefield
Deputy Secretary, Corporate and Digital Services