

23 May 2024

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of Wednesday 24 April 2024, in which you requested information under the Official Information Act 1982 for the following:

Your organisation's total spend on contractors and consultants from 1 January 2004 – present, broken down by month (including April 2024 if possible). Please further break down that spend by business group (or equivalent organisational unit), with all figures provided in a spreadsheet in the following format.

I understand that the Public Service Commission contacted you to discuss your request, and you agreed to clarify the time frame of your request to be for information from 2018 onwards.

The Social Wellbeing Agency does not hold contractor or consultant data broken down by month and business unit and we are not required to create information for the purpose of responding to an OIA request. We are therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982 on the grounds the information requested does not exist.

However, we provide a breakdown of our workforce data, including contractor and consultant spend, to the Public Service Commission. You can view this information at <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/research-and-data/workforce-data-public-sector-composition/workforce-data-workforce-size>.

We currently spend less than 2 percent of our funding on contractors and consultants. They are used in cases where it is more efficient than to purchase the required skills in-house.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have a right to seek an investigation or review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

As part of our commitment to transparency, we proactively release our responses to information requests where possible. This response, with your personal details removed, will be published on our website shortly.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Kirsty Anderson
Manager, Communications and Engagement