

HUD2023-001564

s 9(2)(a)

Dear <sup>s 9(2)(a)</sup>

Thank you for your email of 19 January 2023 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Under the Official Information Act 1982, I wish to request 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.

Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga – Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (the Ministry) was established on 1 October 2018 to lead New Zealand's housing and urban development work programme. It brought together functions from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and Ministry of Social Development, along with the monitoring function of Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities and Tāmaki Redevelopment Company from The Treasury.

As you are aware, the Ministry publishes its spending on external consultants as part of the Annual Review process. The Ministry also provides a breakdown of each tender that was awarded to an external supplier, including consultancy firms. This information can be found in the appendices of the reviews on the parliament website, available at:

2018/19 Annual Review: <a href="https://www.parliament.nz/resource/en-nz/52SCSS">www.parliament.nz/resource/en-nz/52SCSS</a> EVI 93045 SS3403/ca11df7c43a5d4aa855a527861e487fc3346c0e4.

2019/20 Annual Review: <a href="https://www.parliament.nz/resource/en-">www.parliament.nz/resource/en-</a>
NZ/53SCSS EVI 103839 SS1003/2897d8eebb3db31b68a6b661167e295dc4dbe69b.

2020/21 Annual Review: <a href="https://www.parliament.nz/resource/en-">www.parliament.nz/resource/en-</a>
NZ/53SCSS EVI 116594 SS2997/0208ef6e01ce3c3f5823cc0379a1a94c1d53a605.

I consider the breakdown provided by the Ministry's Annual Reviews enables users to calculate the total amount spent on each consulting firm per financial year. Therefore, your request is refused under section 18(d) of the Act as the information requested is publicly available. This position is based on the Ombudsman's advice that "there is no obligation on an agency to form an opinion or create information to answer a request".

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my response by the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on the Ombudsman's website at: <a href="https://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz">www.ombudsman.parliament.nz</a>.

As part of our ongoing commitment to openness and transparency, the Ministry proactively releases information and documents that may be of interest to the public. As such, this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on our website.

Yours sincerely

Kate Goodman

**Manager Ministerial Services**