



9 September 2024

Tēnā koe Cec

Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your email of 27 August 2024, requesting information about contractors who were previously permanent employees of the Ministry.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision set out below.

The Ministry's policy is that if an employee is made redundant, resigns, or retires, the Ministry should not subsequently contract with that former employee or a company that comprises solely of the individual unless the nature of the work is substantially different from that originally undertaken or there has been at least a 12-month gap since employment with the Ministry has ended.

The Ministry does not centrally collate information on the number of contractors or consultants who were previously employed permanently within the Ministry. Due to limitations of the information held in the Ministry's HR System (myHR) on contractors and consultants, the Ministry is unable to identify the number of consultants, contractors, or people providing professional services who were previously employed by the Ministry. As part of the Ministry's engagement process with contractors, hiring managers review CV's and contractors also complete an induction form which asks them to declare if they have previously worked in the public service.

Substantial manual collation would be required to locate and prepare all documents within scope of your request. As such, I refuse your request under section 18(f) of the Act. The greater public interest is in the effective and efficient administration of the public service.

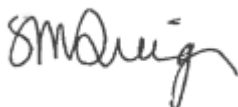
I have considered whether the Ministry would be able to respond to your request given extra time, or the ability to charge for the information requested. I have concluded that, in either case, the Ministry's ability to undertake its work would still be prejudiced.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request for information on contractors who were previously permanent employees, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

pp. 

Magnus O'Neill
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services