

21 May 2024



Ministry for  
**Ethnic  
Communities**  
Te Tari Mātāwaka

BusinessDesk

Ref: OIA-2324-0944

Tēnā koe

## Response to your Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 7 May 2024 to the Ministry for Ethnic Communities (the Ministry) requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*Please provide the information for the period from 1st October 2023 to 30th April 2024:*

- 1. A list of all companies contracted to provide consultancy services related to departmental restructures or redundancy processes, including services in human resources, training, support and legal.*
- 2. The total amount spent on these consultancy services during the specified period. For ongoing contracts, please include the current expenditure and an estimate of the standard hourly or daily rates charged by these services.*
- 3. The duration of each contract related to the aforementioned services. For contracts that are still active, please provide the expected end date or the estimated total duration.*

Please find below the response to your request.

### Question one

The Ministry contracted one company to provide consultancy services related to its restructure or redundancy processes, which is H2R Consulting. These consultancy services include the provision of reassignment and outplacement support.

### Question two

As at 7 May 2024 (the date your request was received), the Ministry has spent \$0 on these consultancy services, as there have been no invoices processed up to this date.

I am withholding the standard hourly or daily rates charged by H2R Consulting under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Act, as the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely to unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

However, it is expected that the Ministry will pay H2R Consulting up to \$76,000 when the contract is complete.

### Question three

The contract with H2R commences on 5 and 15 April (two consultancy service orders, reassignment and outplacement support) and are expected to be completed by the end of June 2024.

As is required by section 9(1) of the OIA, I have considered whether the grounds for withholding information under section 9 of the OIA are outweighed by other considerations which would make it desirable, in the public interest, to make that information available. In this instance, I do not consider that to be the case.

Under section 28 of the OIA, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my response relating to this request. The relevant details can be found on their website at: [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz)

Please note, due to the public interest in our work, the Ministry may publish responses to requests for official information on our website, shortly after the response has been sent. If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Ministerial Services team:  
[ministerial@ethniccommunities.govt.nz](mailto:ministerial@ethniccommunities.govt.nz).

Ngā mihi



Edward Firth

**Director of Ministerial Services**

Proactively Released by the Ministry for Ethnic Communities