

15 September 2023

s9(2)(a)

Mālō 'e lelei s9(2)(a)

## RESPONSE TO AN OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST (DOIA014-2023/24)

On 29 August 2023, you contacted the Ministry for Pacific Peoples (the Ministry) requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information relating to repercussions at the Ministry as a result of farewell expenditure. I have outlined your specific requests and my responses to each below.

*I would like to know the full list of repercussions as a result of this issue please, e.g. formal warnings, performance management meetings, dismissals, resignations, repayments, and any other disciplinary actions. I realise you can't always share individual identities, but that's not a problem. A summary of reactions, severity, and quantity of people involved will suffice.*

Following the Public Service Commission review, a sensitive expenditure sub-committee was established, and all internal financial policies were reviewed to strengthen our alignment with guidance from the Office of the Auditor-General and public sector expectations. The Secretary for Pacific Peoples also met with senior staff to set expectations for future sensitive expenditure.

We will not be providing any further information relating to performance management, as that is confidential and private to the staff involved.

The information you have requested regarding repayments is available here:

[www.publicservice.govt.nz/news/findings-on-sensitive-expenditure-review-released](http://www.publicservice.govt.nz/news/findings-on-sensitive-expenditure-review-released). I am therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the OIA as the information requested is publicly available.

In line with standard OIA practice, the Ministry proactively publishes some of its responses to OIA requests. As such, this letter may be published on the Ministry for Pacific Peoples' website. Your personal details will be removed, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you or your organisation.

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### Auckland

9 Ronwood Ave, Manukau  
PO Box 97005, South Auckland Mail Centre 2240  
Phone: 09 265 3200  
Fax: 09 265 3202

### Wellington (National Office)

Level 1, ASB House  
101-103 The Terrace  
PO Box 833, Wellington 6140  
Phone: 04 473 4493  
Fax: 04 473 4301

### Christchurch

Level 1, BNZ Centre  
120 Hereford St  
Private Bag 4741  
Christchurch 8011  
Fax: 03 353 9499

Should you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact the Ministry at: [oi\\_a\\_requests@mpp.govt.nz](mailto:oi_a_requests@mpp.govt.nz).

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Mālō 'aupito

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ali Ajmal', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ali Ajmal  
**Deputy Secretary,**  
**Office of the Secretary**

19 September 2023

s9(2)(a)

Talofa lava s9(2)(a)

**FURTHER RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST  
(REF: DOIA014-2023/24)**

The Ministry has provided you with a summary of the repercussions. Specifically, an expenditure sub-committee was established, and internal financial policies were reviewed. Our Secretary also met with senior staff to set expectations for future sensitive expenditure. We will not be providing any further information relating to performance management, as that is confidential and private to the staff involved.

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

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Ali Ajmal  
**Deputy Secretary,  
Office of the Secretary**