

12 December 2023

s9(2)(a)

Mālō 'e lelei s9(2)(a)

RESPONSE TO AN OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST (REF: DOIA029-2023/24)

On 14 November 2023, you contacted the Ministry for Pacific Peoples (the Ministry) requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information relating to fiscal savings. I have outlined your specific requests and my responses to each below.

- 1. I would like to request the following...both the Labour Party and National Party indicated throughout the recent election campaign the need for government departments to implement fiscal savings going forward. What measures have your department already implemented or intend to implement in order to meet the above expectations?*

Earlier this year, public sector agencies were required to find permanent savings, including through cutting back on contractors. Accordingly, the Ministry began reducing its percentage of contractors. Regarding measures being implemented since the new Government was formed, I am refusing this under section 18(e) as the information requested does not exist.

- 2. Please break this down by political party, financial costs, and employment measures.*

As the work is still being developed and is yet to be considered by Ministers, I must refuse your request under section 9(2)(f)(iv) to maintain the constitutional conventions that protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials.

- 3. Please provide any correspondence shared with staff and external stakeholders in relation to the above measures. In relation to each of these requests, this information should include all documents of any nature, including but not limited to any correspondence, text messages, memos, notes and advisory notes, and emails relating to these matters.*

I can confirm there are no forms of communication within the scope of your request. I must therefore refuse your request under section s18(e) as the information requested does not exist.

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.

Should you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact the Ministry at: oiarequests@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 or freephone 0800 802 602.

Mālō 'aupito

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping, sweeping strokes that form a cursive, somewhat abstract shape.

Danilo Coelho de Almeida
Deputy Secretary,
Corporate Services