

7 May 2024

s9(2)(a)

Fakaalofa lahi atu s9(2)(a)

RESPONSE TO AN OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST (REF: DOIA058-2023/24)

On 11 April 2024, you contacted the Ministry for Pacific Peoples (the Ministry) requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information relating to staff reduction and redundancy proposal documents. I have outlined your request and my response below.

Copies of all proposal documents prepared to give effect to the Government's directive to reduce expenditure in the public service, including but not limited to reduction of staff numbers and resulting redundancies. If no such specific proposal document exists, please provide copies of all documents concerning the reduction of staff and redundancies from 27 November 2023 to present.

In response to the Government's fiscal sustainability goals to reduce expenditure in the public service, the Ministry is currently working through options with staff which include significant changes to our organisational structure.

As this work is under active consideration, I am withholding all information relating to the current organisational change under section 9(2)(f)(iv) to maintain the constitutional conventions that protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials. I am satisfied that there are no other public interest considerations that render it desirable to make the information withheld under section 9 of the OIA 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.

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

Fakaaue lahi oue tulou

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