



7 December 2021



Ref: OIA-2021/22-0420

Dear 

**Official Information Act request for information relating to Delivery Associates and the Implementation Unit**

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 11 October 2021. You requested:

- 1. DPMC spent \$10,000 on a contract with Delivery Associates in relation to the Implementation Unit. Provide any reports/advice received from Delivery Associates on the implementation unit.*
- 2. Correspondence between Robertson/his office and Sir Michael Barber, of Delivery Associates, on the prospect of setting up an implementation unit.*
- 3. Treasury documents show the unit was operating out of Robertson's office on a trial basis in 2020. Is this correct? When was the implementation unit first set up and what were its responsibilities?*
- 4. When was it set up within DPMC?*
- 5. Provide the total number of employees (FTE) working in the unit, and the total expenditure on employee salaries (if possible, also provide a breakdown of the number of employees in each salary band).*
- 6. Provide all briefings sent by the implementation unit to Robertson's office between June 14, when it became operational, and October 11.*
- 7. Provide any documents/directives outlining the unit's work programme in relation to climate change.*

**Questions 1 & 3**

The information you have requested in parts 1 and 3 of your request can be found as part of a Treasury proactive release related to the establishment of the Implementation Unit. You can find this information on the Treasury's website (<https://treasury.govt.nz/publications/information-release/implementation-unit-establishment>). Accordingly, I am refusing these parts of your request under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information is publicly available.

## **Question 2**

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) does not hold information relating to this part of your request. I believe this information may be held by the Deputy Prime Minister, Hon Grant Robertson. Accordingly, I have decided under section 14(b)(i) of the Act to transfer this part of your request to the Deputy Prime Minister.

## **Question 4**

The Implementation Unit became operational within DPMC on 14 June 2021.

## **Question 5**

The Implementation Unit operates with 5 FTEs, one manager and four advisors. Two of these roles are on fixed term contracts, two are on secondment from other agencies, and one individual has been seconded internally from DPMC.

As part of Budget 2021, DPMC was allocated \$1.795M for 2021/22 financial year, with an additional \$1.795M also allocated for 2022/23.

The Unit has been established for a two-year period until 30 June 2023, with a review at around 18 months.

## **Question 6**

The report *Mid-Term Review of the 2019 Mental Health Package* has been proactively released on the DPMC website ([dpmc.govt.nz/our-business-units/implementation-unit/latest-news-and-updates](https://dpmc.govt.nz/our-business-units/implementation-unit/latest-news-and-updates)). Accordingly, I am refusing this part of this request under section 18(d) of the Act, as the report is publicly available.

The remaining briefings that have been sent to the Deputy Prime Minister are still under active consideration by Ministers. I am therefore withholding these reports under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act, to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials. Once decisions have been made, those briefings will be proactively released on the website mentioned above.

## **Question 7**

The Implementation Unit recently proactively released a number of Commissioning Briefs including the brief *Carbon Neutral Government Programme Stocktake of Progress*. You can find this information on the DPMC website ([dpmc.govt.nz/our-business-units/implementation-unit/latest-news-and-updates](https://dpmc.govt.nz/our-business-units/implementation-unit/latest-news-and-updates)). Any future work that is proactively released by the Implementation Unit will also be published on this page.

I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information is publicly available.

In making my decisions, I have taken the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Act into account.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

This response will be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Yours sincerely



Katrina Casey  
**Executive Director, Implementation Unit**