

17 June 2025

Ref: OIA-2024/25-0909

Dear

## Official Information Act request relating to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet redundancy expenditure

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 19 May 2025. You requested:

I'm getting in touch to please request, under the Official Information Act,

- [1]. the agency's total redundancy spend from November 1, 2023 to today 19 May 2025, by month, in a table.
- [2]. Please also provide monthly numbers around confirmed job cuts at the agency from the same timeframe.
- [3]. and also, the total cost savings the restructures have realised including in reducing staff and other matters.
- [4]. Please also confirm any future cost saving initiatives that are planned, including restructures, and what the timeframe[s] of those are including around your Budget 2025 savings targets.

For ease of reference, I have numbered your request.

Information about redundancies, disestablishment of positions, restructures and costs savings are provided regularly by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) as part of our usual reporting and review processes. DPMC is not in a position to go through all our corporate records and provide individual responses for different time periods. However, we believe that the information that is already publicly available and will be made available as part of the upcoming Estimates examination process would largely address your request.

In relation to parts [1], [2] and [3] of your request please use the links provided below to the Annual Review 2023/24 for DPMC. Note that some of the redundancy questions have a different timeframe from other questions in the review, where question states timeframe being from 27 November 2023 to 20 September 2024.

My officials are gathering information up to the period 31 March 2025 as part of the 2025/26 Estimates Examination of Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet for the hearing of the Governance and Administration Committee scheduled in June 2025. Once the hearing has been completed the document will be available on the following website: <a href="Governance and Administration">Governance and Administration</a> - New Zealand Parliament, from 16 June 2025.

#### Part [1] - total redundancy spends 1 November 2023 - 30 June 2024

Annual Review 2023/24: Questions 90, 91, 168,169 and 192.

You may also find the following responses to Written Parliamentary Questions 59849 (2024) and 3732 (2025) useful:

- 59849 (2024). Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall to the Prime Minister
- 3732 (2025). Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall to the Prime Minister

#### Part [2] Confirmed job cuts at the agency from 1 November 2023 – 30 June 2024

In relation to part [2] of your request we have interpreted 'job cuts' to mean any of the following: restructurings, vacant positions removed, or roles disestablished.

• Annual Review 2023/24: Questions 1, 164, 170-174.

You may also find the following responses to Written Parliamentary Questions 25207 (2024) and 26663 (2024) useful:

- 25207 (2024). Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall to the Prime Minister
- 26663 (2024). Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall to the Prime Minister

### Part [3] Total cost savings the restructures have realised - including in reducing staff and other matters

Annual Review 2023/24: Question 1, 165, 170-178.

You may also find the following response to Written Parliamentary Question 62318 (2024) useful:

62318 (2024), Francisco Hernandez to the Prime Minister

# Part [4] any future cost saving initiatives that are planned, including restructures, and what the timeframe[s] of those are - including around your Budget 2025 savings targets

As highlighted above, officials are currently gathering the information sought for this part of your request as part of the 2025/26 Estimates Examination of Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet.

DPMC are currently consulting with staff around proposed changes to our organisation structure. These changes are part of a wider work programme looking at sharpening DPMC's focus, updating how we work, and realigning our resources to deliver maximum impact where it matters most. It is also about a creating financially sustainable model at a time of fiscal restraint.

Further detail of the proposed changes will not be made available as staff are still being consulted. Final decisions will be announced in early July.

The following link provides a breakdown of new initiatives and savings across each Vote: Summary of Initiatives in Budget 2025 | The Treasury New Zealand

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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 DPMC 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

Clare Ward **Executive Director Strategy, Governance and Engagement** 

5024282 3