



8 May 2026

Ref: OIA-2025/26-0643

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request relating to consultants, contractors, and restructures

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, which was received by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) on 10 April 2026. You request d:

“OIA on consultants:

- 1.1. Can I please OIA how much was spent on consultants in 2025 and how much was spent in 2024?*
- 1.2. Please list each consultant/consultancy, and the amount spent, and the purpose of the work, and duration of their work, for 2025*

OIA on contractors

- 2.1. Can I please OIA how much was spent on contractors for 2025, and how many contractors were employed in 2025, compared to 2024*
- 2.2. Please break this number down to the purpose or occupation the contractor(s) were employed for (ie. business analyst, architect) for 2025*
- 2.3. How many of these contractors employed in 2025 worked/work at the organisation longer than six months?*

OIA on restructures

- 3.1. Please provide any post restructuring reviews conducted in the last year (from April 4, 2026)*
- 3.2. Please list the number of restructures conducted in that time frame
- the group the restructure relates to
- and the purpose of the restructure.*
- 3.3. Please provide any figures held on the estimated cost and savings of restructuring throughout 2025.”*

Parts 1 and 2: Information regarding consultants and contractors

DPMC records its financial information in financial years. I have therefore interpreted parts 1.1 and 2.1 of your request to be for information from Financial Years 2023/24 and 2024/25.

The information you have requested relating to DPMC's contractors and consultants is publicly available in DPMC's financial scrutiny documents, which are available on the New Zealand Parliament website. Specifically, I direct you to Appendix 7 of the *2023/24 DPMC and NEMA 2023/24: Responses to the Pre-hearing Questionnaire*, which is available at https://www3.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/54SCGOA_EVI_6e98c62c-f3ab-41ab-b3eb-08dd0731b318_GOA31349/b7baf6f7ca846b893fd4ec7284755755966f930e and appendices 2 and 3 of the *2024/25 DPMC Annual Review: Responses to the Pre-hearing Questionnaire*, available at, https://www3.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/54SCGOA_EVI_f908c1ba-7843-46a1-b6a2-08de12a0458d_GOA47336/8861b113c0cf749978aa2d34026bbc5bc1f6fd7c.

The information you have requested in parts 1.2, 2.2, and 2.3 is publicly available up to 30 June 2025 via Appendix 2 and 3 of the *2024/25 DPMC Annual Review: Responses to the Pre-hearing Questionnaire* which is available at the link above.

The information for 1 July 2025 to 31 March 2026 will soon be publicly available on the Parliament Website around the end of June 2026 the *2026/27 DPMC Estimates Examination: Responses to the Pre-hearing Questionnaire*.

Parts one and two of your request are therefore refused under section 18(d) of the Act as the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.

Parts 3.1 and 3.2: Information regarding restructures and restructure reviews

I have interpreted parts 3.1 and 3.2 of your request to mean any post-restructure review conducted between 4 April 2025 and 4 April 2026. No post-restructure reviews have been conducted within the requested period as implementation is still underway.

One restructure has occurred within the requested time period. The details of this restructure are publicly available on the DPMC website <https://www.dPMC.govt.nz/publications/proactive-release-change-proposal-and-final-decisions-department-prime-minister-and-cabinet-organisation-structure>, subject to information being withheld as noted. The relevant grounds under which information has been withheld are:

- section 6(a), to protect the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand;
- section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of individuals;
- section 9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials;
- section 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion;
- section 9(2)(h), to maintain legal professional privilege; and
- section 9(2)(k), to prevent disclosure or use for improper gain or advantage.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Act. No public interest has been identified that would be sufficient to outweigh the reasons for withholding that information.

Parts 3.3: Estimated costs and savings of restructures in 2025

Savings identified for Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet are listed by initiative, by financial year, in the Summary of Initiatives for each Budget. For information that covered the 2025 year, please refer to the Budget 2024 Summary of Initiatives, which is available at www.treasury.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2024-06/b24-sum-initiatives.pdf, and the Budget 2025 Summary of Initiatives, which is available on the Treasury Website at www.treasury.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2025-05/b25-sum-initiatives.pdf. As this information is already publicly available, this part of your request is refused under section 18(d) of the Act.

For the 2025 calendar year, the main cost of restructuring was due to redundancy payments. In 2025, the total cost of redundancy payments was \$575,109.

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.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alan Cassidy', is positioned above the printed name.

Alan Cassidy
Deputy Chief Executive, Corporate and Chief People Officer

Proactively Released