

7 March 2024



Official Information Request Our Ref: OIA 2024-0035

I refer to your official information request received on 4 March 2024 where you asked:

"Could you please provide me with how much the new National government has spent on consultants".

Information not held

Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission (the Commission) does not hold the contractor and consultant expenditure for the duration since the National Government was sworn in.

Accordingly, I am refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) on the grounds that the information does not exist.

Contractor and consultant data release

In 2018 the Commission issued <u>contractor and consultant guidance</u> as there were inconsistencies in how agencies were reporting their contractor and consultant expenditure. The guidance was to provide a consistent way for agencies to report this information.

The Commission provides contractor and consultant expenditure broken down by agency and by year back to 2018. This information can be found on the Commission's website at the following link: https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/research-and-data/workforce-data-public-sector-composition/workforce-data-workforce-size#contractor-and-consultant-expenditure.

The next contractor and consultant data release is the quarterly data set as at 31 December 2023. This data is currently being finalised for the scheduled release on 28 March 2024 and will be published on the Commission's website.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Ministerial. Services@publicservice.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that we intend to publish this letter (with your personal details removed) on the Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission's website.

Yours sincerely

Nicky Dirks

Manager - Ministerial and Executive Services Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission