

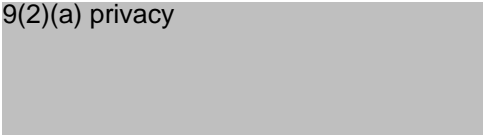


Te Kawa Mataaho

Public Service Commission

11 February 2025

9(2)(a) privacy



9(2)(a) privacy



Official Information Request Our Ref: PSCR 2024-0200

I refer to your official information request received on 16 December 2024 where you have requested information regarding to the book *Contemporary Public Administration in New Zealand: Stories, Culture, Values* by Dr Rodney Scott and Mr Peter Hughes. For ease of reference, I have listed your questions and our responses directly below.

- 1. Please provide a copy of the protocols or understandings, if any, that were in place to maintain transparency of the extent to which Dr Scott, Mr Hughes or other Commission staff and/or resources contributed to the development of this book.**
- 2. Please provide a copy of all documentation, if any, of compliance with any protocols or understandings in paragraph 1.**

At the time of writing the book, Dr Scott had been employed by Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission (the Commission) in a mixed research and policy role since 2014. During this time, he has produced a large number of peer-reviewed academic journal articles and books, including 'Targeting Commitment: Interagency performance in New Zealand' (Brookings Institution Press) and 'Contingent Collaboration: When to use which methods for joined-up government' (Cambridge University Press).

His employment contract provided for up to 50% of his time being used for research activities, and allowed for him to conduct and publish research under his own name that does not necessarily reflect the views of the Commission.

The purpose of this arrangement was to support the Commission's policy advice functions and to provide insights into the academic and public arena to support understanding of and debate on public administration matters, both of which were considered to be in the public interest.

As the primary 'protocols' are contained within an individual employment agreement, as provided for in section 16(1)(e) of the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), I have provided a summary of the contents.

Mr Hughes' was interviewed four times by Dr Scott and reviewed the draft versions of the book in his personal time.

- 3. How many, if any, hours of work time paid for by the Commission did Dr Scott and Mr Hughes devote to the development of this book? What is the total value of the remuneration for any such hours?**

4. How many, if any, hours of work time paid for by the Commission did other Commission employees or contractors devote to the development of this book, including but not limited to any research conducted to support the book? What is the total estimated value of the remuneration for any such hours?

The Commission does not maintain records of time allocated to individual tasks, so we are unable to provide number of hours (or estimate of remuneration) that Dr Scott or Mr Hughes devoted to the development of the book.

No other employee devoted significant time to the book's development. Involvement was limited to discussions on or brief reviews of specific sections of the book which those individuals had specific expertise in. No contracted party was involved in the development of the book.

I am therefore refusing these parts of your request under section 18(e) of the OIA on the grounds the information does not exist.

5. Please provide any other information that provides insight into what, if any, public resources supported the development and production of this book."

Beyond the time of the individuals involved in its production, no other public resources supported the development of the book. We also note that neither the Commission nor the authors have or will receive any royalties from the book, and that the publisher, Bristol University Press, was selected in part because it is a not-for-profit which donates proceeds of its publications to charity.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Enquiries@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**