



19 JUL 2016

Dear

On 8 June 2016 you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- 1. The total cost the Ministry of Social Development spent on cleaning services (defined as commercial cleaning services) for the 2014/15 year and 2015/16 year?*
- 2. What is the name of the company that provides commercial cleaning services to the Ministry of Social Development? If more than one, please list the names of the companies that provide these services.*
- 3. What is the total number of commercial cleaning contracts the Ministry of Social Development have with this/these companies?*

New Zealand's public service is responsible for ensuring that funds provided to it by the Crown are spent prudently. In its capacity as a provider of a wide range of support services to over one million New Zealanders, the Ministry of Social Development has guidelines in place that ensure sensible stewardship of public monies. The Ministry's financial policies are governed by the overarching consideration of probity.

The Ministry of Social Development has 10,000 staff members across more than 290 locations throughout New Zealand. The table below provides the Ministry's total cleaning costs for the previous two financial years; note that the total cost includes consumables such as toilet paper, paper towels, soap and rubbish bags.

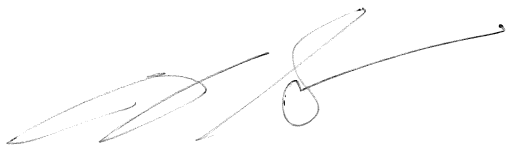
Financial Year	Total Cost
2014/15	\$4,284,881.71
2015/16	\$4,601,838.42

The companies which provide commercial cleaning services for the Ministry are Asset Cleaning, ISS, OCS, Spotless and United. The Ministry currently has 8 contracts with these suppliers, some of which cover more than one region. The contracts cover the cleaning of all commercial office space across New Zealand which is necessary in order to ensure a clean, healthy and hygienic environment for staff, visitors and clients. Note that cleaning services also includes waste and consumable management.

I hope you find this information helpful. You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my response by the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

The Ombudsman
Office of the Ombudsman
PO Box 10-152
Wellington 6143

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Simpson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bruce Simpson
Chief Financial Officer