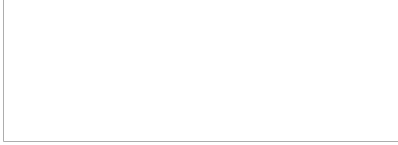




17 OCT 2016



Dear

On 1 September 2016 you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, information regarding the Ministry's national office relocation to 56 and 89 the Terrace.

The Ministry has recently relocated its national office from the Bowen Street Campus to new premises at 56 and 89 the Terrace. The Ministry first moved into Bowen Campus in 1973. The three buildings of the campus are at the end of their commercial life. With the leases expiring, remaining at Bowen Campus was not an option for Ministry staff as the owners needed the buildings to be vacated to complete a major refurbishment.

In June 2015, approval was given to secure additional temporary space in order to ensure that growth in national office based staff would be accommodated when exiting Bowen Campus. The number of people working at national office fluctuates as the Ministry's work programme evolves, and our organisational structure changes.

Further contextual information, including discussions regarding the alternative options considered and the financial implications of securing the additional space at 89 the Terrace are outlined in the report titled '*National Office Accommodation: securing additional space to meet accommodation requirements*' dated 25 June 2016. A copy of this report can be accessed at the following link:

<http://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/newsroom/2016/decision-making-on-msds-national-office-relocation.html>

Due to the large number of people being relocated, staff moved out of Bowen Campus in a staged approach commencing on 22 August 2016. The final move took place on 14 October 2016.

In July 2016, the Ministry proactively published information online regarding the national office relocation including the reasons for relocating, project costs, key facts associated with the move and the additional space acquired at 89 the Terrace. On 3 October 2016, you were provided with a link to access this information.

I can advise that the mural in the foyer is owned by the landlord of the property and not the Ministry. As such, the Ministry does not hold any information such as costs and notes regarding the mural. Therefore, your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act as the information does not exist.

As per our advice on 3 October 2016, your request for the rental cost of 89 the Terrace is refused under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Act as this information is commercially sensitive and if released, would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information. The greater public interest is in ensuring that the commercial position can be maintained.

However, please find below the projected costs for 89 the Terrace as at 30 August 2016:

Item	Projected Spend
Construction costs	\$895,500
Furniture including other sundry items	\$170,000
Technology costs (AV, IT Infrastructure)	\$505,861
External consultant costs (Engineers, Architects, Quantity Surveyor, Project Manager)	\$218,871
Total Spend	\$1,790,232

Note:

These costs are projected only. The final relocation costs will be known once the project is completed later this year.

The Ministry takes the health, safety and security of its people and those visiting its sites seriously. The building has been designed to have strong perimeter security which includes security gates on the ground floor which only those with access cards to the building can pass through. All visitors to the building including friends, family and other visitors must report to the reception on level 1 and sign in via the Ministry's Visitor Registration System. The building has a public meeting area comprising of a mix of formal and informal meeting spaces where meetings with external visitors can be held, however, where visitors need to come into the work areas they must wear their visitors tag and be escorted by a staff member at all times.

The total seating capacity modelling, flexibility of the room configuration and the prospect of using rooms within the secure zone ensures that the Ministry has an adequate amount of meetings rooms to meet demand.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter available to the wider public after ten working days. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.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 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'VC', written over a light grey horizontal line.

Vaughan Crouch

Acting Associate Deputy Chief Executive, Organisational Solutions