

27 June 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 29 May 2024, requesting the total amount paid for external advice relating to any organisational change proposed or decided by your agency between 31 October 2023 and 29 May 2024, by provider.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision on your request set out below.

The Ministry of Social Development and Employment (the Ministry) paid two providers in this period for work in scope of your request.

HIVE Workplace Limited

HIVE Workplace Limited was contracted by the Ministry to provide consultancy services regarding the change process. During the period 1 October 2023 to 31 March 2024 a total of \$27,686.25 was paid to HIVE Workplace Limited.

Buddle Findlay Limited

The Ministry sought independent legal advice from Buddle Findlay over February and March 2024 on the Ministry's voluntary redundancy process with a total cost of \$12,268.27. You can find the link to the Ministry's 4 April 2024 announcement about the process here: www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/newsroom/2024/msd-voluntary-redundancies.html.

Accordingly, the total amount the Ministry paid for external advice in the period requested relating to organisational change was \$39,954.52.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

Magnus O'Neill **General Manager**

Ministerial and Executive Services