



10 October 2024

Tēnā koe

### **Official Information Act request**

Thank you for your request of 25 September 2024, requesting information about the number of contractors as of 27 November 2023 and 9 September 2024, including how many contractors as of 9 September 2024 were former employees.

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

As of 27 November 2023, the Ministry engaged 504 contractors and as of 9 September 2024, this number was 123.

In order to provide you with information on whether any of the 123 contractors the Ministry engages currently were previously employees, the Ministry would need to divert personnel from their core duties and allocate extra time to complete this task. The diversion of these resources would impair the Ministry's ability to continue standard operations and would be an inefficient use of the Ministry's resources. As such, your request is refused under section 18(f) of the Act, requires substantial collation. The greater public interest is in the effective and efficient administration of the public service.

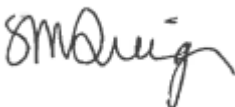
I have considered whether the Ministry would be able to respond to your requests given extra time, or the ability to charge for the information requested. I have concluded that, in either case, the Ministry's ability to undertake its work would still be prejudiced. I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

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](mailto: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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

pp. 

Magnus O'Neill  
**General Manager**  
**Ministerial and Executive Services**