



28 June 2021

DOIA20/21050577

s 9(2)(a)

Dear s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email dated 31 May 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

I will respond to each of your requests as follows:

*Please consider any reference to 'covid recovery' to include any work programme or similar that largely or primarily is aimed to respond to the pandemic or its impacts. Pls consider any reference to 'contractors' to mean contractors whose engagement with your dept or agency is primarily or largely related to any aspect of Covid recovery (NOT contractors in general). For timeframes, where applicable pls provide figures per quarter. Starting point is sent by response to Covid. Pls note where it is known of any end points in use of contractors.*

*RNZ requests release to it, in full and in fully searchable format, the following information and/or documents, in relation to your agency/dept:*

1. *Detail of how covid recovery is being primarily undertaken*

COVID recovery related work by Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga – Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (the Ministry) has been managed through the reprioritisation of work across our existing workforce.

2. *the name of any units/teams/similar leading it, or involved in it*

The Ministry's work on COVID recovery has primarily been led by teams within the Housing Supply, Response and Partnerships group, the Place-Based Policy and Programmes group and the Te Kāhui Kāinga Ora group.

3. *if these are new or repurposed units/teams/similar, the date when they began covid work*

The Ministry did not repurpose or create any new teams for its covid response work.

4. *number of permanent and/or fixed term staff (not contractors) working (primarily) in any aspect of Covid recovery*

The Ministry's COVID response activities are shared across our existing workforce and no employees are primarily assigned to work in this area.

5. *number of contractors working*

I can confirm that no contractors or consultants have been engaged by the Ministry for COVID response activities.

6. *if available, budgeted spending on contractors of Covid recovery*
7. *Actual hourly or daily (or other) rates of contractors at whatever level (similar to what is provided in your Annual Reviews to select committee)*
8. *range of hourly or daily (or other) rates of contractors at whatever level*
9. *Separately, the same for consultants (if available)*
10. *if a contractor is in charge, or second in charge, of a Covid recovery units/teams/similar and/or work programme, pls detail all such roles*
  - *what that position is*
  - *how long they have been engaged in that role*
11. *if a covid recovery units/teams/similar worker numbers are more than 50% contractors, pls state and describe*
12. *pls detail the variation of that % over time eg up or down*
13. *pls detail why over 50% of such staff are contractors*
14. *pls detail any cases where unplanned/unexpected employee attrition or turnover has had an impact on number of contractors having to be engaged, and/or length of that engagement, and/or the seniority of position having to be filled by a contractor*
15. *provide a timeline in terms of when contracts wind up, or are forecast to, or when units/teams/similar/work programme winds up or is forecast to*
16. *any complaints received from employees, unions, contractors or the public about use of contractors or consultants in covid recovery*
17. *pls detail if any audit or review or similar has been or will be, or might be, undertaken re use of contractors or consultants in covid recovery*

As the Ministry has not engaged contractors or consultants for COVID response activities, I am refusing these parts of your request under section 18(e) of the Act, as the information does not exist.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on the Ombudsman's website [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

As part of our ongoing commitment to openness and transparency, the Ministry proactively releases information and documents that may be of interest to the public. As such, this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on our website.

Yours sincerely



Stephanie Rowe  
**Deputy Chief Executive**  
**System Performance**