



Te Pūkenga

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18 December 2024

[REDACTED]
By email: [REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Request under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 26 November 2024, requesting the following information from Te Pūkenga – New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology (Te Pūkenga), your questions have been numbered for ease of reference:

Following direction from TEC, consultants have been hired to undertake feasibility reviews across Te Pūkenga. Consultants include Volte Consulting, PwC, Calibre Partners and Deloitte. For each of these consultancy groups please provide details of:

- 1. The ITPs to which each consultancy group has been assigned*
- 2. Core skill set within each of the appointed consultants*
- 3. Clarification as to whether any of the consultants hold educational qualifications*
- 4. Length of contract*
- 5. The range and average hourly rate for the contracted consultancy services*
- 6. The maximum allocated cost for each contract*
- 7. Amount expended under each contract to date*

This letter provides a formal decision on your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

The decision

Your questions and Te Pūkenga response are set out below.

Question One

- 1. The ITPs to which each consultancy group has been assigned*

We are refusing this question under section 18(d) of the OIA as the information is publicly available, and can be found through our Corporate Documents webpage at: www.tepūkenga.ac.nz/about/publications/. Under the section titled “2024 Specialists to accelerate work to improve the viability and sustainability – of former Institutes of Technology and Polytechnics”, the third letter, dated 9 July 2024, provides a list with the organisation assigned to each of our provider-based business divisions.

Question Two

2. Core skill set within each of the appointed consultants

We are refusing this question under section 18(d) of the OIA as information about the skills of each consultant and organisation can be found on their respective websites.

Question Three

3. Clarification as to whether any of the consultants hold educational qualifications

We are refusing this question under section 18(g) of the OIA as Te Pūkenga does not hold this information, and we have no grounds for believing that the information is either held by another department, nor more closely connected with the functions of another department that is subject to the OIA.

Question Four

4. Length of contract

Te Pūkenga uses the All of Government Consultancy Services Order template and approach. The contracts with each organisation are based on phases of work. They began in late July 2024, and variations have been made as we move through different phases of the Regional ITP Viability (RIV) programme.

We are withholding the exact length of contract details from each agreement under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the OIA to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information, and section 9(2)(j) to enable a Minister of the Crown or any public service agency or organisation holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations.

Question Five

5. The range and average hourly rate for the contracted consultancy services

The consultants and their organisations use a range of levels of staffing to fulfill the contract and these are charged out at varying rates. The range of hourly rates across the consultancy services lies between the value of \$150-\$550 per hour, which is subject to the consultants' staff level.

Question Six

6. The maximum allocated cost for each contract

We budgeted \$4 million in the 2024 year for these specific consultants' services for the RIV programme. We are withholding the allocated cost for each separate organisation under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the OIA.

Question Seven

7. Amount expended under each contract to date

We are withholding the exact amount paid to each organisation for the RIV programme work under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the OIA. However, we can tell you that, as at 20 November 2024, the total spend on the specialist consultants for the RIV programme was \$2,880,635.00 excluding GST; including disbursements of \$52,360.67.

We do not believe the need to withhold certain information, as described above, under section 9 of the OIA is outweighed by the public interest in its release at this time.

You have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the OIA if you are not happy with this response. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

We may publish our OIA responses and the information contained in our reply to you on our website. Before publishing we will remove any personal or identifiable information.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gus Gilmore', with a large circular flourish above the first few letters.

Gus Gilmore
Tumuaki | Chief Executive