

6 July 2022

'Concerned Member'

fyi-request-19693-9cc6925d@requests.fyi.org.nz

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RESPONSE TO AN OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

On 16 June 2022, you contacted the Ministry for Pacific Peoples (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following information:

On behalf of concerned members of the Fijian Community, Wellington Fijian Flyers and the Bula 7's committee I would like to request information about funding to Positive Vibrations (PV) for the Bula 7's that was held in Porirua on 22nd January 2022.

What is concerning is that the Director of Positive Vibrations has not been transparent in his dealings and had denied anything about funding until an article from MPP clearly stated that PV sponsored the tournament. Link to the article for your reference; <https://www.mpp.govt.nz/news-and-events/latest-news/lifting-the-burden-from-pacific-youth/>

This is far from the truth as PV donated only \$1200 while other prize money was sourced from other donors and registration fees of teams. On the same note, PV claimed back \$4448.00 from Bula 7's for payments PV had done on behalf of Bula 7's.

We still have not been able to get a clear breakdown of the funding and how much was supposed to have been directed towards the Bula 7's.

In response to your request, I can confirm that the Ministry for Pacific Peoples did not fund Positive Vibrations for the Bula Fiji 7s tournament held in Porirua on 22 January 2022. I must therefore refuse your request under section 18(g) of the OIA as the information requested is not held by the Ministry and there are no grounds for believing that the information is held by another department that is subject to the OIA.

However, the article you refer to notes that Positive Vibrations were funded through the [Le Va Suicide Prevention Community Fund](#). Accordingly, you may wish to contact Le Va for further information.

In line with standard OIA practice, the Ministry proactively publishes its responses to OIA requests. As such, this letter will be published on the Ministry for Pacific Peoples' website. As you submitted your request via the FYI.org website which is already publicly available, this response will be published without any redactions.

Should you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact the Ministry at: oi_a_requests@mpp.govt.nz.

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tūaopepe Abba Fidow', written in a cursive style.

Tūaopepe Abba Fidow
Deputy Secretary,
Regional Partnerships
Service Delivery