

25 May 2022

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RESPONSE TO AN OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

On 29 April 2022, you contacted the Ministry for Pacific Peoples (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information regarding FTE staff and office space. I have outlined your specific requests and my responses to each below.

1. *How many FTE staff in total were employed by your organisation as at 31 December 2021?*
2. *What percentage of FTE staff in your organisation were earning a salary of \$100,000 or more as at 31 December 2021?*

As at 31 December 2021, the Ministry had 130 FTE staff. Of this, 45 percent of the Ministry's staff (59 FTE) were on a salary band of \$100,000 or more. ****Updated 12 August 2022: This figure was incorrectly reported as 45 percent. As of December 31 2021, the percentage of staff earning more than \$100,000 was actually 60 percent.****

Between July and December 2021, the Ministry were experiencing a high attrition rate and losing staff to other government agencies. One of the reasons contributing to retention was salary. Accordingly, the Ministry has been working to counter this by evaluating all of its salary bands to ensure that they are aligned to industry standards.

3. *How many FTE staff were employed by your organisation for the COVID-19 Response as at 31 December 2021, if any, and how many of these roles are permanent?*

The majority of Ministry staff have incorporated the COVID-19 response into their work as part of business as usual activities. As at 31 December 2021, the Ministry had five roles to provide critical support specifically related to the COVID-19 Community Fund. The roles are not permanent and consist of three fixed term staff and two staff seconded into their roles.

4. *As of today's date, how many square meters of office space does your organisation have in total?*

The Ministry does not own any office space. However, I have outlined in Table 1 below, the square metres of office space the Ministry leases. Please note that our Central Regional Office (Porirua), Northern Regional Office (Manukau), Auckland Policy Office and Hamilton Office are co-location spaces which we share with other agencies. As a result, the measurements for the co-location spaces are the total office space leased (by the Ministry and the agencies we share with).

Table 1: Office space the Ministry for Pacific Peoples leases in square metres, and by office location

Location	Square metres
National Office (Wellington)	1419m ²
Central Regional Office (Porirua)*	311.6m ²
Northern Regional Office (Manukau)*	730m ²
Auckland Policy Office*	943.19m ²
Hamilton Office*	440m ²
Southern Regional Office (Christchurch)	58.49m ²
Palmerston North Office	10m ²
Invercargill Office	33m ²
TOTAL	3945.28m²

5. *Was there a Government Relations Team in your organisation as at 31 December 2021, and if so, how many FTE staff work in government relations roles?*

The Ministry does not have a Government Relations Team. I must therefore refuse this part of your request under section 18(e) of the OIA as the information requested does not exist.

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. Your personal details will be removed, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you or your company.

Should you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact the Ministry at: ويا_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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Leatigaga Jason Tualima
**Deputy Secretary,
Corporate Services**