

17 May 2024

s9(2)(a)

Mālō 'e lelei

s9(2)(a)

RESPONSE TO AN OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST (REF: DOIA060-202324)

On 15 April 2024, you contacted the Ministry for Pacific Peoples (the Ministry) requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information relating to the Ministry's Pacific Housing Initiative.

On 14 May 2024, a Notification of Decision was sent to you advising of the Ministry's decision to grant your request but that we needed more time to prepare the response for release. I have outlined your specific requests and my responses to each below.

1. *What were the outcomes from the Pacific Financial Capability Programme, Pacific Community Housing Provider Registration Support Service and Pacific Housing Feasibility Support Service?*
2. *How much of the \$41.315m has been used and what is left over?*
3. *What were the outcomes from the Pacific Financial Capability Programme recipients?*
4. *Who received funding under the Housing Initiative?*
5. *How was funding monitored?*
6. *Last year, Minister Little mentioned that the Financial Capability Programme which was received by 3000 Pacific families only got 120 families into home ownership. Has that number changed since?*
7. *What regional migration opportunities were delivered from the Initiative and what were the outcomes?*
8. *What were the outcomes from the \$180,000 contract with Community Housing Solutions to deliver the programme for up to six Pacific organisations?*
9. *Which Pacific organisations and churches were involved in the Pacific Housing Feasibility Support Service and what were the outcomes?*
10. *What were the outcomes from the \$1.6m contract with Deloitte and partners?*

A breakdown of Budget 2020 funding allocation for the Pacific Housing Initiative is outlined in Appendix 1. All funding has been spent or is committed to be spent before the end of the 2023/24 financial year. Funding for initiatives has been monitored through various monthly and quarterly reporting requirements (depending on the initiative funded), as well as through regular check ins with providers funded (where appropriate).

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As noted in Appendix 1, the Ministry has several housing initiatives that contribute to improving housing outcomes for Pacific peoples. All of these are progressing and on track to deliver on the intended programme outcomes. Outcomes for the programmes you specifically ask about, are outlined below.

Pacific Financial Capability Programme

The first step for many Pacific families' journey to home ownership is through developing financial literacy skills. Therefore, this programme takes a holistic approach to financial capability through personalised support tailored for Pacific peoples, financial literacy training, debt management strategies, and home ownership guidance. Through this programme, participants are supported to create home ownership plans in preparation to purchase their first home. As of March 2024, the programme has achieved the following outcomes for participants:

Table 1: Pacific Financial Capability Programme outcomes for participants

Programme outcomes	Participants
Enrolments	3,289
Savings plan	2,492
Debt management	2,245
Home ownership plans	1,864
Purchased homes	130
Saved home from mortgagee sale	35

Pacific Community Housing Provider Registration Support Service

The Pacific Community Housing Provider (CHP) Registration Support Service aims to strengthen the Pacific housing sector by supporting eight Pacific organisations to become registered Community Housing Providers (CHP) with the Community Housing Regulatory Authority. The aim is to foster the growth of Pacific-owned CHPs so they can deliver housing solutions for Pacific peoples. Providers are still going through the registration process but the intended outcomes of supporting them to become CHPs are that this will enable them to:

- obtain funding through Progressive Home Ownership (PHO) programmes that the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development manage which would support them to build PHO developments
- deliver public housing for people in need from the Social Housing Register.

Pacific Housing Feasibility Support Service

The intended outcome of this service is to support 12 Pacific land-owning organisations and churches in exploring whether they can create potential housing developments on the land they own, to contribute increasing the supply of Pacific housing. This was done through contracting Deloitte to undertake feasibility studies for each organisation.

Each organisation will be issued with a feasibility report to provide them with the necessary information and financial analysis to assist them in making informed decisions on options for developing the land for housing, and to equip them with the knowledge to be able to approach funders to source capital for the development. The Ministry will be supporting organisations with next steps in terms of considering how best to implement the findings of their study.

As of March 2024, Deloitte has completed and issued five of twelve feasibility reports to organisations. The remaining seven feasibility reports are due by June 2024 while undergoing final analysis and

reviews. The names of the organisations who are being supported through this initiative are being refused under section 18(d) of the OIA as they will soon be publicly available on our website.

In line with standard OIA practice, the Ministry proactively publishes some of its responses to OIA requests. As such, this letter may 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 organisation.

Should you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact the Ministry at: uia_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.

Mālō 'aupito

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sachi Taulelei". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sachi Taulelei
**Deputy Secretary,
Commissioning**

Appendix 1: Breakdown of \$41.315 million funding for the Pacific Housing Initiative

Description	Amount (\$m)
15 providers contracted to deliver 18 Pacific financial capability programmes across the country. The programmes educate and provide wraparound support to Pacific families and communities to improve their financial literacy and capability and strengthen their financial management knowledge and skills. The funding recipients are publicly available on our website here: www.mpp.govt.nz/assets/Pacific-Housing-Initiative/Financial-Capability-Funding-recipients.pdf	15.74
Investment in projects across the country that will deliver new homes to provide home ownership opportunities for Pacific families. The funding recipients will soon be publicly available on our website. I am therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the OIA.	14.251
Investment in the Waikato region via funding provided to Pacific Waikato Housing Trust, for projects that will deliver new homes to provide home ownership opportunities for Pacific families.	5.00
Contracted to Community Housing Solutions to support eight Pacific organisations with capability building training and support to successfully register as registered Community Housing Providers. The aim of the programme is to strengthen the Pacific housing sector and increase access for Pacific families to Pacific-owned community housing providers that provide culturally appropriate support to meets their needs.	0.27
Contracted Deloitte to support 12 Pacific organisations and churches to carry out feasibility studies on land that they own, for potential housing development opportunities. The goal of the programme is to provide Pacific land-owning entities with information on the feasibility of housing developments on their land to allow them to make informed decisions about progressing.	1.676
Contracted PricewaterhouseCoopers to develop a business case to identify potential areas for regional migration and projects in regions to support the potential migration of Pacific peoples to those regions. Note, this business case did not make a compelling case for investment in projects that would encourage migration to the regions.	0.171
Contracted Penina Trust to deliver a project in Auckland to provide new affordable housing for Pacific families.	0.75
Ministerial departmental costs for the four years to June 2024.	3.457
TOTAL	41.315