

1 May 2024

s9(2)(a)

Mālō 'e lelei

s9(2)(a)

RESPONSE TO AN OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST (REF: DOIA061-2023/24)

On 19 April 2024, you contacted the Ministry for Pacific Peoples (the Ministry) requesting information about the use of Artificial Intelligence in the workforce. You were advised that your request would be treated as a request under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). I have outlined your specific request and my response below.

I'd like to ask what your policy is around the use of artificial intelligence in the workforce, including when making reports, policy advice, and briefings to relevant Ministers. In addition, I'd like a copy of any advice given to the agency this year regarding the use of AI in these contexts. If no such policy exists, is there a plan to put one in place? Why or why not?

The Ministry follows the government guidelines on Artificial Intelligence in the workforce and is in the consultation phase for the Ministry's draft guidelines on using such tools. As the guidelines are currently under active consideration, I am withholding all information relating to the use of Artificial Intelligence under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the OIA to maintain the constitutional conventions that protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials. I am satisfied that there are no other public interest considerations that render it desirable to make the information withheld under section 9 of the OIA available.

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: oa_requests@mpp.govt.nz.

Wellington (National Office)

Level 1, ASB House
101-103 The Terrace
PO Box 833, Wellington 6140
Ph: 04 473 4493
Fax: 04 473 4301

Auckland

9 Ronwood Ave, Manukau
PO Box 97005
South Auckland Mail Centre 2240
Ph: 09 265 3200
Fax: 09 265 3202

Christchurch

Level 1, BNZ Centre
120 Hereford St
Private Bag 4741
Christchurch 8011
Fax: 03 353 9499

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 blue ink, consisting of several overlapping, sweeping strokes that form a stylized, cursive name.

Danilo Coelho de Almeida
Deputy Secretary
Corporate Services