



Te Uru Rākau

Forestry New Zealand

27 OCT 2020

OIA20-0485

John Luke
fyi-request-13627-48a294a1@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear John Luke

Thank you for your email of 31 August 2020 requesting information relating to the One Billion Trees Fund. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act (OIA).

You requested the following:

May I have the name of external advisory panel's member, their bio if available, pay rate, term of reference and their term of appointment. how did you call for public expression of interest in these positions. Have they had any meetings so far and any meeting minutes available?

The One Billion Trees Fund (the Fund) uses a cross-agency advisory panel (the Panel) for considering applications, strategic oversight and to ensure investment confidence in the Fund.

The Fund did not call for public expressions of interest due to the requirement for the Panel positions to be filled by suitably qualified representatives from the following organisations:

- Department of Conservation
- Ministry for the Environment
- Provincial Development Unit, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
- Te Puni Kōkiri
- Ministry for Culture and Heritage.

The Panel currently comprises the following members who have been appointed for the remaining duration of the fund:

- Chair: Peter Clark - Consultant, Forestry Grants and Partnerships, Te Uru Rākau;
- Bryan Smith, Chief Advisor – Water Strategy, Essential Freshwater Taskforce, Ministry for the Environment;
- Alan McDonald - Principal Advisor, One Billion Trees Programme, Department of Conservation;
- Eliot Linforth-Hall, Investment Director - Provincial Development Unit, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment;
- Vacant - Ministry for Culture and Heritage
- Sam Johnson – Principal Advisor - Te Puni Kōkiri; and
- Peter Ettema – Principal Adviser – Agriculture and Investment Services, Ministry for Primary Industries.

The Panel members do not receive additional fees for panel work as they are all salaried public servants, the Chair Peter Clark is remunerated at the rate of \$150 per hour for his role. Please find the Terms of Reference attached for your reference.

Further information on projections for the One Billion Trees programme is contained in the Cabinet paper 'The One Billion Trees programme – actions and decisions for implementation' available at the following link:

<https://www.teururakau.govt.nz/dmsdocument/30942-the-one-billion-trees-programme-cabinet-paper>.

Please also find attached the meeting minutes from 28 February 2019 to 20 July 2020.

Some information within these documents has been withheld pursuant to the following sections of the OIA:

- Section 9(2)(a) – *to protect the privacy of natural persons.*
- Section 9(2)(b)(ii) - *to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who is the subject of the information.*

MPI is satisfied that in the circumstances of this case, the withholding of the information is not outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable in the public interest to make the information available.

I trust the information provided is of assistance. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with the Ministry for Primary Industries at Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143 or at info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely



Henry Weston
Director, Forest Development, Grants and Partnerships