



DOIA 2021-0815

16 November 2020

Chris Hughes

fyi-request-13949-a1323253@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Chris

Thank you for your email of 11 October 2020 to Hon Shane Jones requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

*Could you please provide the financial analysis that supports the PGF allocating \$96.5M for upgrading Marae across New Zealand. You stated this allocation will create 3100 new jobs. Please provide the background support workpapers and analysis which supports your public statements on this issue. Specifically how much has been allocated to each of the 351 Marae that will benefit from this payment, how the stated 3100 jobs will be created and how long these jobs are expected to last. How many man hours are expected to be covered by this \$96.5M spend?
In short I would like to see the full business case submitted to those responsible for signing off on this PGF allocation of funds.*

On 15 October 2020, in accordance with section 14 of the Act, your request was transferred to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (the Ministry).

The Provincial Development Unit (PDU) has arrived at the number of 3,100 jobs created through marae renovation investment by estimating how many people would be required to work on each individual renovation. This was assessed by tallying the requirements of each job to be done, as opposed to estimating Fulltime Equivalent labour costs (FTE) across the whole project. These figures are subject to change once the contracting process is complete and it is clear how the work will be completed.

There has been no business case submitted for the allocation of marae investments as a whole. Therefore, the Ministry is unable to respond to this part of the request in accordance with section 18(e) of the Act as the information requested does not currently exist.

At this stage not all of the marae have been contracted. Relevant applications and funding agreements will be released on to the MBIE website as the marae are contracted.

The rationale behind the marae investment programme is contained in a Cabinet Paper released in June 2020 and is available at the following link:

<https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/resources/proactive-release-2020-june/PAPER-AND-MINUTE-Provincial-Growth-Fund-COVID-19-Response-Redeployment-and-Acceleration.pdf>

The method used to calculate labour requirements is demonstrated on the spreadsheet labelled *Marae Announcements*, which can be found at the following link: <https://www.growregions.govt.nz/media-centre/funded-projects/>

Further information on marae investment can be found in the media releases at the following links:

<https://www.growregions.govt.nz/media-centre/news/3100-jobs-created-through-marae-upgrades/>

<https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/3100-jobs-created-through-marae-upgrades>

I hope you find this information helpful.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

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Staci Hare
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