18 February 2021

Sovereign Sharma

By email: fyi-request-14541-4d74db16@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H202100402

Dear Sovereign Sharma

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) on 26 January 2021 for information relating to the NZ COVID Tracer application.

My responses to your questions are as follows.

1) Which company or companies had the contract to build this app? Please list both the main company with the contract and any other companies the work was outsourced to.
2) Which company or companies have the contract to operate this app? Again, please list both the main company with the contract and any other companies the work was outsourced to.

The Ministry developed the NZ COVID Tracer application to help improve contact tracing in New Zealand and worked in partnership with contact tracing application developers. Information in response to these parts of your request is available at the following links:

- www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-resources-and-tools/nz-covid-tracer-app/privacy-and-security-nz-covid-tracer
- www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/h202004868-16-july-2020.pdf

3) What was the total cost of building this app?

A breakdown of the estimated costs for the COVID-19 Tracer application is included in the table below. The total amount of $6.425 million is the total estimated costs budgeted up to 30 June 2021, confirmed as at 31 December 2020.

Table 1. Breakdown of total estimated cost as at 31 December 2020 (GST exclusive)	
Category of Expenditure	**Total estimated cost (million)**
Development of the application	$2.775
Technology enablers (covers temporary surge capacity for support desk to monitor calls from the public in relation to the application)	$1.668
Support resources (project management and IT architecture support for the Ministry in the development of the application)	$1.676
Security	$0.305
Total	**$6.425**

4) What is the cost of operating this app from when it was rolled out to 30th September 2020?

Development of the NZ COVID Tracer application has continued from the dates of its release and will be ongoing. It is therefore not straightforward to define "operating costs". If you wish to provide a more specific description, we may be able to assist.

I trust this information fulfils your request. Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

Yours sincerely

Gaynor Bradfield
Manager, Office of the Deputy Director-General
Data and Digital