

5 March 2021

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Tēnā koe Andrew Chen

I refer to your email of 4 February 2021 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

"I would like to make a request for a list of vendors that have provided data science services to MFAT in the last three years."

For the purposes of your request, we have interpreted Data Science as "an inter-disciplinary field that uses scientific methods, processes, algorithms and systems to extract knowledge and insights from many structural and un-structured data sets". In practice, the vendors listed below have undertaken economic analysis by applying quantitative statistical and data methods.

Below is the list of vendors that have provided data science services to MFAT in the last three years:

- Sense Partners
- New Zealand Institute of Economic Research (NZIER)
- Impact ECON
- Business and Economic Research Limited (BERL)

Please note that we may publish this letter (with your personal details redacted) on the Ministry's website.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the OIA to seek a review of this response by the Ombudsman.

Nāku noa, nā



Owen Thornber
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade