



**Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs**

11 October 2021

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Dear Kurt

Your Official Information Act request OIA 2122 0187 dated 30 August 2021

In regard to your Official Information Act (the Act) request, which was received by the Department of Internal Affairs (Department) on 30 August 2021, after a transfer from the Ministry of Health, the Departmental response follows.

You have requested:

“Please provide all relevant information around the \$1.9 billion dollars earmarked for Mental Health NZ. Including, money spent on paid consultants.”

From this funding package, the Department of Internal Affairs received funding for two purposes as below:

Initiative name	Purpose	Funding \$000
Establishment of the Royal Commission into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the care of Faith Based Institutions (the Royal Commission)	To fund the establishment and ongoing operation of the Royal Commission that will examine and report on the historical abuse of children, young people and vulnerable adults in State care and faith-based institutions.	77,524
An effective Timely Crown Response to the Royal Commission	To ensure the Crown can engage with the Royal Commission in a full, timely and joined up manner, through a cross – agency secretariat to deliver a coordinated Crown approach, legal support for representation and procedural questions and specialist support to agencies for researching and compiling records for the Royal Commission	1,418
Royal Commission – Capital Expenditure	To purchase software and premises fit out for the Royal Commission	1,325
	Total	80,267

The funding was appropriated in Vote Internal Affairs as follows from 2018/19.

Ref	Appropriation	\$000
A	Royal Commission into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the care of Faith Based Institutions - Operating Expenses multi-year appropriation	56,066
B	Royal Commission into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the care of Faith Based Institutions - Commissioners Fees multi-year appropriation	6,123
C	Royal Commission into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the care of Faith Based Institutions - Counselling Costs multi-year appropriation	15,335
	Sub-total	77,524
D	Civic Information Services MCA - departmental output class Managing and Accessing Knowledge Information	1,418
E	Department of Internal Affairs - Capital Injection	1,325
	Total	80,267

The funding above and additional funding since then is shown in Appendix A).

The Department is refusing the requested information on 'money spent on paid consultants' under section 18(d) of the OIA, as the information is or will soon be publicly available. This information is released to the Governance and Administration Select Committee as part of the annual review process. Royal Commission expenditure began in 2018/19 and the documents presented to the Committee for 2018/19 and 2019/20 can be found in the links below.

- 2018/19 consultancy expenditure - https://www.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/53SCGA_EVI_111886_GA1062/6eadcff9888caf0c03a1f7da54ec42561cd97d27
- 2019/20 consultancy expenditure - Appendix 7 of the document, page 160 -278 - https://www.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/53SCGA_EVI_104005_GA287/96e00e3e62641e5bdeabec06932fdc62bd8417ee

To locate expenditure on the Royal Commission, you can review the 'Details of Contract' column in the document links above. Please note that there is more than one Royal Commission in existence during this period.

2020/21 consultancy expenditure will be presented to the Select Committee in November/ December 2021 and the information for that year will be provided to you then.

If you have any feedback or questions about the Department's response, please let us know at OIA@DIA.govt.nz

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Pearson', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

David Pearson
Acting Chief Financial Officer

Appendix A – Funding and Expenditure for the Royal Commission 2018/19 to date

For funding, the years shown below related to the year in which the funding was approved rather than the years it will be spent. The Royal Commission is expected to continue its operations until 2022/23.

For expenditure, the figures are the expenditure in the particular period.

Funding	Appropriations \$000						G **	Total
	A Operating expense	B Commissioner fees	C Counselling expense	D DIA expense	E Capital expense	F * Legal expense		
2018/19	56,066	6,123	15,335	1,418	1,325	0	0	80,267
2019/20	(8,790)	0	0	0	3,168	8,790	0	3,168
2020/21	100,790	2,248	(1,862)	0	0	6,656	3,365	111,197
Total funding	148,066	8,371	13,473	1,418	4,493	15,446	3,365	194,632
Expenditure								
2018/19	7,771	583	0	1,418	1,325	0	0	11,097
2019/20	23,010	1,243	203	0	3,168	121	0	27,745
2020/21	40,304	1,250	1,167	0	0	816	0	43,537
July 2021	3,325	112	88	0	0	0	0	3,525
Total Expenditure	74,410	3,188	1,458	1,418	4,493	937	0	85,904

* The government created appropriation F - Royal Commission into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the care of Faith Based Institutions – Legal Assistance Costs multi-year appropriation during 2019/20, by a transfer of funding from appropriation A).

** The government has appropriated funding to appropriation G) National Archives and Library Services MCA – Knowledge and Information Services in 2021/22 to support the Crown response.

The total funding shown above for appropriations A-C and F agrees to the Estimates of Appropriation for Vote Internal Affairs 2021/22. These appropriations are multi-year appropriations and so their total funding over their life is published.