



12 May 2022

Jack Hulls

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Tēnā koe Jack Hulls,

On 21 March 2022, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information in regard:

- *I am looking for further details on a news story from last week. <https://www.reseller.co.nz/article/696242/msd-wrestles-ict-legacy-outlines-multi-million-dollar-investments/>*
 1. *The story mentions a system, "one system reaches its third decade." - What is the system called and what is it used for?*
 2. *The story has a paragraph about, "cyber security risks" - How well is the current cyber security team staffed? How is this compared to the last 5 years? Permanent staff vs contractors?*
 3. *Later in the article it says, "improving the way MSD manages and supports its IT assets." - what is the oldest IT asset on the network?*
 4. *The article goes on with, "An identity management project for clients partners and staff was budgeted at \$8.7 million." - I understand work was done on the about 5 years ago, can you please release a copy of the business case for this work?*
 5. *Last of all the articles mentions, "financial management system replacement expected to cost \$31.4 million and a payroll system replacement" - what is the selected solution / vendor for both systems?*

The article you are referring to was developed independently of the Ministry by Reseller News. The Ministry was not approached formally by Reseller News for any content within the article. Our understanding is that the information within the article was sourced from content provided to select committees and other forums.

For the sake of clarity, I will address your questions in turn.

1. *The story mentions a system, "one system reaches its third decade." - What is the system called and what is it used for?*

The system in question is the Ministry's Social Welfare Information for Tomorrow Today (SWIFTT) payment system. Whilst the origins of this platform date back approximately 30 years, this system has been re-platformed and is fully maintained and supported by our vendor partners.

2. *The story has a paragraph about, "cyber security risks" - How well is the current cyber security team staffed? How is this compared to the last 5 years? Permanent staff vs contractors?*

The Ministry currently has the following staff numbers in our security portfolio:

- 18 full-time staff members
- One temporary part-time intern

Out of these 18 full-time staff members, 12 are permanent staff and six are contractors. One additional permanent staff member is in recruitment.

The Ministry currently have the following staff numbers in our Chief Information Security Office:

- One Information Security Manager
- Nine Information Security Senior Advisors; and within this number:
 - One Lead Advisor
 - One Information Security Assurance Advisor

Out of these ten staff members, one is permanent and nine are contractors.

The Ministry does not hold data of staff to compare to five years ago, as such, this part of the request has been refused under section 18(g)(i) of the Act, as the information requested is not held by the Ministry and I have no grounds to believe that the information is held by another department or interdepartmental Venture or Minister of the Crown or organisation, or by a local authority.

3. *Later in the article it says, "improving the way MSD manages and supports its IT assets." - what is the oldest IT asset on the network?*

The oldest IT assets that the Ministry hold are software components of our SWIFTT payment system dating back to 1998.

4. *The article goes on with, "An identity management project for clients partners and staff was budgeted at \$8.7 million." - I understand work was done on the about 5 years ago, can you please release a copy of the business case for this work?*

In 2019, the Ministry developed a technology business case for several initiatives, one of these being a case for replacing our Identity and Access Management Platform. The identity component of the case was budgeted at \$19.9M over four years.

Please find enclosed the document *Technology Business Case* developed during 2019.

You will note that the information regarding some individuals has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs any public interest in this information.

5. Last of all the articles mentions, "financial management system replacement expected to cost \$31.4 million and a payroll system replacement" - what is the selected solution / vendor for both systems?

The Financial Management Information system (FMIS) being implemented is Oracle FMIS, the Payroll system being implemented is SAP success factors. Both systems are being implemented by Accenture.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter and attachment on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding the Ministry's cyber security, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui



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