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1 May 2023

Daniel F Benson-Guiu

By email: fyi-request-22191-4f17ae6b@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Daniel

Request under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email dated 21 March 2023 requesting the following information from Te Pūkenga – New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology (Te Pūkenga):

- 1) *Is Te Pūkenga a member of the group Business New Zealand, also known as Business NZ?*
- 2) *In regards to the above if yes:*
 - a) *what is the cost of membership per annum?*
 - b) *Since when has Te Pūkenga been a member?*
 - c) *How much has Te Pūkenga spent on membership costs since membership of Business NZ began?*
- 3) *In regards to the above if no:*
 - a) *When did Te Pūkenga cease to be a member of Business NZ?*
 - b) *All correspondence in regards to the decision to cease membership.*
- 4) *What advice or services has Te Pūkenga received from Business NZ since its membership began?*

This letter provides a formal decision on your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Background information

As we advised you in our response to your OIA request regarding BusinessNZ dated 19 May 2022, Te Pūkenga has been a member of BusinessNZ since 11 November 2020, paying \$35,000 (excluding GST) annually for this membership. Our membership of the Major Companies Group (MCG) of BusinessNZ means that we are part of an important forum of other large companies who have the common goal of ensuring success for Aotearoa New Zealand's economy.

Part of membership of the MCG included receiving updates on energy, environment and climate, employment relations, economy and tax, skills and training, and trade. We also received email updates from BusinessNZ on topics such as COVID issues, infrastructure, employment relations, immigration, digital strategy, data and statistics, and WorkSafe guidance. We do not consider the updates as 'advice', but important business-related information and views.

The decision

As work has progressed on the Reform of Vocational Education, how Te Pūkenga works with employers, and our partnerships with Workforce Development Councils (who represent industry views, needs and skills for vocational education), we are now in a position to reassess our relationship with BusinessNZ.

We are discussing a partnership arrangement rather than a membership with BusinessNZ. We are currently working through what that partnership means, and the scope of the partnership given our needs are different as a supplier of education, skills and training for employers and industry including members of BusinessNZ.

Therefore, there is no correspondence regarding any decision to cease membership with BusinessNZ.

You have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the OIA if you are not happy with this response. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi



Peter Winder
Tumuaki | Chief Executive

