

17 May 2023

Darren Conway
fyi-request-22496-f07b8edd@requests.fyi.org.nz

REF: OIA-12471

Dear Darren

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 18 April 2023 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Please provide the names of the persons assigned to the following (or equivalent) roles:

- *Project Sponsor*
- *Project Director*
- *Project Manager*
- *Lead Designer*

The request for names includes any employed to undertake work for the NZTA regardless of the contractual arrangements.

The names/organisations responsible for the Ngā Ūranga to Pito-One (N2P) section of Te Ara Tupua are as follows:

- Project Sponsor - Kesh Keshaboina
- Waka Kotahi Project Director - Ulvi Salayev
- Alliance Project Director - Downer NZ
- Project Manager - Eddie Anand
- Lead Designer - Tonkin & Taylor

While you are correct that the Ombudsman's guidance states that contractors should be treated as public sector employees, this only applies to contractors directly employed by Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, such as the Waka Kotahi Project Director, Ulvi Salayev.

The Alliance Project Director and Lead Designer for N2P are employees of our independent contractors (Downer NZ and Tonkin & Taylor) and are not considered public sector employees. Despite this, Waka Kotahi has previously consulted with the Alliance Project Director and Lead Designer regarding the release of their names, their preference was that their names are not released.

The names of the Alliance Project Director and Lead Designer have therefore been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect their privacy. I do not consider there are any other factors which would render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to withhold information. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

If you would like to discuss this response with Waka Kotahi, please contact Ministerial Services by email to official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jackie Smith', is positioned above the printed name.

Jackie Smith

Manager Ministerial Services – Regulatory