



15 March 2024

HUD2024-003849 / HUD2024-003874

Alex Olsen

fyi-request-25803-54d3c462@requests.fyi.org.nz

fyi-request-25805-e8251d3a@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Alex

Thank you for your email of 20 February 2024 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- 1. What is the budget for all costs associated with the Sir Bill English review of Kāinga Ora?*
- 2. How many ministry staff are working on the review and how many are working on the review full time?*
- 3. How much has already been spent on the review?*
- 4. How much will Sir Bill English and each of the other two reviewers be paid for their work and how will their pay be calculated, e.g. flat fee, hourly rate, expenses. If an hourly rate is being paid, how much will each reviewer be paid per hour?*
- 5. On what date does the Ministry expect to proactively release all cabinet papers and advice on the Sir Bill English review of Kāinga Ora?*
- 6. If you decide not to release any of this information, why does the Ministry believe there is no public interest in its release?*

The Minister of Housing, Hon Chris Bishop, transferred your request to Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga – Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (the Ministry) on 23 February 2024 to respond:

- 7. What was the date of each meeting Sir Bill English had with you regarding the review and for each meeting what were the names and titles of those who attended?*
- 8. What was the date of each meeting Sir Bill English had with Ministry of Housing and Urban Development officials regarding the review and for each meeting what were the names and titles of those who attended?*
- 9. What was the date of each meeting Sir Bill English had with Treasury officials regarding the review and for each meeting what were the names and titles of those who attended?*
- 10. What was the date of each meeting Sir Bill English had with Kāinga Ora representatives regarding the review and for each meeting what were the names and titles of those who attended?*
- 11. What was the date of each meeting Sir Bill English had with others not included above regarding the review and for each meeting what were the names and titles of those who attended?*

I have responded to both of your requests in this letter as your requests relate to the independent review into Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities.

In response to questions 5-6, the Ministry believes there is public interest in the information relating to the independent review into Kāinga Ora. The review will provide a report to the Government by the end of March 2024. The Ministry and the Minister of Housing intend to publish all associated information once the report has been fully considered.

Questions numbered 1, 4 and 7-11 are refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information will soon be made publicly available.

In response to question 2, the review is supported by of 3.5 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff from the Ministry and the Treasury.

The review is ongoing, and costs have not yet been finalised. Question 3 is refused under section 18(g)(i) of the Act, because the information is not held by the Ministry, and we have no grounds to believe that any other agency that would hold it. Once finalised, the information will be published on the Parliamentary website as part of the annual Estimates process.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my response by the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on the Ombudsman's website at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

As part of our ongoing commitment to openness and transparency, the Ministry proactively releases information and documents that may be of interest to the public. As such, this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on our website.

Nāku noa, nā



Kate Goodman

Head of Government Services

Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga – Ministry of Housing and Urban Development