

12 March 2018

Rochelle Stewart-Allen
fyi-request-7288-f0528128@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ms Stewart-Allen

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your request dated 16 February 2018:

Please provide me with the background papers which supported the establishment of the \$7.2m funding provided for open data as detailed in Minister Simpson's press release on 19 June 2017 (<https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/government%E2%80%99s-open-data-gets-72-million-boost>).

Please include the breakdown of the spend and projected outputs approved as part of the Data Contingency Fund, as well as any progress reports made against that spend to-date.

The three years of funding is noted under the Open Data Programme (New Policy Initiatives) in Vote Statistics 2017/18 (<http://www.treasury.govt.nz/budget/2017/estimates/v8/est17-v8-stat.pdf>).

A request by yourself to the Treasury for the same information has been part transferred to Stats NZ on 27 February 2018. This response also answers that request.

Documents that fall within scope of your request are attached to this response. Note redactions have been made to content that is out of scope of your request, and to the contact details of officials.

Stats NZ has a multi-class appropriation that is managed at an organisation level to ensure we deliver all the outcomes we are accountable for. Open Data funding is utilised across the organisation (Stats NZ) and is not specifically coded to a single Resource Centre or product (our finance system is not product based) hence we are unable to collate Open Data spend to date from across the organisation. We are working to develop a product based costing model hence in the future we hope to be positioned to provide this level of detail.

However in the interim as per the recently published Open Data action plan and Implementation plan we can assure you that we are working toward and tracking well to deliver to approved outputs as articulated in the business case.

- Work on strengthening the current mandate, including providing advice on the possible adoption of the Open Data Charter and supporting operating principles.
- Support central agencies to investigate and advise Ministers about other options for strengthening the open government data mandate.

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- Work with DIA on the design of an online monitoring tool on Data.govt to measure data quality change over time.
- Work intensively with a few agencies to accelerate their open data release through a stocktake of their datasets, roundtables to support open data decision making, identification of barriers to release, and providing or facilitating technical expertise.
- Adapt the Australian online toolkit for use in New Zealand.
- Support the fellowship model run by Aoteroa New Zealand.
- Create a new web platform to help people find resources more easily, such as on-line tools and advice.

Note the Open Data Action Plan and Implementation Plan can be found at <https://goo.gl/TcHCc5>.

You have the right, by way of complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act, to seek an investigation and review of this response to your request.

Stats NZ intends to publish its response to your request made under the Act on the Stats NZ website. This letter, with your personal details removed, will be published in its entirety. Consistent with the Act, publishing responses increases the availability of information to the public and helps promote balanced public debate.

Yours sincerely,



Matthew Bloomer

Manager

Office of the Government Statistician and Chief Executive

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