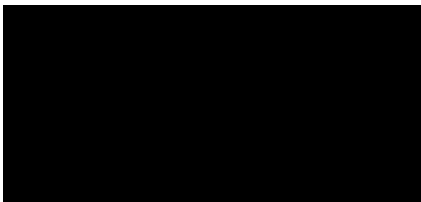


Our ref: OIA 21 - 24

15 June 2021



Dear 

Re: RNZ OIA re use of contractors in covid-19 recovery/response

I refer to your email dated 31 May 2021 requesting the following information and/or documents, in relation to the Education Review Office:

1. *detail of how covid recovery is being primarily undertaken, including:*
2. *the name of any units/teams/similar leading it, or involved in it*
3. *if these are new or repurposed units/teams/similar, the date when they began covid work*
4. *number of permanent and/or fixed term staff (not contractors) working (primarily) in any aspect of Covid recovery*
5. *number of contractors working*
6. *if available, budgeted spending on contractors of Covid recovery*
7. *Actual hourly or daily (or other) rates of contractors at whatever level (similar to what is provided in your Annual Reviews to select committee)*
8. *range of hourly or daily (or other) rates of contractors at whatever level*
9. *Separately, the same for consultants (if available)*
10. *if a contractor is in charge, or second in charge, of a Covid recovery units/teams/similar and/or work programme, pls detail all such roles*
 - *what that position is*
 - *how long they have been engaged in that role*
11. *if a covid recovery units/teams/similar worker numbers are more than 50% contractors, pls state and describe*
12. *pls detail the variation of that % over time eg up or down*
13. *pls detail why over 50% of such staff are contractors*
14. *pls detail any cases where unplanned/unexpected employee attrition or turnover has had an impact on number of contractors having to be engaged, and/or length of that engagement, and/or the seniority of position having to be filled by a contractor*
15. *provide a timeline in terms of when contracts wind up, or are forecast to, or when units/teams/similar/work programme winds up or is forecast to*
16. *any complaints received from employees, unions, contractors or the public about use of contractors or consultants in covid recovery*

17. pls detail if any audit or review or similar has been or will be, or might be, undertaken re use of contractors or consultants in covid recovery

In relation to your question 1, the Education Review Office was unable to carry out its main function of reviewing the performance of schools and early childhood services due to the impact of COVID-19. This included implementing ERO's **New Schools Operating Model**. Following COVID-19 recovery, ERO has progressively implemented the NSOM. The ERO website has details on [How ERO reviews](#)

In relation to questions 2 to 17, there were no new units/teams or contractors/consultants or budget spending during the COVID-19 period. I am informed by MBIE that the COVID-19 period covers March 20, 2020 till now.

I am refusing your request under section 18(e) of the OIA as the information does not exist.

You have a right under the OIA to complain to the Ombudsman and seek a review of my decision.

Yours sincerely



Jeremy France
Deputy Chief Executive Corporate Services
Education Review Office | Te Tari Arotake Mātauranga
National Office | Tari Matua