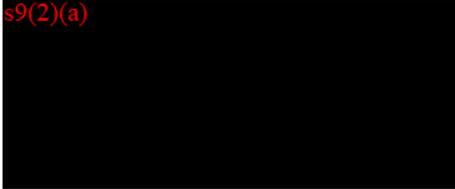


27 August 2021

s9(2)(a)



Thank you for your email of 3 July 2021 to Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- 1) *Copies of any communications you have sent to suppliers or contractors asking whether they meet the definition of a Māori business;*
- 2) *Copies of any communications you have sent to suppliers or contractors advising them of the requirements of the Progressive Procurement Policy;*
- 3) *The number/value of contracts your agency has terminated because a supplier or contractor didn't meet the definition of a Māori business since the Progressive Procurement Policy came into force;*
- 4) *The number/value of contracts your agency has signed with Māori businesses since the Progressive Procurement Policy came into force.*

Kāinga Ora is directed via legalisation to have meaningful engagement with Māori and offer opportunities to participate in urban development while also considering the directions around procurement issued by the Government. For the purposes of this request, a Māori business, as defined by Te Puni Kōkiri (Ministry of Māori Development), is one which is a Māori authority (as classified by the Inland Revenue Department) or has a minimum 50% Māori ownership.

I have discussed your request with relevant team in Kāinga Ora and can advise you at this stage we have not asked our existing suppliers or contractors if they meet the definition of a Māori business. I can also advise you that Kāinga Ora has not ended a contract with a supplier or contractor for not meeting the definition of a Māori business.

I am therefore refusing questions one to three of your request under section 18(g)(i) of the Act as, *'the information requested is not held by the department or Minister of the Crown or organisation and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that the information is either by another department or Minister of the Crown or organisation, or by a local authority...'*

Regarding question four of your request, from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, 31 contracts for a range of services were awarded to businesses known to be Māori entities by Kāinga Ora. The value of the contracts during this period was just over \$3.9 million. It is important to emphasise that all businesses, regardless of the background of their staff or owners, must still meet our procurement requirements and go through normal due diligence.

For more information about Progressive Procurement, I recommend visiting the Te Puni Kōkiri website at <https://www.tpk.govt.nz/en/a-matou-kaupapa/maori-economic-resilience/progressive-procurement>. You can also find information for businesses interested in working with Kāinga Ora on our website at <https://kaingaora.govt.nz/working-with-us/>.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of my decision to decline parts of your request, 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 or by calling 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rachel Kelly". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rachel Kelly
Manager Government Relations