



11 May 2023



Ref: OIA-2022/23-0850

Dear 

Official Information Act request relating to Graphic designers within the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC)

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 24 April 2023. You requested:

“This is a request for official information under the Official Information Act 1982 relating to graphic designers within your organisation.

We request the following information:

- 1. How many in-house graphic designers does your organisation employ?*
- 2. What is the budget for in-house/employed graphic designers?*
- 3. How much has been spent on contracting external graphic designers?*
- 4. If external contractors have been used, why did your organisation not use your employed/in-house graphic designers?*
- 5. If employed/in-house or external contractors have been used to design a report in the last 12 months, was the report made public?*
- 6. If not, why not?*

We do not wish to cause unnecessary expense or burden on your agency. If clarification of any of our requests is needed please call or email. Likewise, if a request proves unnecessarily burdensome in form and we are likely to be able to adjust it to be more specific or better suited to your information systems without losing the benefit of what is sought, please also get in touch. If there is likely to be a delay in being able to assemble or provide some of the information requested, please provide the rest of the information as it becomes available.

*To avoid unnecessary printing and postage costs, we ask that you send a confirmation of receipt, the response and any other correspondence related to this request to oliver@taxpayers.org.nz. Please include the following reference in the subject line: **GraphicDesignersOIA.**”*

This response covers staff across business units at The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC), and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), a departmental agency hosted by DPMC. I have interpreted your request as being for the last 12 months.

Corporate and Shared Services provides general provision of graphic design across business units at DPMC. In addition, some graphic designers are directly employed by DPMC, and external graphic designers are contracted from time to time.

1. As at 1 May 2023, three graphic designers are permanently employed by DPMC and NEMA.
2. The total salary budgeted for graphic designers at DPMC and NEMA in the 2022/23 financial year is \$305,000.
3. The total spend on contracting external graphic designers is not centrally recorded in the DPMC finance system under its own code. Expenditure may form part of the overall cost of a publication, or be part of a broader professional service, and therefore a total sum is not recorded in an easily retrievable manner. Accordingly, that part of your request is refused under section 18(f) of the Act, as the information cannot be made available without substantial collation.
4. DPMC and NEMA contract external services where the internal services outlined above are insufficient to meet specific requirements.
5. All such reports are published on the DPMC and NEMA websites as appropriate and required, except where there is a case not to do so, for example on the grounds of national security.

This response will be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

Yours sincerely



Chris Gianos
Head of Operations and Risk