

16 May 2023

s 9(2)(a)

Ref Number: MHA 17030 and 17124

Tēnā koe s 9(2)(a)

### **Official information requests for contractor/consultant expenditure**

Thank you for your requests under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to Te Aka Whai Ora - Māori Health Authority, which were transferred from the Minister of Health's office on 21 April 2023. Your requests were for:

#### **Request One**

- 1) Please confirm the monthly spend on consultants for each of the last 12 months and justify this expenditure and was it confirmed after a tender process and are Māori consultants involved.
- 2) Confirm that only Māori will staff all functions in their required health structure as we object to a separate Māori demanded structure, draining European doctors and nurses from our current health system, when such expert staff are already in short supply and causing a health service crisis.
- 3) Why should my money be wasted on a Māori health structure when we do not have enough money to service our existing needs let alone Māori activist who have colonial grievances and who only want more from me.

#### **Request Two**

- 1) Please show the monthly spend for the last 12 months and confirm such costs were originally budgeted for and how exactly do you propose overcoming the massive shortfall of doctors and nurses whilst satisfying Māori at the same time.

I will respond to each of your requests below.

### **Expenditure on contractors and consultants**

Te Aka Whai Ora was established as an independent statutory entity on 1 July 2022. Accordingly, our response can only address the period from 1 July 2022 onwards.

During our establishment the use of temporary staff, including contractors, consultants and some seconded public sector workers has enabled Te Aka Whai Ora to meet our obligations under the Pae Ora (Healthy Futures) Act 2022 while establishing our operating model and recruiting employees. More than two thirds of our headcount of 270 are employees (fixed term or permanent).

Te Aka Whai Ora monthly expenditure on contractors and consultants from July 2022 to March 2023 is attached as Appendix 1. This expenditure has been met from within the Te Aka Whai Ora existing baseline.

### **Process for appointing contractors and consultants**

Te Aka Whai Ora follows the process set out under the All-of-Government contracts for external recruitment services (<https://www.procurement.govt.nz/contracts/external-recruitment-services/>) and consultancy services (<https://www.procurement.govt.nz/contracts/consultancy-services/>).

Please note, Te Aka Whai Ora does not require contractors or consultants to disclose their ethnicity. However, some of our contractors and consultants do provide te ao Māori advice and are contracted for this reason.

### **Growth of workforce**

You ask how the shortfall of doctors and nurses can be addressed. A significant goal of Te Aka Whai Ora is to develop and grow the hauora (health) Māori workforce. As an example of our work towards this, Te Aka Whai Ora recently closed applications for a grant (\$3.27 million in total, a tripling of the previous student grant programme), called Te Pitomata – The Power of Potential, to support the next generation of the Māori workforce to care for all New Zealanders, including Māori (<https://www.teakawhaiora.nz/our-work/workforce/workforce-development/te-pitomata-grants/>).

### **Whether staff are Māori only and whether services are only provided to Māori**

You have asked us to confirm that only Māori will staff all functions in the health structure. Neither Te Aka Whai Ora, nor Māori health providers discriminate on the basis of race. Te Aka Whai Ora has responsibility for funding providers to support the good health outcomes of both Māori and non-Māori. Services we commission are available for all New Zealanders; Māori health providers delivering these services also serve non-Māori patients.

As at 31 March 2023, 60 percent of Te Aka Whai Ora staff identify as Māori, 10 percent as European, 3 percent Pasifika and 27 percent other.

### **Approach to addressing Māori health inequities**

You inquired about the need to have a Māori health structure. It may be helpful to provide some information on the Te Aka Whai Ora approach to addressing Māori health inequities.

In New Zealand, ethnic identity is an important dimension of health inequalities. Māori health is poorer than other New Zealanders. Pacific peoples also have poorer health than Pākehā. In addition, gender and geographic inequalities are important areas for action. Some of these inequitable health outcomes and the disparity in key health risk factors between Māori and non-Māori is discussed in the *Regulatory Impact Statement: Decision on the organisational form of a Māori Health Authority* (<https://www.dPMC.govt.nz/publications/regulatory-impact-statement-decision-organisational-form-maori-health-authority>).

Efforts to address the poor state of health for Māori, Pacific, and high needs populations were underway before the recent changes to the health system. The health system reforms are intended to ensure the health system is fairer, and more co-ordinated and connected, to deliver better health and wellbeing for all New Zealanders.

Te Aka Whai Ora was established to lead and monitor transformational change in the way the health system understands and responds to the health and wellbeing needs of whānau Māori. Te Aka Whai Ora will continue to support efforts to reduce health disparities and inequities. Te Aka Whai Ora wants to ensure everyone in New Zealand has the same access to good health outcomes.

The Te Aka Whai Ora commissioning approach seeks to invest in services grounded in te ao Māori and ensure that the wider health system better recognises and is more responsive to Māori needs. Te Aka Whai Ora is leading change in the way the health system understands and responds to the health and wellbeing needs of whānau Māori and the wider community, which means an investment in new service models, strategies and innovations grounded in te ao Māori, such as te ao Māori population health approaches and mātauranga Māori solutions.

Te Aka Whai Ora intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public. We will do this by publishing this letter and attachments on our website. Your personal details will be deleted, and Te Aka Whai Ora will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Te Aka Whai Ora Ministerial Services ([mhagovernmentservices@health.govt.nz](mailto:mhagovernmentservices@health.govt.nz)).

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi



Craig Owen  
Maiaka Tōakiaki | Deputy Chief Executive, Governance and Advisory

Te Aka Whai Ora spend on consultants and contractors from July 2022 to March 2023, broken down by months.

Supplier or Customer Name	Nature of Service	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Total
Awhina Buchanan	Policy advice								8,191		\$8,191
Campbell Squared Communications Limited	Communications support	53,758	58,469	3,740	1,528		10,560	3,826			\$131,881
Careering Options Limited	Planning performance services								18,455		\$18,455
Chandler Macleod	Co-ordination services								2,763		\$2,763
Craig Owen	Managerial services	18,080	41,940	30,600		63,720					\$154,340
DC Media Limited	Media services	4,858								2,507	\$7,365
Deloitte Limited	Financial and monitoring services				89,118	92,240	11,923		149,809		\$343,090
Dr Belinda Loring	Clinical advice	12,600	18,300	18,630	16,200	17,700	9,000		11,700	17,970	\$122,100
Dr Maxine Ronald	Hospital & Specialist Services advice	3,000	11,700	3,000	1,800	3,600	2,400	57,600			\$83,100
Dr Melissa Mcleod	Strategic planning advice						24,000				\$24,000
Foundation for Equity and Research New Zealand	Equity advice			88,000			88,000				\$176,000
Francis Health	Monitoring services	17,725		43,600						223	\$61,548
Gifford Reay Limited	Facilitation services				1,500						\$1,500

Supplier or Customer Name	Nature of Service	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Total
H2R Consulting	Administration support, communications managerial and advisory services, human resources, and general managerial services	65,620	78,035	57,631	68,735	72,599	82,635	24,132	63,812	30,286	\$543,485
He Tapu Te Upoko Limited	Clinical advice	8,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	16,000	16,600	4,000			\$104,600
Helen Wyn Consulting	Advisory services	19,125		38,750	76,625	40,875	18,750				\$194,125
Inside Recruitment Limited	Communications, ministerial services advice, and policy advice	29,855	62,182	76,629	87,993	92,014	95,750	36,108	116,753		\$597,284
JacksonStone & Partners	Managerial services and policy advice	38,107	39,663	50,015	34,304	79,498	20,436	10,058	71,479	74,058	\$417,618
Jade Tapsell	Transformation advice			17,503		26,188	-105	11,578	5,789	7,525	\$68,478
Kahui Tautoko Consulting Limited	Managerial services	28,500	38,167		28,924	43,313	32,760			50,650	\$222,314
Ka Tika Systems Limited	Advisory								2,095	10,745	\$12,840
Karake Consultancy	Commissioning managerial services			6,440	11,200	11,200	11,200	11,200		32,760	\$84,000
Karawhiau Limited	Monitoring services	55,500	51,750	36,000	25,000	25,000	30,750	39,500	32,500	16,000	\$312,000
Kiko Innovation Limited	Strategic advice	24,000	48,000	24,000							\$96,000
Korora Consulting	Management consulting services								1,750		\$1,750



Supplier or Customer Name	Nature of Service	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Total
Society of Youth Health Professionals Aotearoa New	Advisory services		3,136	65,352					21,379		\$89,867
Taikura Consultants Limited	Advisory services	8,400	2,000	11,000	20,600	18,600	15,600		11,200	17,000	\$104,400
Taikura Trust	Advisory services	6,340	7,925	6,340						24,002	\$44,607
Take Notice Limited	Advisory services	11,890	21,605	21,750	5,764						\$61,009
Tangata Consultants Limited	Clinical advice	28,800	38,002	30,600	41,400	32,400	25,650			36,349	\$233,201
Te Amokura Consultants Limited	Administration support, programme managerial services, and commission and risk advisory services	30,360	100,240	79,680	77,910	131,750	16,680	44,420	131,540		\$612,580
Te Aonui Limited	Advisory services				11,200	14,350	30,625	16,188	36,313		\$108,676
Te Korowai Hauora O Hauraki Incorporated	Nursing specialist advice	3,169	3,656	3,169	3,169	3,169				11,780	\$28,112
Te Kurahuna Limited	Mental health specialist advice		30,720	15,360	15,360						\$61,440
Te Runanga O Ngati Pikiao Trust	Advisory services	5,340	11,866	5,933		8,899	5,933		5,933		\$43,904
Te Tihi O Ruahine Whanau Ora Alliance Charitable Trust	Advisory services		75,000								\$75,000
Techrentals	Facilitation services				18,022					9,671	\$27,693
The Hood and Co Limited	Media services							20,000		10,000	\$30,000

Supplier or Customer Name	Nature of Service	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Total
The Johnson Group Limited	Policy managerial services, policy advice, and advisory services	59,882	67,584	60,568	76,070	124,888	77,395	28,419	44,599	4,464	\$543,869
The University of Auckland	Hospital & Specialist Services clinical advice			9,970							\$9,970
Tongouri Naughton Limited	Advisory services				80	19,200	15,600	2,860		16,860	\$54,600
Tu Kapua Holdings Limited	Pharmacy advice			10,752		13,200					\$23,952
Waha Communications Limited	Advisory services				85,000						\$85,000
Workplace Advocacy and Solutions NZ Limited	Advisory services					4,800	2,880	7,680		4,675	\$20,035
Yellow Brick Road	Mental health managerial services	9,983	10,934	15,288							\$36,205

**\$9,667,502**

**Note:** this data comprises of payments made and does not account for anticipated invoices.

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