



22/02/2024



OIA: 1321782 – Proposed number of FTE under the new Government's cost saving model

Thank you for your email of 29 January 2024 to the Ministry of Education (the Ministry) requesting the following information:

All internal communication in the Ministry from August 2023 to now, regarding job cuts and savings targets.

Please also provide the amount of FTEs and the proposed ideal amount of FTEs under the new Government's cost saving model in the public service.

In addition, am I please able to get a copy of communication between the Ministry and the Minister, on the topic of cost savings and job cuts?

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

We have interpreted your request as asking for all communication on savings targets in relation to job cuts.

The Ministry has made no job cuts in relation to the Government's savings requirements. Therefore your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Act, that the documents alleged to contain the information requested does not exist.

The Ministry has a number of actions underway already to respond to fiscal pressures. We have lifted the delegations for all recruitment to Hautū level. We are continuing to fill vacancies as usual for specified delivery roles including Learning Support Specialists, Leadership Advisors and Curriculum Advisors; we are being very cautious about filling any other roles. Other high priority appointments will be considered on a case-by-case basis by senior leadership.

The Ministry has also committed to ongoing reductions in consultancy and contracting spend including as projects come to an end.

As you know, the Ministry along with the rest of the Public Service is required to make savings. Ministers and Cabinet will make decisions on final savings as part of Budget 2024. No final decisions



have been made. I cannot rule out organisation changes in the future but if this becomes necessary, we will consult with our employees and their representatives.

Current workforce data, which includes full-time equivalent information, capital and operational expenditure, is published by Te Kawa Mataaho | Public Services Commission (PSC) at the following link: <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/research-and-data/workforce-data-public-sector-composition/workforce-data-workforce-size/>

Please note, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review decision on your request, in accordance with section 28 of the Act. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or to Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Thank you again for your email. If you have further questions, please feel free to contact our media team in the first instance at media.team@education.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J Breakwell'.

Jan Breakwell
Hautū Taupua | Acting Deputy Secretary
Te Pou Rangatōpū | Corporate