

20 June 2024

File Ref: OIA 48752



Tēnā koe 

Official Information Act request

I write in response to your Official Information Act request addressed to Dave Samuels, Secretary Te Puni Kōkiri, of 26 May 2024 regarding the recent report issued by Pania Gray concerning the recruitment process Te Puni Kōkiri undertook for the appointment of a Senior Advisor, Māori capability (the Report).

You asked the following two questions and requested that a hard copy response be sent to you.

1. *"...given you as chief executive took no role in considering the review of appointment requests why did you fail to take such action , given you had not provided delegation authority to take such review action after you became aware of the existence of at least one request for review....." ; and*
2. *"...in essence why did you fail to carry out the review ,given you had not delegated that duty. under sec 12 oi act i request full details of all communications between you and the 2 deputy secretaries which throw light on the actions , including decisions about the review of the relevant appointment , including why you were not informed at once when first review request was filed..."*

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) and respond as follows:

In answer to your 1st question, I refer you to paragraph 61 of the report.

In answer to your 2nd question, I also refer you to paragraph 61 of the report for the first part. The latter part of your question is refused under section 18(d) of the Act as the information is publicly available. All communications between the Secretary and the Deputy Secretaries regarding the requests for review are publicly available on our website at the following web address: www.tpk.govt.nz/en/mo-te-puni-kokiri/corporate-documents/official-information-act. There are a significant amount of documents relevant to your request. If you would like a hard copy of these documents we would be happy to send them to you at your own cost. Please let us know if this is the case and we will provide you with a quote of costs.

I trust my response satisfies your request.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that Te Puni Kōkiri publishes some of its OIA responses on its website, after the response is sent to the requester. The responses published are those that are considered to have a high level of public interest. We will not publish your name, address or contact details.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact us at uia@tpk.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Terina Cowan'. The signature is stylized with a large, circular flourish at the end.

Terina Cowan
Hautū, Te Puni Whakahaere Tikanga | Deputy Secretary, Strategy, Finance and Performance