


20 Poutūterangi 2025

File Ref: OIA 50373

Tēnā koe 

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your information request transferred to Te Puni Kōkiri on 20 Huitanguru 2025. You sought the following:

- 1. "How much money has the government/Crown spent to fund the activities of the Waitangi Tribunal incl. tribunal members, applicant lawyers and connected research bodies/researchers since the tribunal's inception.*
- 2. For this please specify this data by year and the number of tribunal members and research bodies/researchers by year.*
- 3. Please specify how many claims have been settled and (separately) the monetary value of compensation and assets provided to claimants.*

Your request was originally made to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (**DPMC**). On 20 Huitanguru 2025 DPMC transferred part of your request to Te Puni Kōkiri for a response:

- 4. How much money the Crown has paid towards costs associated with Waitangi Day celebrations over the past 20 years (by year) and to whom and for what."*

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

The response in this letter covers Te Puni Kōkiri | Ministry of Māori Development. The response covers Departmental Operating Expenditure (**DOE**) expenses associated with events at Waitangi and in the region, with Non-Departmental Operating Expenditure (**NDOE**) covering expenses associated with nationwide events. Other departments may also participate in Waitangi Day events. This response does not cover other departments.

Some officials from Te Puni Kōkiri will attend annual Waitangi commemorations. The programme of events on and around Waitangi Day can often span the best part of a week and cover a diverse range of government, non-government, and community events, for example in some years meetings between the Government and iwi chairs. Officials attending Waitangi events will also support Ministers in their work. While the events over those days will centre on Waitangi itself, locations can span much wider across the region

of Te Tai Tokerau. The costs of kaimahi attending Waitangi commemorations are DOE. Many of these DOE costs constitute travel and travel-related costs which will fall under the department's Travel Policy.

The Travel Policy provides clear guidelines for employees travelling for business reasons. The Policy aligns to the principles contained in the Auditor General's Controlling sensitive expenditure: Guide for public organisations.

Through NDOE Te Puni Kōkiri provides grants and funding to iwi and other Māori organisations to support Waitangi Day events and celebrations.

The table below details DOE and NDOE costs over the past twenty years towards Waitangi Day celebrations. Spending is listed across financial years (1 Hōngongoi to 30 Pipiri), with 2025 spend from 1 Hōngongoi 2024 to 28 Hui-tanguru 2025. There is no data available for NDOE spend for 2006 and 2007.

	DOE	NDOE
2006	2,082	
2007	4,967	
2008	17,073	19,000
2009	4,349	99,384
2010	2,097	83,538
2011	509	154,153
2012	4,075	125,333
2013	10,904	52,000
2014	104	53,000
2015	1,151	24,840
2016	1,905	40,000
2017	13,815	48,885
2018	9,274	-
2019	20,561	60,600
2020	26,775	38,600
2021	11,873	22,000
2022	638	70,000
2023	10,845	35,000
2024	20,537	86,049
2025	7,511	39,999
Total	171,044	1,052,381

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 oiia@tpk.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Sutton', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Steven Sutton
Hautū, Te Puni Tapatahi | Deputy Secretary, Governance