



9 Haratua 2025

File Ref: OIA 50406



Tēnā koe

### Official Information Act request

Thank you for your information request dated 8 Paengawhāwhā 2025. You asked for the following information:

- *“All advice provided to the Minister regarding all aspects of the Whānau Ora procurement process, including transition matters.*
- *Information regarding who was selected as the evaluation panel, the scores they provided for the submitters, and the criteria the scores were based on.”*

We considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (**Act**).

### Response

The Minister for Whānau Ora recently announced the four new community-based organisations contracted as incoming commissioning agencies which will commission Whānau Ora services starting on 1 Hōngongoi 2025. You can find the Minister's announcement here: <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/wh%C4%81nau-ora-reset-support-vulnerable-wh%C4%81nau>

Te Puni Kōkiri is currently in the process of de-briefing respondents to the procurement Request for Proposal (**RFP**). Much of the information you request could relate to topics covered in the RFP de-brief process. As you will appreciate, good practice means that RFP respondents should receive information first from Te Puni Kōkiri as the government department which ran the RFP.

Following the de-briefs with RFP respondents, Te Puni Kōkiri will proactively release information regarding the procurement process, including advice to the Minister, on the website of Te Puni Kōkiri.

In response to an aspect of the second part of your request, the criteria the RFP scores were based on is released to you in full as **Attachment 1**. For completeness, you can find the full RFP on the website of Te Puni Kōkiri here: <https://www.tpk.govt.nz/en/mo-te-puni-kokiri/our-stories-and-media/request-for-proposals-rfp--whanau-ora-commissioning-agencies>

With regard to the remainder of your request, I am withholding the information under the Act on the following grounds: 9(2)(a), 9(2)(b)(ii), 9(2)(ba)(i), 9(2)(ba)(ii), 9(2)(f)(iv), 9(2)(g)(i) and 9(2)(h).

*Section 9(2)(a) - to protect the privacy of natural persons.*

The information requested includes personal information of the procurement evaluation panel members and Te Puni Kōkiri kaimahi.

*Section 9(2)(b)(ii) - to protect the commercial position of the person who supplied the information or is the subject to of the information.*

Participants in the procurement process provided commercially sensitive information and release of information could prejudice their commercial position if disclosed. It is also in the public interest that third parties can trust that the commercially sensitive information supplied would be protected. The release of such information would, in my view, prejudice the commercial position of the third parties who supplied the information

*Section 9(2)(ba)(i) - to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied.*

Participants in the procurement process provided information on a confidential basis to Te Puni Kōkiri. It is in the public interest that third parties can trust that they can supply such confidential information and releasing information relating to this would, in my view, prejudice the future supply of such information.

*Section 9(2)(ba)(ii) – to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest.*

Participants in the procurement process provided information on a confidential basis to Te Puni Kōkiri. It is in the public interest that third parties can trust that they can supply such confidential information and releasing information relating to this information, would, in my view, damage the public interest.

*Section 9(2)(f)(iv) - to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time for being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.*

Matters related to the transition between commissioning agencies are ongoing and still being considered by the Minister for Whānau Ora. I appreciate that this ground may not apply at a future date once all the decisions relevant to transition matters are made.

*Section 9(2)(g)(i) - to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions.*

The information requested includes free and frank advice to Ministers of the Crown, officers and Te Puni Kōkiri kaimahi in the course of their duty.

*Section 9(2)(h) - to maintain legal professional privilege.*

The information requested includes legal opinions and advice from legal advisors throughout the procurement process, including the evaluation stage.

In relation to information that has been withheld under section 9 of the Act, I am of the opinion that there are no countervailing considerations that make it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available at this time.

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](http://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 [oia@tpk.govt.nz](mailto:oia@tpk.govt.nz).

Nāku noa, nā

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

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

Appendix A: Documents - OIA request from [REDACTED] dated 8 Paengawhāwhā 2025

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1.	04/10/2024	Request for Proposal (RFP) Evaluation Criteria and weightings. The document attached is an exert from the RFP. The RFP was issued on GETS on 4 Whiringa-ā-nuku 2024.	<i>Released in full.</i>

RFP Evaluation Criteria		Weighting
<b>1. Understanding of requirements and key outcomes sought</b>		<b>10%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Respondent's understanding of the requirements and key outcomes sought, and how it will contribute to and optimise achieving those outcomes.</li> </ul> <p>The Respondent's Proposal should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>reflect a clear comprehension of, and alignment with, the requirements sought;</li> <li>describe how the Respondent plans to meet the outcomes effectively; and</li> <li>identify and address any potential challenges or risks</li> </ul>		10%
<b>2. Approach i.e. how will you provide the Services once implemented</b>		<b>35%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whānau centered Commissioning services are provided across the region, including areas of highest need.</li> </ul>		10%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cohesive and consistent best practice processes systems and controls related to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring needs and aspirations of whānau are understood, planned for and progressed</li> <li>Investment planning (including needs analysis, planning for both capacity and coverage, including for navigators, Service Providers and other required workforce)</li> <li>Funding and investment decisions, and Commissioning Agency governance</li> <li>Interaction and cooperation with Te Puni Kōkiri</li> <li>Management of Service Providers</li> <li>Risk management</li> <li>Ongoing improvement and innovation between Commissioning Agencies including collaboration and co-operation with other Commissioning Agencies.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		10%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data capture, sharing, storage and reporting, including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual-level data sharing</li> <li>Whānau Ora Progression Framework</li> <li>Commissioning Agency performance reporting (including financial and delivery)</li> <li>Service Provider reporting.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		15%
<b>3. Implementation and transition i.e. how will you get services in place</b>		<b>15%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation plan for delivery of commissioning services to be in place 1 July 2025, including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A detailed and achievable timeline</li> <li>An outline of steps and resources required to achieve on-time delivery of commissioning services</li> <li>An understanding of potential risks and/or challenges, with strategies to mitigate them</li> <li>Include mechanisms for monitoring and reporting on progress</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		15%
<b>4. Response to and level of acceptance of the terms of the Outcome Agreement:</b>		<b>40%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acceptance of the template Outcome Agreement within an acceptable timeframe and on terms acceptable to Te Puni Kōkiri.</li> </ul>		35%

Total weightings	100%
<p>Due diligence, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information (or updates) on previously declared or any and all new claims and disputes</li> <li>• Information on current or anticipated inquiries</li> <li>• Information on any conflicts of interest</li> <li>• Behaviour and reputation, including a commitment to ethical business practices, a strong reputation in the industry and community(ies), and responsible handling of information.</li> <li>• History and current scale of activities.</li> </ul>	<p>Pass / Pass with conditions / Fail</p>

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OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT