

18 January 2023

John Luke

fyi-request-21434-4512db45@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe John,

I refer to your request that was transferred from the Office of the Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage, on 22 December 2022 to Manatū Taonga. This has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), for the following information:

'I noted, Appointment to the Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa

<https://gazette.govt.nz/notice/id/2022-go5429>

May I ask how you called for public nomination and on what platform you have call for public nominations, e.g., govt.jobs website. Also, how many applications you have received from the public and how many you have received from other nominating agencies such as TPK or Ministry of Women etc. further, how many you have shortlisted and how many you have interviewed. I am also requesting the position description of this role and the pay rate.'

The Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa (Arts Council) has 13 members and therefore, member terms regularly expire. This appointment was one of a number in 2021/2022 for an appointment programme for the Arts Council. Several appointments have or are being considered. The sources for nomination were many as per the PSI appointment guidelines.

They included advertisements on online facilities including govt.jobs, Manatū Taonga website, nominations from Caucuses, nomination agencies (including Te Puni Kōkiri, Manatū Wāhine, Office of Ethnic Communities, Office of Disability Issues and the Ministry for Pacific Peoples) and other government agencies.

Many nominations were from more than one source. The nominations received were lodged in the Manatū Taonga database and around 145 were included on a long list. At least 24 were received from the nomination agencies. For this appointment 5 persons were subject to due diligence interviews. These interviews were conducted by a panel chaired by the Arts Council Chair.

Section 29 (2) of the Crown Entities Act states: 'A responsible Minister—

- a) may only appoint or recommend a person who, in the responsible Minister's opinion, has the appropriate knowledge, skills, and experience to assist the statutory entity to achieve its objectives and perform its functions; and
- b) subject to subsection (1), in appointing or recommending an appointment, must take into account the desirability of promoting diversity in the membership of Crown entities.'

The role of the Arts Council is outlined at <https://creativenz.govt.nz/About-Creative-NZ/Our-Council>

Board fees for members are subject to the Cabinet Fees Framework (Framework). The fees for members are \$14,000 per annum and these are within the range for the relevant classification.

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 or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that we may publish this letter (with your personal details removed) on the Ministry's website.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Daiman Smith', with a small dot at the end.

Daiman Smith
Associate Deputy Chief Executive, Policy and Sector Performance