

Hon Shane Jones

Minister of Forestry

Minister for Infrastructure

Minister for Regional Economic Development

Associate Minister of Finance

Associate Minister for State Owned Enterprises

Associate Minister of Transport



Tim Cumming

Fyi-request-10657-b135f9dd@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Mr Cumming

Thank you for your email of 2 July 2019 to my Office requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

Please provide information of tax payers funds used in the funding or development of kiwifruit orchards or purchasing Sungold (G3) licence within the last 24 months and those planned for the next 24 months. This may be under the provincial growth fund or another Maori development strategy.

Details requested include,

- *How many orchards per region*
- *\$\$ involved per region*
- *Hectares involved per region*
- *Funding model, Gift, Interest free loan, Interest bearing loan Hectares of Sungold (G3) License involved."*

The Provincial Growth Fund has approved two projects involving kiwifruit, the Kiwifruit Labour Co-ordinator project announced on 14 December 2018, for \$99,000, and the Te Kaha Development, announced on 17 May 2019, for \$13,048,000.

The Kiwifruit Labour Co-ordinator project manages the seasonal recruitment initiatives to ensure growers, contractors and pack houses meet the sector's requirements.

The Te Kaha Development project will develop a water distribution network to enable the expansion of 100 hectares of a high-value kiwifruit orchard on Māori-owned land and a trial nursery. As well as creating jobs, the investment will accelerate a skills, training and employment programme to ensure an upskilled and work-ready workforce is ready to fill the jobs created. The skills, training and employment programme is made up of core projects, including include the development of a trial kiwifruit nursery and science lab, and an innovative living wage horticulture pilot project.

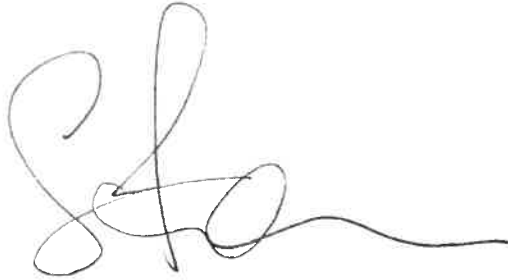
Please note, my Office does not hold information relating to the development of kiwifruit orchards or the purchasing of the Sungold (G3) licence, which would fall within the scope of your request. As such, your request for information is refused under the following section of the Act:

- 18(e) that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

You are entitled to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to withhold certain information, under section 28(3) of the Act. The Ombudsman's contact address is:

The Ombudsman
Office of the Ombudsman
PO Box 10-152
WELLINGTON 6143

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shane Jones', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hon Shane Jones
Minister for Regional Economic Development