

13 October 2023

T Barnett
fyi-request-21311-f705ff41@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe T Barnett,

Your Official Information Act request, reference: HNZ00030851

Thank you for your email of 8 December 2022, asking for the following which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

“Under the OIA, I request a copy of the following: Total cost to the taxpayer for the Equity in Health Conference in Auckland (28 - 29 Nov 2022) Via direct or indirect (funding provided to contracted services that had staff attend e.g. NGO/Te Whatu Ora, Te Aka Whai Ora,) health funding from the ministry of health including ticket cost, accommodation/transport/wages of public healthcare professionals (regulated/nonregulated) that attended or spoke”.

We have decided to revise our response to the request above as follows.

As previously noted in our response of 5 May 2023, the requested information is not held centrally. An attempt to identify information in scope would involve consultations with as many as twenty different Te Whatu Ora local areas across Aotearoa. Collation of this information where it may be held would require Te Whatu Ora to consult those at national office and the local Te Whatu Ora areas to determine:

- where individuals are located in the agency;
- where and for which business units they were working at the time of attendance;
- how they paid for the conference;
- and whether there are any other costs associated with attendance at the Equity Health Conference on 28 -29 November 2022 in Auckland.

Please note again that the Equity Health Conference (EHC) was a privately organised event. Attendees may have included non-medical or medical staff such as doctors and nurses who could have attended as medical staff, staff in training, or Te Whatu Ora staff. Additionally, those who attended may have paid for expenses out of personal funds or utilised a Medical Education fund.

Therefore, Te Whatu Ora has decided to refuse the request under section 18(f) of the Act, as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

We have considered section 18(A) in making our decision to refuse the request. In this case there is no clear means of either estimating a potential charge for collation or defining how long may be necessary to extend the time to provide a satisfactory response in accordance with section 15 of the Act. With respect to section 18(B) we have concluded that the 18(f) decision would not be influenced by further consultation with respect to the request for the assessment of the *total cost to the taxpayer for the Equity in Health Conference in Auckland (28 - 29 Nov 2022)*.

How to get in contact

If you have any questions, you can contact us at hnzOIA@health.govt.nz

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Nāku iti noa, nā

Sasha Wood

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**Head of Government Services
Office of the Chief Executive**