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31 July 2023

William James By email: <u>fyi-request-23150-22b6bf41@requests.fyi.org.nz</u>

Tēnā koe William

Request under the Official Information Act 1982 – Consultation documents and slides

I refer to your email of 15 June 2023, requesting the following information from Te Pūkenga – New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology (Te Pūkenga):

Pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982, I am requesting any and all powerpoint slides, and or word documents that relate to Consultation notices for position disestablishments, team changes, and reporting line changes as part of the Tāraia te anamata | Creating our futures consultation period that was launched during June 2023.

On 13 July, we sent you a notification of an extension to the time period for making a decision on your request of 11 working days. This was to provide time for necessary consultations to be carried out in order to make a final decision on your request.

This letter provides a formal decision on your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Background

Te Pūkenga Tāraia te anamata | Creating our futures, the change proposal on the future structure for five of the eight groups within Te Pūkenga, was shared with all kaimahi (staff) on 15 June 2023. The proposal is a significant step in our journey to become a unified organisation committed to being agile, equitable, and responsive at regional and local levels, meeting the evolving needs of ākonga, employers and communities across Aotearoa New Zealand.

During the five-week consultation period, we actively sought kaimahi feedback and are fully committed to considering all feedback that has been received before making any final decisions. We must reiterate the importance of noting that this is still a proposal for change, as such no roles have been confirmed to be disestablished, and no team or reporting line changes proposed have been confirmed. The final determination for the organisational structure is expected later in the year once all feedback is considered.

Interpretation and considerations

We have interpreted consultation notices that fall within the scope of your request as the following:

- Te Pūkenga Tāraia te anamata | Creating our futures change proposal, June 2023 (powerpoint presentation)
- Academic Centre and Learning Systems change proposal, June 2023 (powerpoint presentation)
- Ako Delivery change proposal, June 2023 (powerpoint presentation)
- Learner and Employer Experience and Attraction change proposal, June 2023 (powerpoint presentation)
- Office of the Chief Executive change proposal, June 2023 (powerpoint presentation)
- Tiriti Outcomes change proposal, June 2023 (powerpoint presentation)
- Letter map and letter templates
- Te Pūkenga Tāraia te anamata | Creating our futures change proposal, Pipiri | June 2023 (consultation document)

One of the important points when considering release of this material is that the information within the documents was provided in confidence to Te Pūkenga kaimahi. We encouraged kaimahi to provide unfettered feedback during this important internal consultation period as their input is vital to shaping our future.

While we note the consultation period has now ended, final decisions are yet to be made. Our Executive Leadership Team are analysing and considering the thousands of pieces of feedback that we have received. It is important for our Executive Leadership Team to be able to give careful consideration to all feedback received and make final decisions on our future structure. The information contained within the documents remains confidential to Te Pūkenga affected kaimahi.

The decision

Due to the above considerations, we have decided to withhold all documents in full, with reliance on section 9(2)(ba)(ii) of the OIA:

• 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.

We have considered the public interest in release of this material, and do not believe it outweighs the need to protect the confidentiality and privacy of our kaimahi at this time.

We also note that the following sections of the OIA are considered relevant to the need to withhold information within the documents at this time:

- 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons
- 9(2)(b)(ii) to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information

- 9(2)(i) to enable a Minister of the Crown or any public service agency or organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities
- 9(2)(j) to enable a Minister of the Crown or any public service agency or organisation holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).

You have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the OIA if you are not happy with this response. Information about how to do this is available at <u>www.ombudsman.parliament.nz</u> or by calling 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi

Dulle____

Peter Winder **Tumuaki** | Chief Executive