

18 June 2024

Harris Leigh

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Dear Harris

**Your Official Information Act request OIA2224-1058, dated 6 June 2024**

In regard to your Official Information Act (the Act) request that the Department of Internal Affairs (the Department) received on 6 June 2024, our response is as follows.

**You have requested:**

Under the Official Information Act I seek information on

1. the number of times DIA has contracted services from or otherwise engaged Mr Doug Craig either directly, through RDC Group, or through any other mechanism such as temporary employment contract or engagement through another company.
2. the number of times DIA has contracted services from or otherwise engaged RDC Group.
3. the total quantum paid to Mr Craig and RDC through the engagements mentioned in (1) & (2). Given the potential for commercial confidentiality, I am happy for you to redact hourly rates, it is the total quantum paid that I am seeking.
4. For each engagement identified whether or not the engagement was by a competitive market process.

For requests 1, 2 & 3 please take the time frame as being from 1 July 2019 until now.

For the current financial year I am happy to receive figures from 1 July 2023-30 May 2024.

**Our response is set out below:**

1. Between 1 July 2019 and 30 May 2024, the Department has engaged the services of Mr Doug Craig, 12 times either directly, through The RDC Group Limited or any other mechanism, such as a temporary employment contract or engagement through another company. Please note that for some occasions, it is not possible to separately identify the amount paid to Mr Doug Craig only.
2. Between 1 July 2019 and 30 May 2024, the Department has engaged the services of The RDC Group Limited 14 times. Of these, 12 are included in the number of services provided in response 1 above.

The total number of engagements in responses 1 and 2 were counted based on the number of purchase orders in the Department's Financial Management Information System and do not necessarily represent the number of contracts. Note that there could be multiple purchase orders for one contract.

3. The total amount paid to Mr Doug Craig and/or RDC Group through the timeframe and engagements mentioned in response to questions 1 and 2 above was \$560,843 GST exclusive.
4. RDC Group is a member of the All of Government Consultancy Services Panel (the Panel). Engagements via the Panel are exempt from the requirements to undertake a competitive market process under Rule 57 of the Government Procurement Rules.

We intend to publish our response to your request on [www.dia.govt.nz](http://www.dia.govt.nz). This letter, with your personal details removed, will be published in its entirety. Publishing responses increases the availability of information to the public and is consistent with the Act's purpose of enabling more effective participation in the making and administration of laws and policies and promoting the accountability of Ministers and officials.

If you would like to discuss any parts of your request further, or if you have any feedback or questions about the Department's response, please let us know at [OIA@DIA.govt.nz](mailto:OIA@DIA.govt.nz)

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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



**Sharyn Mitchell**  
Chief Financial Officer